



**The Barra**  
**Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook**  
**PENTECOST SUNDAY - Year B**  
**18th & 19th May 2024**

Vigil Mass: Genesis 11:1-9; Ps 103; Romans 8:22-27; John 7:37-39  
 Sunday Mass: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 103; Galatian 5:16-25; John 15:26-27; 16:12-15

*As part of the Diocese of Parramatta, St Finbar's is committed to being a community of safeguarding, and echoes Bishop Vincent's zero-tolerance to abuse of any form.*  
*For details on safeguarding, please visit the diocesan safeguarding website:*  
<https://parracatholic.org/safeguarding/>

**FR JOE'S MUSINGS**

**PARISH INFORMATION**

**Pentecost**

50 days after Passover and Easter, Jews and Christians celebrate a gift from heaven: the Jews the gift of the law, the Torah, the Christians the sending of the Holy Spirit.

Today's Pentecost goes back to the Jewish *Shavuot* ("Festival of Weeks"), a festival of thanksgiving for the wheat harvest, with which the commemoration of the covenant and the handing over of the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai is linked.

A legend illustrates the double meaning of the ancient Jewish: When God freed the Hebrews from Egyptian slavery and handed over the law to Moses, Mount Sinai suddenly shone in fresh green, because *Shavuot* was also supposed to be a spring festival in the "Promised Land" when the first fruits and sheaves of wheat of the year were sacrificed in the Jerusalem Temple.

Since the handing over of the commandments, the Jews have been able to see themselves as a "chosen people", as a witness to God and his covenant before the whole world. The commandments can be understood as a manifesto of human dignity, as markers of how people should treat each other, with nature, with other people's lives.

When the despondent disciples of Jesus gathered on the day of *Shavuot*, 50 days after Jesus' death on the cross and his resurrection, they experienced the Holy Spirit. A wild roar arose from heaven, as it is told in the biblical story of Pentecost. A God appeared who gave them fire, insight and courage in their hearts and turned the frightened into prophets. Soon after that first Pentecost, they began to go out into the world and spread the message of God, who had shown them His face in Jesus.

According to the biblical accounts, God does not give his Spirit only to the chosen few, but to every believer. The Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples as they gathered in one place. We are told that before His departure, Jesus instructed them not to go off on their own, but to stay together and await the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Being together, their being united, was a precondition for Pentecost. And the precondition for unity, in turn, was prayer. For it is prayer alone that can liberate that interior principle within us that enables us to be in contact with one another, to bear one another.

*Please continue reading on page 3*

**Parish Priest:** Fr Joseph Lam  
 E-mail: joseph.lam@parracatholic.org  
 Phone: 0493 461 990 ***Emergencies only***  
 (*Sick call & death*)

**Secretary:** Juliana Khnouf  
 E-mail: [secretary@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:secretary@stfinbars.org.au)


**Admin:** Peter McMahon  
 E-mail: [admin@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:admin@stfinbars.org.au)

**PPC:**  
 E-mail: [stfinbarsppc@gmail.com](mailto:stfinbarsppc@gmail.com)

**Office Hours:** 9.30am – 3.00pm  
 Tuesday to Friday  
 (Closed on Mondays)

Office Phone: **(02) 47426958**

**Parish QR Code:**  
 Please use this QR Code to donate to St Finbar's Parish Glenbrook using your Credit Card, or to make any payments. Please select from the list.



**Address:**  
 52 Levy Street, Glenbrook 2773  
 PO Box 123 Glenbrook NSW 2773

**Sacraments**  
 Confessions: Saturdays 4.30-5.15pm  
 Baptisms: By Appointment  
 Weddings: By Appointment

**Web:** [www.stfinbars.org.au](http://www.stfinbars.org.au)  
**Facebook:** Glenbrook Catholic Church St Finbars

**Parish School:** Principal  
 Mrs Robyn Clarke  
 Phone: 4724 3600

**SUNDAY RITE OF WELCOME & BAPTISMS**

The Parish joyfully welcomes  
**Ana Andreallo**

into our Faith Community. She is going to be Baptised at our Parish next weekend.

Also the Parish joyfully announces the Baptism of  
**George Jeffries.**

May God bless them both.



**WE WELCOME**

*all visitors to our church today. We extend our greetings to you. If you wish to join St Finbar's Parish, please make yourself known to one of our Wardens so we can give you our Parish Welcome Pack.*

**WE ACKNOWLEDGE**

*the Traditional custodians of this land on which we worship at St Finbar's - The Darug and Gundungurra People. We pay respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.*

**PARISH CALENDAR**

**DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES**

<p><b>Sunday 19th May</b></p> <p><i>PENTECOST SUNDAY Year B</i></p>	<p><b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> <b>10.45am Baptisms</b> 1.15pm Bridge Club P/C <b>6.00pm Youth Mass</b> Live Streaming Link <a href="https://youtube.com/live/SBu7z-m_EPO?feature=share">https://youtube.com/live/SBu7z-m_EPO?feature=share</a> 7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C</p>
<p><b>Monday 20th May</b></p> <p><i>Mary, Mother of the Church</i></p>	<p><b>No Mass. Office is closed</b> 5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R 6.00pm Peace, Justice &amp; Ecology Table Talk P/C</p>
<p><b>Tuesday 21st May</b></p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass (Ordinary Time Week 7)</b> 10.00am Timeout Tuesday P/C 5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice 7.00pm Parish Finance Committee Meeting M/R</p>
<p><b>Wednesday 22nd May</b></p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary</b> 9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge Club P/C</p>
<p><b>Thursday 23rd May</b></p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b> 1.00pm SRE Meeting M/R 1.15pm Bridge Club P/C 7.30pm Netball Club Executive Meeting M/R</p>
<p><b>Friday 24th May</b></p> <p><i>Our Lady, Help of Christians</i></p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b> 1.30pm Bowlers P/C <b>7.30pm Adoration</b></p>
<p><b>Saturday 25th May</b></p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b> 4.45pm Confessions <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b></p>
<p><b>Sunday 26th May</b></p> <p><i>The Most Holy Trinity Year B</i></p>	<p><b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass—Family Mass</b> <b>10.45am Baptisms</b></p>

**Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities**

More opportunities for Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be available throughout May. Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>  
For more information, please email: [safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org)

**Celebrate Laudato Si' Week: Seeds of Hope (16-24 May)**

Are you ready to sow “Seeds of Hope”? Join the Catholic Church around Australia and worldwide in celebrating Laudato Si’ Week: 16 to 24 May 2024. This annual commemoration of Pope Francis’ encyclical Laudato Si’ encourages us to care more deeply for God’s creation. You can find useful resources at [linktr.ee/met.pje](http://linktr.ee/met.pje)

**Mount Schoenstatt Shrine Time Holy Hour for Youth and Young Adults**

The Mount Schoenstatt community invite young and young adults for Holy Hour every fourth Sunday of the month from 7pm to 8pm at the Mt Schoenstatt Shrine, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa, followed by a social gathering afterwards. There will be opportunities for praise and worship, prayer, reflection, confession and benediction. For more information, please contact Sr M Rita on 0493 026 628 or [srrita@schoenstatt.org.au](mailto:srrita@schoenstatt.org.au)

**Mount Schoenstatt Marian May Devotions**

Everyone is invited to the Schoenstatt Shrine to pray, sing and honour the Blessed Mother daily in the month of May. All are welcome to join the sisters for half hour May Devotions in the Shrine on Sunday to Friday at 5.30pm and Saturdays at 5.15pm. Learn more about the May devotions on their website <https://schoenstatt.org.au/> or Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/MtSchoenstattMulgoa/>

**Winbourne Walking the Labyrinth Reflection Day: 25 May**

The Winbourne Edmund Rice Retreat Centre, Mulgoa, is holding a half-day retreat ‘Walking the Labyrinth’ on Saturday 25 May from 9.30am to 12.30pm. In the labyrinth you enter a spiritual journey. It is a safe space, but one which challenges boundaries in order to create hope. There you may safely bring to the surface that which, held within, needs to come into the light. Cost is \$15 per person, with tea and coffee included. For more information or to book, contact (02) 4773 5555 or email [info@winbourne.org](mailto:info@winbourne.org)

# ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

## FR JOE'S MUSINGS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

It is precisely on this point that the Church of our age has much to re-learn.

In the name of synodality, there really is a lot of activity in the Church today. In the name of synodality, there is a kind of busyness that stretches people to the limits of their strength, and often beyond. But what is mostly missing now is that silent abiding before the Word of God, loosening the grasp of our will and actions. To be sure, the Lord does require our hard work and our dedication. But we require His presence. We need to rediscover the courage to leave things undone, and thus the humility of waiting before the Word. Very often, a single hour spent listening to God's Word in silence would do us more good than whole conferences filled with "Think Tank" meetings and discussions, and one moment of prayer would bear more fruit than whole stacks of planning documents.

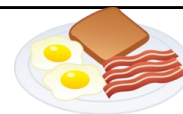
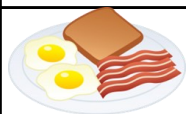
But when it comes to affecting the world around us, what we do is by no means more important than what we *are* when we become mature and free and true by placing the roots of our being in the fruitful silence of God.

*Fr Joe*

## ST FINBARS MEN'S BREAKFAST

Date - Saturday 1st June 2024

Time - 7:30 am – 9:00 am Venue - Parish hall



The parish is holding another Men's breakfast as an opportunity for parishioners to meet and get to know one another. This invitation is open to all male parishioners and any of their sons, grandsons, neighbours and friends. For catering purposes we will need to confirm numbers by Sunday 26th May 2024. Please add your name to the list on the warden's table.

Any questions please contact the organisers, Carl Moll 0417 471 137 or John De Mattia 4739 6775

## FAMILY MASS SUNDAY

The Liturgy Committee along with St Finbar's School are planning a Family Mass Day on Sunday the 26th of May at 9.30am Mass followed by sausage sizzle. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

## YOUNG ADULT FAITH FORMATION SESSIONS

Continue on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2024 at The Hustle (Unit 4, 4-6 Purdy Rd Minchinbury) at 7pm.

The speaker is **Fr Jeff Miller SDB** who will talk about and lead discussion on **The Holy Trinity**.

All adults 18-35 are encouraged to come along and enjoy some faith formation, pizza and fellowship!

If you have any questions, please call Mark on 0477004678.

**SAVE THE DATE PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT IS ON SATURDAY THE 7TH OF SEPTEMBER AT 7PM**

## SACRISTANS AND SENIOR SERVERS FOR THE 5.30PM VIGIL MASS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED.

The parish is urgent need for more Sacristans and Senior Servers specially for the 5.30pm Vigil Mass. Training is provided and you will only be rostered once a month.

If you are able to help please let the parish office know on 47426958 or email [secretary@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:secretary@stfinbars.org.au).

Looking forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

*Juliana/Parish Secretary*

## Bateman Battersby

L A W Y E R S

We invite members of the Parish to take advantage of our legal services specialising in :

- |                   |                     |
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02 9896 3299

[info@scottgleesonfunerals.com.au](mailto:info@scottgleesonfunerals.com.au)

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✉ [Gerard.Morson@turnerfreeman.com.au](mailto:Gerard.Morson@turnerfreeman.com.au)





**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Sharon McGovern and Robert Aitken.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:**

Merrilee Verhoeven, Pat Barrett, Noreen Taylor, Huia Kingi, Sue Bland, Connor Sipple, Katie Maloney, Margaret Stevens, Chris Paine, Christopher Thomson, David Haynes (Yvonne Scanlan's Dad), Gwen Cullinan, Lyn Downes, Sophie Hollies, Jacqui Visser, Terry Stevens, Mark Bates, Margaret Christensen, Colleen & Michael Nolan, Maddison Farrugia, Harrison Aggar (Margaret & Ian Dickson's Grandson), Diosdado Roque (Geraldine Agahari's Father), Joan, Hubert Pereira & Maureen Brown (Marcia Pereira's Sister, Brother & Niece).

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:**

Millicent Grant, Moira Holmes, Denis Smith, Michael Klein, Hilder Ahrenfeld, William Osborne, Irena Chambers, Vincent Noonan, Clare Konza, Betty McSweeney, Patricia Mungovern, Hazel Caldwell, Peter Stapleton (1980), Winifred Shindorfer, Stanley Sharp, Michael Seymour and Derek Elliott.

**LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 25TH & 26TH MAY 2024**

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Ahyiesha D'Souza	Peter McMahan	Stephen Brown
Senior Server	Ahyiesha D'Souza	Peter McMahan	Stephen Brown
Junior Servers	Sophie & Juliette Lynch		Family Mass
Warden	Margaret Richards	Volunteer Please	Justin Dowling
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Marsha O'Meara	Kevin Lloyd	Family Mass
2nd Reading	Naomi Cheeseman	Andrew Teece	Family Mass
Intercession	Katy Ferris	Peter McMahan	Family Mass
Music	Te Deum's		Holy Light
IT Operators	Robyn Flynn	Volunteer Please	Joanne Stubbs
Gifts	Steve & Heather Lee	Rivas Family	The Young Family
Communion	Lorraine Brown & Vince Dobson	Jessica Tiller & Jean Di Nucci	Erin Kelly & Carmel Higgins
Children's Liturgy	Carolyn		
Piety Stall	Ann Marie King		
Church Care	Veronica Clune, Fran Isaksen, Lynne Atkinson & Gabrielle Lynch		
Hospitality	Marie Nassif, Kerry & Peter Herborn		
Lawn Mowing	Tony Doyle, Darren Dukes & Bryan Egan		



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