



St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

**The Barra**

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B  
15th & 16th June 2024



**Ezekiel 17:22-24; Ps 91; 2 Corinthians 5:6-10; Mark 4:26-34**

*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

### For a **CULTURE OF DISCERNING**: Mark 4:26-34

This Sunday's gospel uses the image of the sower and a mustard seed. I would like to take these two images to reflect on the gift of discernment and its related maturity in faith and good works.

The fruit-bearing (4:28-29) in the first parable, and the act of sowing (4:31-32) in the second, echo vocabulary in the parable of the sower, and suggest that we are learning more here about what it means to sow the word, and that this sowing of the word is related to the kingdom — that the Word the sower plants (4:14) is the seed of the kingdom itself.

The first parable of the kingdom is again a story of sowing and harvesting. The sower sows and then sleeps and rises, night and day, as step by step the kingdom grows, invisibly at first and then in the form of a stalk, then a head, then the full grain in the head. The word for grain in 4:29 appears also in 4:7-8 where it is translated fruit (as also, for example, in John 15:1-17). So, while this is about the natural progression of rising wheat, it is also, like the image in 4:29, an image of fruitfulness.

We know from the earlier parable that some seed will fall on deaf ears and into rocks and among thorns and will not be fruitful, but in this image as in the earlier one, we are encouraged not to dwell too much on that. We cannot control what happens after the word is sown. We just sow it. Only that. The sower here does not even weed or water, just sows and waits in peaceful trust. If there is room for us to plant the seeds of the word, for the rest we, along with the sower of the parable, can leave that to God.

The mustard plant presents the contrast between the smallness of the present kingdom and the relative largeness of it in its fullness. This kingdom will grow generously and abundantly from the smallest of all seeds to the largest of all shrubs.

This image of the mustard seed may serve to remind the Church and us of our limitation as sowers of the Word of God. The Church and us, we are not the ones who enable growth in numbers and faith. Faith is a gift and an outcome of God's grace.

We may prepare the soil and sow the seed, but rain and sun are God's gifts. On this Paul is very clear: "I planted the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow. It's not important who does the planting, or who does the watering." (1 Cor 3:6).

## PARISH INFORMATION

### **Parish Priest:** Fr Joseph Lam

E-mail: [joseph.lam@parracatholic.org](mailto: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**

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

The Parish joyfully welcomes

**Lewis Mark Herps &  
Quincy Roe Neill**

into our Faith Community

They will be Baptised in our Parish next weekend.

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

<b>Sunday</b> <b>16th June</b>  <i>11th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b>  1.15pm Bridge Club P/C <b>6.00pm Youth Mass</b> Live Streaming Link <a href="https://youtube.com/live/QtfxjZpL-Rw?feature=share">https://youtube.com/live/QtfxjZpL-Rw?feature=share</a>  7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C
<b>Monday</b> <b>17th June</b>	<b>No Mass. Office is closed</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>18th June</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b>  10.00am Timeout Tuesday P/C 5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>19th June</b>	<b>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary</b>  9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge Club P/C
<b>Thursday</b> <b>20th June</b>	<b>9.15am Healing Mass followed my morning tea</b>  1.15pm Bridge Club P/C 5.30pm Holy Communion Preparation Sessions P/C
<b>Friday</b> <b>21st June</b> <i>St Aloysius Gonzaga</i>	<b>9.15am Mass</b>  Office closed from 12 noon today 1.30pm Bowlers P/C
<b>Saturday</b> <b>22nd June</b> <i>Sts John Fisher &amp; Thomas More</i>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 4.45pm Confessions <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Sunday</b> <b>23rd June</b>  <i>12th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b>  10.45am Baptisms

## Adult Confirmation 2024 Formation Day: 24 August

The Office for Worship will host a Catechesis and Formation Day for those candidates (16+) interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. This will be held on Saturday 24 August from 9.30am – 2.00pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. A light lunch will be provided on the day. It is recommended that all sponsors attend the catechesis day. A contribution of \$25 is suggested from the candidates to assist in covering the Catechesis Day. For more information please contact Lucy Woodbury on 0460 037 795 or at [lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org](mailto:lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org)

## Finding Ways to Pray Reflection Day: 22 June at Mulgoa

The Winbourne Edmund Rice Retreat Centre, Mulgoa, is holding a reflection day 'Kinds of Prayer: Finding Ways to Pray' on Saturday 22 June from 9.30am to 3pm. Prayer is communication, relationship addressed, respected and taken further. It is letting God get at you, requiring an open heart and mind. Cost is \$30 per person, BYO Lunch. For more information or to book, contact (02) 4773 5555 or email [info@winbourne.org](mailto:info@winbourne.org)

## St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust

The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. More information and application forms are available on their website which you can find at [pallottine.org.au/svpscholarship](http://pallottine.org.au/svpscholarship). Applications close 31 July 2024.

## Caritas Australia's Papua New Guinea Landslide Disaster

Hundreds of people are displaced and many more affected by a devastating landslide that struck a remote village in Papua New Guinea. Your urgent support is needed now. You can phone 1800 024 413 or donate online at [www.caritas.org.au/png](http://www.caritas.org.au/png)



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 THE PARISH OFFICE

## FR JOE'S MUSINGS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Today, it appears that bishops, priests and laity are very busy in organizing, designing strategies and taking actions to renew the Church. While RENEWAL is always welcome because we cannot ignore the working of the Holy Spirit, it is important to accept that we do not CONTROL and anticipate the outcome in a **self-deceptive** manner. Worst, that we conflate human control as the work of the Holy Spirit. This may lead to preoccupation and **obsession** with **human** ideas and self reliance. As a result, obsession leads to possession, a condition where a person comes under total and complete control of a demonic force.

Discernment is from the root Greek word "diakresis" which means the ability to distinguish between godly and ungodly spirits, as the Apostle Paul used it. The Pauline message is that discernment is said to be a gift, not an attribute of human comprehension. A **culture of discernment** assumes the leaders are mature in Christ and will continually draw the community into more maturity.

*Fr Joe*

## FIX THE ROOF RAFFLE:

Thank you to all who have returned their ticket butts and money by this weekend. From next Tuesday, anyone who hasn't returned their ticket book butts will be contacted. We must get them all returned please. It is vital that we are organised for the DRAW DAY Sunday June 30 at 11am. It will be impossible to return tickets on the day of the draw as we will already have all ticket butts folded and secured for the draw.

**Who will draw the winning tickets?** We are calling for 12 people from the Parish who will represent all our ages. We need one person for each of the following categories:

A parent of a child under 5yo	Child 6 to 10yrs	Teen 11 to 15yrs	Youth 16 to 20yrs	Adult in their 20s	Adult in their 30s
Adult in their 40s	Adult in their 50s	Adult in their 60s	Adult in their 70s	Adult in their 80s	Adult in their 90s

If you would like to represent your relevant age group, please contact the Parish Office or Patricia Murnane 0438242652 ASAP. Please, only *one* participant per family. The first person to offer in each age group will be given the task. It will be fun.

To celebrate all our efforts, we are also organising a special morning tea and sausage sizzle on the grass area adjacent to the outdoor altar platform. More details next week. With thanks from the Finance Committee.

## GRANT RECEIVED TO REFURBISH PARISH HALL

Fr Joe's application for government funds to help us refurbish the parish hall has been successful. We have a letter from the Premier advising us that \$5,000 has been set aside for the parish for this task. More details will come to hand in the next few weeks.

## BISHOP'S GOOD SAMARITAN APPEAL

Next weekend, 22nd & 23rd June, the parish will conduct the annual Bishop's appeal to provide support for at-risk women facing challenges during pregnancy and motherhood. There will be envelopes on the seats at all Masses. Your gift will help support struggling mothers to raise God's children with confidence, joy and stability.

## WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS

All parishioners working in ministries that have regular or occasional contact with children are required to have an up-to-date Working With Children Check. If you recently received a letter from the parish asking for a copy of your WWCC, please provide it to the parish office before 30th June, or contact us to let us know where it is up to.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Instruction for children receiving this sacrament is continuing. The parish thanks Annemaree Baird and the parents for working together in the formation of the children so that they can fully receive this wonderful sacrament during Mass on Sunday 7th July. Please pray for these children.

### Bateman Battersby

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### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Merrilee Verhoeven (John Verhoeven's Wife), Kerrie-Anne Regent (McGrath) and Robert Aitken.

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

Isaiah Keill, 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, Jacqui Visser, Lyn Downes, Sophie Hollies, 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), Catherine, Elizabeth and Monika Gawlik.

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

Angela Dempster, Gloria Saunders, Stanley Harris, Baby Valentina Twyford, Michael Anderson, Edward Helm, Mona Browning, Anne Smith, Louis Dupressoir, Kathleen O'Donnell, Shirley Davison, Lawrence Lutton, William Connell, John Castor, Brian Walsh, Leo Wathen, Julia Redler, Neville Fogarty, Joan Lohrey, Ellen Gillian, James Smith and Margaret Burley.

## LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 22ND & 23RD JUNE 2024

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Ahyiesha D'Souza	Carl Moll	Stephen Brown
Senior Server	Ahyiesha D'Souza	Carl Moll	Stephen Brown
Junior Servers	Sophie & Juliette Lynch		Elija & Oscar Baird
Warden	Margaret Richards	Volunteer Please	Justin Dowling
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Marsha O'Meara	Kevin Lloyd	Patricia Murnane
2nd Reading	Naomi Cheeseman	Andrew Teece	Erin Kelly
Intercession	Felicity Lindfield	Kevin Flynn	Carmel Higgins
Music	Te Deum's		Holy Light
IT Operators	Robyn Flynn	Kylie Mills	Joanne Stubbs
Gifts	Margaret Moore & Jan de Bie	Volunteers Please	The Young Family
Communion	Lorraine Brown & Vince Dobson	Jessica Tiller & Jean Di Nucci	Greg Rowe & Carmel Higgins
Children's Liturgy	Christyna		
Piety Stall	Ann Marie King		
Church Care	Robyn Flynn, Jan de Bie, Wendy Bohan & Marsha O'Meara		
Hospitality	Marie Nassif, Kerry & Peter Herborn		



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