



St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

The Barra

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

7th & 8th September 2024



Isaiah 35:4-7; Ps 145; St James 2:1-5; Mark 7:31-37

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

Greetings from Europe

I am writing this column while waiting for the flight back to Germany after two weeks stay in Norway. My family were reunited in the Scandinavian country for the celebration of my brother's thirtieth anniversary of priesthood. I had the privilege to deliver the homily on this solemn occasion. It was a wonderful feast with a full church and guests from all corners of the world. This feast day has made up for days of sickness, and a swollen foot that has paralyzed me from travelling with ease.

Currently, Europe is experiencing a few very difficult challenges. Politically, the far-right movement seems to dominate the parliamentary landscape. For the first time the AFD party, a party with a close Nazi tie, has won the election in the German State of Thuringia. Its rise was the result of many unsolved problems caused by uncontrollable migration. Just a week before the election, Germany has suffered an **IS** terror attack causing the death of six German citizens. Other European States are now governed by authoritarian politicians. The Russian-Ukraine war also causes economic headache. Obviously, a high rate of unemployment and high migration are unwelcome factors for political stability. Religiously, Europe is de-Christianized. A growing number of Europeans do not practise any religion. In the Netherlands, the number of people who did not identify with any religious faith increased from 45 to 57 percent between 2010 and 2021, making the non-religious group larger than any of the Christian churches. In Finland, the number of people not belonging to any religion increased from approximately 1.14 to 1.78 million over the last ten years. The share of the Swedish population who were members of the church decreased in the same period from 69 to 54 percent, while, in France, the share of people not believing in God has risen from 44 to 56 percent in the last 19 years.

Is Christianity really dead?

The best-selling German author Manfred Lütz once said in an interview: "The great revolution of Christianity was: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you!" He sees the Christian faith as a means of combating the cult of violence in society. "In view of hate mail, of Putin, who calls Ukrainians vermin, of Trump, who despises the disabled, we really need more Christianity again," said the well-known author.

"Gregor Gysi from the German Left Party says that he is an atheist, but is afraid of a godless society without solidarity.

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We welcome Father Huy Nguyen to our Parish. He will be celebrating all this weekend's Masses and Baptisms. Also we welcome Father Dave Austin and Father Brendan Murphy who will be celebrating Wednesday and Friday morning Masses.

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Priest: Fr Joseph Lam

E-mail: joseph.lam@parracatholic.org

Secretary: Juliana Khnouf

E-mail: secretary@stfinbars.org.au

Admin: Peter McMahon

E-mail: admin@stfinbars.org.au

PPC: Jesse Mowbray

E-mail: 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

Facebook: Glenbrook Catholic Church St Finbars

Parish School: Principal

Mrs Robyn Clarke

Phone: 4724 3600

SUNDAY'S BAPTISMS:

The Parish joyfully announces the Baptisms of

Camille Maeve Bergin & Isabel Mary Cribbin

this Sunday, and warmly welcomes them into our Faith Community here at St Finbar's.

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.

<p>Sunday 8th September</p> <p><i>23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Year B</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass - Fr Huy Nguyen SJ</p> <p>9.30am Mass - Fr Huy Nguyen SJ</p> <p>10.45am Baptisms - Fr Huy Nguyen SJ</p>
<p>Monday 9th September</p>	<p>No Mass. Office is closed</p>
<p>Tuesday 10th September</p>	<p>No Morning Mass</p> <p>9.30am Pastoral Care Meeting M/R</p> <p>5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice</p>
<p>Wednesday 11th September</p>	<p>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary - Fr Dave Austin</p> <p>9.30am Playgroup P/C</p> <p>7.00pm Bridge Club P/C</p>
<p>Thursday 12th September</p>	<p>No Morning Mass</p> <p>1.15pm Bridge Club P/C</p> <p>5.30pm Confirmation Preparation Session M/R</p>
<p>Friday 13th September</p> <p><i>St John</i> <i>Chrysostom</i></p>	<p>9.15am Mass -Fr Brendan Murphy</p> <p>1.30pm Bowlers P/C</p>
<p>Saturday 14th September</p> <p><i>The Exaltation of the Holy Cross</i></p>	<p>No Morning Mass</p> <p>4.45pm Confessions</p> <p>5.30pm Vigil Mass -Fr Huy Nguyen SJ</p>
<p>Sunday 15th September</p> <p><i>24th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Year B</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass - Fr Huy Nguyen SJ</p> <p>9.30am Mass -Fr Huy Nguyen SJ</p> <p>1.15pm Bridge Club P/C</p> <p>6.00pm Youth Mass -Fr Paul Marshall</p> <p>Live Streaming Link https://youtube.com/live/W0Q_h43cloE?feature=share</p> <p>7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C</p>

Positions Vacant:

- Development Manager – Property Services, Diocese of Parramatta.
 - Parish Secretary – Holy Name of Mary Parish, Rydalmere.
 - Lead Facilitator of Diocesan Plan Implementation – Diocese of Parramatta – **Applications close 25 September**
- More details at: parracatholic.org/about/jobs/

Will Wonders Never Cease. What Will Be Your Legacy?

A gift in your Will is an enduring way to give thanks to God and share your blessings beyond your lifetime. During *Include A Charity Week*, we invite you – after providing for your loved ones – to consider a gift in your Will to our parish or a Catholic ministry in our Diocese. Legacy gifts advance Christian works of faith, hope, and charity for future generations. **For information on remembering our Church in your Will:**



parracatholic.org/giftsinWills

Catholic Schools Bishop Manning Support Fund

Would you like your child to receive a Catholic education but are worried that your family cannot afford it? Please consider applying for a bursary that will cover the school fees, the cost of uniforms and equipment for primary or secondary school students for up to four years of enrolment. The fund, named in honour of the recently deceased Bishop Kevin Manning, is a Diocesan charity that seeks to ensure all families who want a Catholic education for their child can receive one. Please scan this code or visit <https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/affordable-education/bishop-manning-support-fund>. **Applications close 18 October**



Bishop's Father's Day Appeal supporting our retired priests

This Father's Day, let us show our thanks and appreciation for our priests' lifelong gifts of faithful service. They have dedicated their lives to guiding us spiritually and emotionally, often at great personal sacrifice. Your compassionate donation cares for our clergy's health and wellbeing during sickness and retirement. Please give generously to the Bishop's Father's Day Appeal at parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or scan this QR code.



The Diocesan Healthcare Ministries Community
Warmly invite you to the formation session:

Loving your Neighbour in the Sick and Dying

St Thomas Aquinas Parish, Springwood

21 September 2024

11.00am-1.00pm Followed by lunch
RSVP met@parracatholic.org by 09.09. 2024
Enquiries to michael.tan@parracatholic.org

Envelopes for this appeal are still available on the seats in our parish church. If you were not able to make a donation last weekend, please feel free to do so this weekend. Just place the completed envelope on either collection. Thank you.

ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

FR JOE'S MUSINGS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The churches, at least in Germany, are dismantling themselves, and art can offer guidance here," said Lütz. He is convinced that a right-wing radical and a left-wing radical would treat each other more appreciatively if they had stood in front of the Pietà for a while. "Because there you see what they have in common: the human element."

The image of Mary mourning her dead son in her arms is "deeper than just magical," says the theologian. "You can see the incarnation, the incarnation of God. Resurrection - Easter, the incarnation of God - Christmas. That is Christianity, everything else is secondary."

This Sunday's gospel speaks of the healing of a "deaf and dumb man". Because of this cure, the admiration of the people for Jesus was unbounded. They acknowledged that Jesus "did all things well" which reminds us of the creation story: "And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good."

Having lived in Europe, I am convinced that God is currently transforming the Old Continent of Europe from its own self-destruction.

See you soon.

Fr Joe

HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE 1ST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

The Sunday morning hospitality team are in desperate need of 2 more volunteers to help after the 9.30am Mass on the 1st Sunday of the month. If you are able to help with this great ministry please contact Lina Wiecek on 0414323265. Thank you for your help and support

HAPPY 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Congratulation to Margaret and Michael Richards on their 50th Wedding Anniversary last week.

Wishing them many more years of happiness, joy and good health.



THANK YOU CARD & GIFT FOR FATHER JOE

Parish families are invited to write thank you cards for Father Joe to be presented to him in a folder at his farewell morning tea after the 9.30am Mass on Sunday the 29th of September.

You can leave your card in the specially marked basket on the Warden's table.

We will be raising money for a gift for Father Joe at all this weekend Masses a special collection will be done at all Masses this weekend. Please place your donation in the basket on the Warden's table.

AN UPDATE ON THE CHURCH SEWER PROBLEM.

Work is continuing on getting our sewer line up to 100% clear. In the coming weeks an area in the garden near the beginning of the prayer walk will be dug to a depth of 2 meters so that the sewer line can be inspected and cleared. The affected garden area has had the plants and mulch moved to a temporary spot for the interim. 3 witches hats stand at the entrance to this prepared area. Could adults and children please assist by not entering the garden? It very definitely is out of bounds. Thank you.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - ST FINBAR'S FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS

Please note that the parish will be celebrating the Feast of St Finbar on Sunday the 22nd of September at the 9.30am Mass with the celebration of receiving 3 new RCIA candidates into full communion with the Catholic Church. After Mass we will continue the celebrations with a sausage sizzle, morning tea and games for the children.

Peter Stapleton needs your help to drive him down to Chevalier College Bowral, NSW one Sunday in October to attend a special Mass there as he is one of the 45 Foundation Students who attended the College in 1945. If you are able to help please contact Peter on 47398332 or email peter.stapo@gmail.com.

Bateman Battersby

L A W Y E R S

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

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Property Law• Business Law• Wills & Estates | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Family Law• Negligence Law• Court Appearances |
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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Mary Roberts, Bishop Kevin Manning, Huia Kingi, Patricia Bates, Sam Chew (Camilla Lobo's Fiancé), and Kerrie-Anne Regent (McGrath).

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

Sara Pinato (Matthew Pinato's Mother), Pat Barrett, Noreen Taylor, Sue Bland, Connor Sipple, Jacqui Visser, Katie Maloney, Chris Paine, Margaret Stevens, Christopher Thomson, David Haynes (Yvonne Scanlan's Dad), Gwen Cullinan, Lyn Downes, Sophie Hollies, Terry Stevens, Mark Bates, Margaret Christensen, Maddison Farrugia, Colleen & Michael Nolan, Harrison Aggar (Margaret & Ian Dickson's Grandson), 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:

Michael Taylor (Noreen Taylor's Son), Charlotte Mansour, Hugh Smith, George Frampton, Norah Trathen, Dorothy Luland, Bendina Van de Weyer, Bernadette Greig, Barbara Fisher, Raymond McSweeney, Barbara Short, Alexandra Jankowski, Cecilia Mitchell, Stefanie Webber, Edward Parslow, Agnes Auckett and John Gillian.

LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 14TH & 15TH SEPTEMBER 2024

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am	6.00pm Youth Mass
Sacristan	Vince Dobson	Carl Moll	Stuart Sheary	Brendan Khnouf
Senior Server	Vince Dobson	Carl Moll	Martin Rogers	Brendan Khnouf
Junior Servers	Volunteers Please		Zoe Wilson, Dominic Sheary & Tim Kensey	Sophia Lynch & Volunteer please
Warden	Lorraine Brown	Volunteer Please	Frank Fitzpatrick	Daniel Lynch
1 st Reading	Volunteer Please	Kevin Lloyd	Peter or Trish Hurley	Volunteer Please
2nd Reading	Gideon Goosen	Peter McMahon	Annis Nilsson	Joanne Stubbs
Intercession	Margaret Moore	John Isaksen	Frank Fitzpatrick	Nick McMaster
Music	Cantabile		Naomi's Group	
IT Operators	Henry Hanko	Elizabeth Konza	Thais Turner	Lachlan Lloyd
Gifts	Thea & Brian Robertson	Kay Whitty	The Wilson Family	N/A
Communion	Ahyiesha D'Souza & Bernie Fisher	Jean Di Nucci & Jim Tierney	Todd Stanford & Annissa Nilsson	Volunteer Please
Children's Liturgy	Colin			
Piety Stall	Lee Jackson			
Church Care	Volunteers please			
Hospitality	Trish & Peter Hurley, Irene & Bert Aligno			
Lawn Mowing	Tony Doyle, Darren Dukes & Bryan Egan			



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