

# St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

*The Barra*

*The Epiphany of the Lord Year C*

*4th & 5th January 2025*

**Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 71; Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12**

*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/>

## FATHER JOHN PONDERS.....

*"The world is not dying. It's not falling apart. It's changing. I personally believe that pessimism is an indulgence, despair an insult to the imagination. There are wonderfully positive things out there."*

*-- Wade Davis*

As we begin a new year we tend to remind ourselves of how inadequate we are and make lots of resolutions to overcome bad habits and unhealthy ways of thinking. We may have in mind some notion of becoming a superman or superwoman by putting into effect what we believe to be a schedule of necessary changes to our lives. In our imagination we expect such results that may not correspond to the efforts we put in nor the mindset that promotes the changes we desire. Failure to achieve our goals may land us back where we started, if not further back, because we conclude that I am falling apart and pessimism easily asserts itself. Feelings that I am no good may predominate.

In view of our quote today, from Wade Davis, we can pick ourselves up from such despondency by recognising that we are not dying nor are we falling apart, but we are changing. And change is slow, but we tend to be so adamant about becoming perfect by the evening that we don't give personal growth adequate room to live and breathe, slowly achieving great change over time.

In the Christmas period we contemplate how much the world changed by the direct intervention by God. Yes, God can cause immediate change. Humanity held the divine in itself – yet so many didn't even recognise it. Even so, Christ did not begin his public ministry for thirty years presumably to be ready to minister when he was adequately resourced in his humanity. If Christ took his time why can't we take the time to develop our potential, slowly but surely. Aesop's fable of the tortoise and the hare is a positive lesson to all of us. Slow down and do things properly by establishing firm foundations. It is not our lot to be God in getting things right in our lives, but we are to be dependent on the Lord.

It is true that there are "wonderfully positive things out there" and we can be part of a wonderful world making a great contribution. But, one thing at a time. One good New Year's resolution might be the beginning of a new style of achievement. Resolution: stop rushing headlong into things all the time! It requires a different mindset and consequently a different methodology. But a positive outcome is all the more assured.

The world changed at Christmas by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. This Holy Spirit never ceases to outpour into the world. Include the Holy Spirit in your daily attempts at self-improvement and slowly you may abandon self-satisfying improvement into God-satisfying improvement which speaks of heavenly desires for heavenly things. Seek these and your world will fall into eternity.



## **NEXT WEEK 9.15AM MORNING MASSES.**

Please note that there will be no 9.15am Morning Masses Tuesday to Friday next week as Father John is going to a Clergy Conference.

## **PARISH INFORMATION**

### **Parish Priest: Fr John Hogan**

E-mail: [john.hogan@parracatholic.org](mailto:john.hogan@parracatholic.org)

### **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: Jesse Mowbray (Chair)**

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

### **Office Hours: 9.30am – 3.00pm**

Tuesday to Friday

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

## **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

<b>Sunday</b> <b>5th January</b> <i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i> <i>Year C</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b>
<b>Monday</b> <b>6th January</b>	<b>No Mass. Office is closed</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>7th January</b>	<b>No Morning Mass</b>
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>8th January</b>	<b>No Morning Mass</b> 7.00pm Bridge P/C
<b>Thursday</b> <b>9th January</b>	<b>No Morning Mass</b> 1.15pm Bridge P/C
<b>Friday</b> <b>10th of January</b>	<b>No Morning Mass</b> 1.30pm Bowlers P/C
<b>Saturday</b> <b>11th January</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 3.30pm Dawn Willis Concert Practice 4.45pm Confessions <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Sunday</b> <b>12th January</b> <i>The Baptism of the Lord</i> <i>Year C</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b>

### URGENTLY NEEDED

4 new Church Care volunteers are urgently needed as one of the teams have only 1 lady to clean the church which is too much for one person to take on. You will be rostered on once every 2 months. Training will be provided. If you are able to spare 1 to 2 hours please contact the parish office on secretary@stfinbars.org.au. Thank you for your help

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Andrew Dennis and Therese Duval.

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

Bernadette Shalala, Beryl & Stan Callaghan, Myrna Ware, Gerard Keenan (Anita Keenan's Son), Sara Pinato (Matthew Pinato's Mother), Pat Barrett, Noreen Taylor, Sue Bland, Connor Sipple, Jacqui Visser, Katie Maloney, Chris Paine, Margaret Stevens, Lyn Downes, Christopher Thomson, David Haynes (Yvonne Scanlan's Dad), Gwen Cullinan, Sophie Hollies, Terry Stevens, Mark Bates, Margaret Christensen, Maddison Farrugia, Colleen & Michael Nolan, Harrison Aggar (Margaret & Ian Dickson's Grandson), Joan & Maureen Brown (Marcia Pereira's Sister & Niece), Catherine, Elizabeth and Monika Gawlik.

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

Donald Cameri, Robert Clarke, Helen Morgan, Jonathan Murray, Christopher Appleton, Patrick Dempster, Francis Amaral, Mary Nelson, Geoffrey Clayton, Robert Pope, Phillip Dowding and Lyndsay Walmsley.

### LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 11TH & 12TH JANUARY 2025

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Volunteer Please	Peter McMahon	Garry Pursehouse
Senior Server	Volunteer Please	Peter McMahon	Joseph Sukkar
Junior Servers	Quentin Lynch & Eoghan McKenna		Oliver Wilson, Noah Young & Patrick Sukkar
Warden	Maree Roach	Volunteer Please	Patricia Murnane
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Volunteer Please	Carl Moll	Richard Cutler
2nd Reading	Dawn Willis	Geraldine Agahari	Carmel Higgins
Intercession	Volunteer Please	Elizabeth Konza	Joanne Stubbs
Music	No Music		No Music
IT Operators	Anne Hobbs	Kylie Mills	Joanne Stubbs
Gifts	Margaret & Michael Richards	Volunteers Please	Dorothea Walsh
Communion	Brian & Thea Robertson	Jim & Kath Tierney	Colin Stead & Gerard Egan
Children's Liturgy	School Holidays		
Piety Stall	Closed		
Church Care	Robyn Flynn & Wendy Bohan		
Hospitality	Anne King, Lynne Atkinson, Daren & Liz Dukes		