

St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
The Barra
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time- Year C
18th & 19th January 2025

Jesus
Changes
Water
into Wine
John 2:1-11



Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 95; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; John 2:1-11

*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 PONDER'S.....

*“Almost all problems in the spiritual life stem from lack of self-knowledge.” (Saint Teresa of Avila in *The Way of Perfection*)*
 Such a well respected contemplative saint as Teresa of Avila can certainly put into a few words what many of us cannot fathom about difficulties in our relationship with God. So often we approach God in a rather objective and servile way, especially when we have prayers of intercession when we are in need or are praying for others. We may have the need to “get it right” almost to the point of forcing God’s hand. Given that God is so much more powerful than we are, this approach is fraught with anxiety because we are attempting to control the Almighty. Not a very good place to start! Yes, intercessory prayer is necessary, each time Mass is celebrated we have many intercessions made throughout the celebration and not just in the Prayers of the Faithful.
 But there is more to our relationship with God than continually interceding. Our relationship with God needs to be more personal in the sense that it becomes inter-personal, tucked away with God in intimacy. We may find ourselves shying away from such depths of relationship, fearing we will be overcome and not know what to say. Well, when we don’t know how to pray, the Holy Spirit will give us utterance, as Christ promised.
 As in any relationship, we need to be honest. We do not need to put on airs and graces in trying to be alone with God, approaching Him, wearing a fine mask of our own construction hoping He won’t see us for who we truly are. He knows who we truly are anyway, God even knows the things we do not know about ourselves.
 Believing God to be almighty we might just give Him the benefit of the doubt and rest assured that we are in safe hands. Teresa was in the convent for twenty years before she got a handle on intimate prayer with God. During that time she had been defensive so that God couldn’t get through. Once she learned to be honest with herself, and then honest with God, the relationship took off into space. If you visit her convent just outside Avila you can see the Chapel of the Reverberation where that mystical experience happened for the first time. And it was all down to honesty about herself.
 Where does that leave us poor mortals? There is so much about ourselves that lies hidden from us, although others may be more than aware of our failings. The Holy Spirit will reveal the truth about us in his own way, which may include hearing our faults from others. We are likely to be resistant, we don’t welcome criticism, but this can be a gift from the Holy Spirit for our good. Scrutinise what is said, see if there is any truth in it, then bring it to God humbly seeking His help in being honest about ourselves. Suddenly we are transported into Christ who is the Truth, talking openly with Him without needing to avert our eyes. Amazing what a little honesty can do!

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Priest: Fr John Hogan
 E-mail: john.hogan@parracatholic.org
Secretary: Juliana Khnouf
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Admin: Peter McMahon
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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
Facebook: Glenbrook Catholic Church St Finbars

Parish School: Principal
 Mrs Robyn Clarke
 Phone: 4724 3600

Jerome Biblical Commentary book is missing from the parish library. If any of you have borrowed it, can you please return it to the parish office.
Thank you for your help

SATURDAY’S BAPTISMS:
 The Parish joyfully announces the Baptism of
Maria Lucia Karatovic & Isaac Joseph Grus
 this Saturday, 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.

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday 19th January <i>2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time -Year C</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass
Monday 20th January	No Mass. Office is closed
Tuesday 21st January <i>St Agnes</i>	9.15am Mass 11.00am Funeral Service for Malcolm Watt 7.00pm PFC Meeting M/R
Wednesday 22nd January	9.15am Mass followed by the Rosary 7.00pm Bridge P/C
Thursday 23rd January	9.15am Mass 11.00am Funeral Mass for Peter Stapleton 1.15pm Bridge P/C
Friday 24th of January <i>St Francis de Sales</i>	9.15am Mass 1.30pm Bowlers P/C
Saturday 25th January <i>The Conversion of St Paul</i>	9.15am Mass 4.45pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 26th January <i>Australia Day</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass

Diocesan World Day of the Sick Anointing

Mass on Tuesday 11th February commencing at 11:00am - venue is Mary Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown.
Following this, we have a Formation session focusing on Pope Francis' message for the 2025 World Day of the Sick on Saturday 15th February from 9:30am too 12:30pm at the same venue. Registrations to met@parracatholic.org and enquiries to Michael.Tan@parracatholic.org

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Kees Van der Donk (John Verhoeven's step-father), Malcolm Watt, Aaron Greetree (Patrick Watson's Nephew), Peter Stapleton, Andrew Dennis & 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, 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), Joan & Maureen Brown (Marcia Pereira's Sister & Niece), Catherine, Elizabeth and Monika Gawlik.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

Guisppe Nardi, Angela McGregor, Kathleen McFadden, Bruce Oxford, Philip Mason, John Castor, Phillip Coburn, Patrick Egan and Margaret Lane.

LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 25TH & 26TH JANUARY 2025

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Ahyiesha D'Souza	Peter McMahon	Stephen Brown
Senior Server	Ahyiesha D'Souza	Peter McMahon	Stephen Brown
Junior Servers	Sophie & Juliette Lynch		Elija & Oscar Baird
Warden	Margaret Richards	Volunteer Please	Justin Dowling
1 st Reading	Marsha O'Meara	Kevin Lloyd	Cecilia Zammit
2nd Reading	Naomi Cheeseman	Andrew Teece	Michelle Wilson
Intercession	Katy Ferris	Carl Moll	Erin Kelly
Music	N/A		N/A
IT Operators	Pat Watson	Elizabeth Konza	Joanne Stubbs
Gifts	Steve & Heather Lee	Rivas Family	The Young Family
Communion	Lorraine Brown & Gwen Cullinan	Jessica Tiller & Jean Di Nucci	Erin Kelly & Carmel Higgins
Church Care	Jane Lennon, Valeska Madrid & Elizabeth Christie		
Hospitality	Kerry & Peter Herborn		
Lawn Mowing	Kevin Debeck, Rob Lennon & Bob Hanigan		