



St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

**The Barra**

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

8th & 9th February 2025



**Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 137; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11**

*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 ponders.....**

"Don't strew me with roses after I'm dead. When Death claims the light of my brow no flowers of life will cheer me: instead You may give me my roses now!" -- Thomas F. Healey

It is more than a pity that the vast majority of the population is so adverse at offering compliments to others while they are alive. Paying one's respects to someone who has died by attending the funeral is a holy and dignified behavior. But often it has come late in the day. We might ask ourselves have we paid our respects to everyone we know during their lifetimes? As Thomas Healey points out above, he would rather receive the roses while he is still alive and can see and appreciate them. When death comes to the person it is too late.

For the Catholic Christian it is imperative to understand the value of living in the Now. To be able to appreciate others for who essentially they are: "Images of God". I don't doubt for a minute that this proposition may have different grades of difficulty with some individuals who may not have nice personalities. But such difficulties should not deter us from treating others with the utmost respect, for the sake of God almighty. Surely everyone has some redeeming quality for which we can compliment them! This is not about making things up for the purpose, nor about feeling sour because our faith requires us to treat others in a way that we would like to be treated.

Rather, it is about true communion in the present. While the fact of the matter is that together we will all be united with Christ in heaven, such an attitude is just far too late. Putting people to the side because we don't want to deal with them produces division which is not acceptable for the Christian. While we are called to love one another, and understood that that can mean not liking them, this is hardly the stuff of the love shown by Christ hanging on the cross. "Father forgive them for they know not what they do." And anyway, we might not be the most pleasant people at times. This insight certainly levels the playing field, and as a grace sent from heaven, can teach us to be humble whenever we get too big for own boots!

Let's not wait until it is too late to treat one another as God wants us to. Even just a smile and a nod towards someone we loath can make their day and costs us absolutely nothing.

Playing the game of thinking that we are better than others is what it is: a game. It is a false game played by a false sense of self. A sincere smile can melt the heart of the "sourest puss" and maybe lead to friendship. God knows it can.

**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)

Office Phone: (02) 47426958

**Admin:** Peter McMahan

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

(Closed on Mondays)

**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

**Baptisms**

The Parish joyfully announces the Baptism of

**Addisyn Anne Drew-Rugg & Violette Anne Harley**

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><b>Sunday</b> 9th February <i>5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C</i></p>	<p><b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> <b>10.45am Baptisms</b></p>
<p><b>Monday</b> 10th February <i>St Scholastica</i></p>	<p><b>No Mass. Office is closed</b></p>
<p><b>Tuesday</b> 11th February</p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b> 5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice 7.00pm Parish Pastoral Council Meeting M/R</p>
<p><b>Wednesday</b> 12th February</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</b> 13th February</p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b> 1.15pm Bridge Club P/C 7.30pm RCIA Preparation Meeting M/R</p>
<p><b>Friday</b> 14th February <i>Sts Cyril and Methodius</i></p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b> 1.30pm Bowlers P/C</p>
<p><b>Saturday</b> 15th February</p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b> 4.45pm Confessions <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b></p>
<p><b>Sunday</b> 16th February <i>6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C</i></p>	<p><b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> <b>10.30am AGM Meeting P/C</b> 1.15pm Bridge Club P/C <b>6.00pm Youth Mass</b> Live Streaming Link <a href="https://youtube.com/live/mgGKevaFnZ0?feature=share">https://youtube.com/live/mgGKevaFnZ0?feature=share</a> 7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C</p>

**Safeguarding Face-to-face Training**

**Opportunities: 15 February**

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on Saturday 15 February at St Monica's Richmond for Cycle 1 (Modules 1-3). More training opportunities will be available throughout February and 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)

**Diocesan World Day of Prayer for the Sick: 11 February**

A World Day of Prayer for the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on Tuesday 11 February 2025 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. RSVPs are required by 6 February 2025 via [parracatholic.org/world-day-prayer-feb11](http://parracatholic.org/world-day-prayer-feb11)

**Music for Lent Workshop: 13 February**

Musicians and Liturgy Planners are invited to attend an evening exploring Music for Lent on Thursday 13 February from 7pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. The session will be presented by Eric Grella, Music Formation Facilitator, Mission Enhancement Team. Registrations are essential, please RSVP by 11 February via [parracatholic.org/music-workshop](http://parracatholic.org/music-workshop)

**PLAYGROUP NEWS**

The parish would like to thank Michelle Wilson for her help as the Parish Playgroup Coordinator for the last 2 years, Michelle is stepping down from her role this year, and thank Sarah Andreallo who has taken over from Michelle. Thanking them both for their help and wishing them the best of luck.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2025**

The Cook Islands: "I made you wonderful."

**Date:** Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025

**Time:** 7pm

**Location:** St Finbars Parish Glenbrook

All are welcome to come together in prayer and reflection.

A light supper will be provided.

An initiative of the Glenbrook Blaxland Interchurch Group. Any questions please contact Todd on 0422 072 373.



**YOUTH NIGHT**  
ST. FINBAR'S PARISH, GLENBROOK

EVERY 1<sup>ST</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH @ 6PM  
MASS: 6PM SUPPER: 7PM  
THE LOUNGE YOUTH GROUP: 7.30-8.30PM

Vinnies Blaxland shop needs you!  
Give back to your local community and make friends and gain new skills as a Vinnies volunteer.  
All funds raised go straight back into local programs and services.  
No prior experience needed, there is a role for anyone and everyone! Apply online today: <http://www.vinnies.org.au/shopvolunteersw> or come into the shop to chat.

Location: 132 A Great Western Highway, Blaxland 2774

# ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL AND PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

This year the parish AGM is scheduled for Sunday the 16th of February straight after the 9.30am Mass in the Parish Hall. All parishioners are invited to attend.

During the AGM, the Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Committee will provide updates on pastoral and financial planning. Hope to see you all there.

### 2025 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Parents of children who wish to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist in 2025 are invited to attend the Sacramental Information Evening on Tuesday the 4th of March at 7.30pm in the parish hall. Registration Forms and requirements for participation in each of the Sacramental journeys will be discussed and distributed at this meeting. Children need not attend.

Sacramental dates are as follows:-

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation

will be held on Saturday the 5th of April at 2.30pm. Preparation sessions to start on Thursday the 20th of March at 5.30pm in the parish hall.

#### Sacrament of 1st Holy Communion

will be held on Sunday the 22nd of June at the 9.30am Mass. Preparation sessions to start on Thursday the 22nd of May at 5.30pm in the parish hall.

#### Sacrament of Confirmation

will be held on Sunday the 7th of September at the 9.30am Mass, Bishop Vincent Long will be celebrating. Preparation sessions to start on Thursday the 7th of August at 5.30pm in the parish hall.

If you have any questions please contact the parish office on 47426958.

### 2025 LENTEN GROUPS

Lent starts on Wednesday the 5th of March this year. The parish is organising some Lenten groups to meet once a week during Lent, and needs to get an idea of numbers so sufficient books can be ordered. If you would like to be part of one of the groups please add your name to the list which is in the Narthex of the Church.

There will be 3 different groups as follows:-

Martin Rogers' group will be on Saturday the 8th of March at 9am in the parish meeting room.

Mila Svehla's group will be on Thursday the 6th of March at 3.30pm in the parish meeting room.

Father John's group will be on Wednesday the 5th of March at 7pm in the parish meeting room.

## DISCOVER THE CAMINO DE SANTIAGO FULLY ESCORTED BY JUNE BOUCHE.

Ruby Travels Worldwide (June is a parishioner). Take time to reflect, contemplate, meditate and give this challenge the meaning you prefer, whether spiritual, religious, physical or the opportunity to meet like-minded people. Dates of the Cosmos Tour are 22 May - 1st June, 2026 @ \$ 5,249.00 per person Twin Share (Tour Cost). Flights not included. Ruby Travels Worldwide will assist with flights, pre and post holiday itineraries. For more information, please contact June Bouche on 0401895998 or email [june.rubytravels@gmail.com](mailto:june.rubytravels@gmail.com). Only 10 Spots are available to be booked ASAP with Deposit of \$ 250.00 per person to secure your place on the Scenic Portuguese Route.

## TOGETHER WE CAN KEEP THE FAITH ALIVE - AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED (ACN)



Aid to the Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND

Did you know that across the world tens of millions of Christian families are in exile following persecution because of their faith?

Aid to the Church in Need is a spiritual and pastoral charity which seeks to keep the flame of faith alive in those places where it is at risk of extinction.

This weekend we welcome to our parish an ACN speaker who will share with us about the work of Aid to the Church in Need and how we can help our suffering and persecuted brothers and sisters.



## 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"><li>• Property Law</li><li>• Business Law</li><li>• Wills &amp; Estates</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Family Law</li><li>• Negligence Law</li><li>• Court Appearances</li></ul> |
|---|---|

**Phone: 02 47315899**

**[www.batemanbattersby.com.au](http://www.batemanbattersby.com.au)**

**[Enquiries@batemanbattersby.com.au](mailto:Enquiries@batemanbattersby.com.au)**



## SCOTT GLEESON Funeral Director

0404 770 008

02 9896 3299

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

[www.scottgleesonfunerals.com.au](http://www.scottgleesonfunerals.com.au)

2 Fennell Street, Parramatta,  
NSW 2150

## Turner Freeman

Lawyers Est. 1952

Turner Freeman Lawyers have been providing members of the community with outstanding legal services since 1952 in the following areas:  
Personal injury claims |  
Wills & estate planning | Property law |  
Deceased estates & will disputes

Suite 4, 311 High Street Penrith NSW 2750

☎ 4729 5200

🌐 [www.turnerfreeman.com.au](http://www.turnerfreeman.com.au)

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



## LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 15TH & 16TH FEBRUARY 2025

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am	6.00pm Youth Mass
Sacristan	Vince Dobson	Carl Moll	Stuart Sheary	Nick McMaster
Senior Server	Vince Dobson	Carl Moll	Martin Rogers	Nick McMaster & Quentin Lynch
Junior Servers	Volunteers Please		Zoe Wilson, Dominic Sheary & Tim Kensey	Sophia Lynch
Warden	Lorraine Brown	Volunteer Please	Frank Fitzpatrick	Daniel Lynch
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Maire Griffin	Peter McMahon	Peter or Trish Hurley	Volunteer Please
2nd Reading	Gideon Goosen	Andrew Teece	Frank Zammit	Joanne Stubbs
Intercession	Margaret Moore	John De Mattia	Tricia Murnane	Volunteer Please
Music	Cantabile		Naomi's Group	N/A
IT Operators	Henry Hanco	Joseph Wilson	Patrick Watson	Lachlan Lloyd
Gifts	Thea & Brian Robertson	Kay Whitty	The Wilson Family	N/A
Communion	Ahyiesha D'Souza & Bernie Fisher	Helen Keogh & Volunteer Please	Irene Aligno & Wendy Brown	Elizabeth Christie
Children's Liturgy				
Piety Stall	Lee Jackson			
Church Care	Volunteers Please			
Hospitality	Trish & Peter Hurley, Irene & Bert Aligno			

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Diane Tate, Malcolm Watt, Peter Stapleton, Andrew Dennis & Therese Duval.

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

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), Margaret Christensen, Gwen Cullinan, Lyn Downes, Sophie Hollies, Terry Stevens, Mark Bates, 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:

Richard Smith, Robert Sisson, Mark Devlin, Joan Whiting, Daphne Klein, Ben Gibson, John Nethery and Margaret Meere.



**Ballimino's**  
CAFE & PIZZERIA  
EST. 2019

BREAKFAST | LUNCH | DINNER  
OPEN 7 DAYS - 9AM TILL LATE - FULLY LICENSED  
SHOP 2/5 ROSS STREET, GLENBROOK NSW 2773 | (02) 4739 6582



**RUBY TRAVELS**  
WORLDWIDE

**June Bouche, Director**  
Tel. 0401 895 998

*I am your Local Travel Agent and I specialize in customized & packaged holidays Australia & Worldwide for your Accommodation, Activities, Transfers, Ocean /River Cruises, International Airline & Rail Tickets.*

*I am an Authorized Agent for Globus & Trafalgar Family of Brands, Viva Holidays & Railbookers. Let Ruby Travels take you Worldwide.*

Email : [june.rubytravels@gmail.com](mailto:june.rubytravels@gmail.com)  
[www.facebook.com/rubytravelsworldwide](http://www.facebook.com/rubytravelsworldwide)