



# St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

## The Barra

### 1st Sunday of Lent - Year C

### 8th & 9th March 2025



**Deuteronomy 26:4-10; Psalm 90; Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13**

*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.....

*"Recognize that life is what you get when you're born ... living is what you do with it."*

*-- Jim Allen*

Lent is truly a call, a call to repentance. The Lord Jesus begins his public ministry with precisely this message. It is repeated on Ash Wednesday as each participant receives the blessed ashes: "Repent and believe in the Good News." We might wonder, what is the link between repentance and the Good News of the Christian? Why are we called to repentance? Basically, repentance is about putting behind us unproductive thinking and behaviour which interferes with the wholesomeness of living the good life. Even in pre-Christian times philosophers pondered the question of what constitutes good living. To this day we are blessed with their conclusions that the good life is a life of the virtues. Plato and Aristotle bequeathed to the world a paradigm for assessing how we think and what we do. These are the Cardinal Virtues: Prudence, Justice, Fortitude and Temperance. These constitute an excellent way to discern our thinking and actions, and can be found in the book of Wisdom chapter 9.

"Living" for the Christian is to live the life of Christ which is perfection. However, for all our striving and willing to achieve this we are left with the consequences of the Fall from Grace. Generally, where we find ourselves is with good intentions together with failures. The poet T. S. Elliot described it as "living and partly living". We might take some inspiration about the sacredness of human living from the words of Christ while praying in the Garden of Gethsemane: "Father, let this cup pass me by." Was this an indication that the Son of God in our humanity just loved living life as it is? And wanted to continue doing so! Of course we don't know and he did want to save the human race after all. Back to the Good News which we hold dear. The Good News is about FREEDOM. While we remain in the tight clutches of the Fall from Grace we are severely restrained from living the life of the Freedom of the People of God. This freedom is the essential basis for living a life of Excellence, to flourish in all aspects of life and living in the way that God originally intended. The call to repentance is an invitation to move away from our self-imposed and selfish aspirations in order to place ourselves under the guidance of the Holy Spirit with seven gifts and twelve fruits to complete the task of making us perfect! Our likeness to God may be deeply wounded, but there is always the possibility of complete restoration to our Image of God within.

Lent is a continuing invitation to contemplate this dynamic, to believe in the possibilities, and to invite the Holy Spirit to come and make the difference.

Have a Happy Lent living out the Good News!

### PARISH INFORMATION

**Parish Priest:** Fr John Hogan

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

**Emergencies :** 0466 500 880

(Sickness & Death only)

**Secretary:** Juliana Khnouf

E-mail: [secretary@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:secretary@stfinbars.org.au)

Office Phone: (02) 47426958

**Admin:** Peter McMahon

E-mail: [admin@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:admin@stfinbars.org.au)

**PPC:** Cecilia Zammit (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

**Olivia Clare Dekruif**

this Sunday, and warmly welcomes her 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 March</p> <p><i>1st Sunday of Lent</i> <i>Year C</i></p>	<p><b>7.30am Mass</b></p> <p><b>9.30am Mass</b></p> <p><b>10.45am Baptisms</b></p> <p>2.00pm Blue Mountains Concert Band Concert</p>
<p><b>Monday</b> 10th March</p>	<p><b>No Mass. Office is closed</b></p> <p><b>10.30am Funeral Mass for Sara Pinato</b></p>
<p><b>Tuesday</b> 11th March</p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b></p> <p>5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice</p>
<p><b>Wednesday</b> 12th March</p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary</b></p> <p>9.30am Playgroup P/C</p> <p>7.00pm Bridge Club P/C</p> <p>7.00pm Fr John's Lenten Group M/R</p>
<p><b>Thursday</b> 13th March</p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b></p> <p>1.15pm Bridge Club P/C</p> <p>3.30pm Mila's Lenten Group M/R</p> <p>7.00pm RCIA Meeting M/R</p>
<p><b>Friday</b> 14th March</p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b></p> <p>1.30pm Bowlers P/C</p>
<p><b>Saturday</b> 15th March</p>	<p>9.00am Martin Roger's Lenten Group M/R</p> <p><b>9.15am Mass</b></p> <p>4.30pm Confessions</p> <p><b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b></p>
<p><b>Sunday</b> 16th March</p> <p><i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i> <i>Year C</i></p>	<p><b>7.30am Mass</b></p> <p><b>9.30am Mass</b></p> <p>1.15pm Bridge Club P/C</p> <p><b>6.00pm Youth Mass</b></p> <p>Live Streaming Link</p> <p><a href="https://youtube.com/live/RbqEvhwuc4M?feature=share">https://youtube.com/live/RbqEvhwuc4M?feature=share</a></p> <p>7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C</p>

**Positions Vacant**

- + Administration Assistant: Mission Enhancement Team
- + Risk & Compliance Facilitator: Governance, Risk & Compliance

More details at: [parracatholic.org/about/jobs/](http://parracatholic.org/about/jobs/)

**Nominations open for the 2025 Papal & Diocesan Awards**

Nominations are now open for the 2025 Papal and Diocesan Awards, recognising individuals and groups—both religious and lay—who have made outstanding contributions to the Catholic Church and its community. Do you know someone who deserves to be recognised? Nominations close at midnight on 31 May 2025. For more information or to submit a nomination, visit [parracatholic.org/contribute/papal-diocesan-awards/](http://parracatholic.org/contribute/papal-diocesan-awards/)

**Bookings now open: Diocese of Parramatta's Jubilee Youth Pilgrimage**

Young people (18-35) across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are invited to embark on an 18-day pilgrimage to the Jubilee of Youth in Rome from 19 July – 5 August 2025. The journey includes a visit to Greece, tracing the footsteps of Saint Paul, before heading to Rome for the celebration. To book your spot or for more information visit [parracatholic.org/jubileeyouth2025](http://parracatholic.org/jubileeyouth2025)

**BOOK OF EXODUS - ECUMENICAL BIBLICAL STUDIES.**

**Guided by Gideon Goosen PhD. 28th April; 5th May; 12th May; 19th May.**

St Finbar's April/May 2025. Mondays 7.30pm. Prior Registration Essential REPLY by 12<sup>th</sup> March to (02) 47426958



**Project Compassion Sunday**  
1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of March 2025

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. Your generous support this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.



**Please donate today.**

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

**Or online at:** [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion)

**Or by calling:** 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*

**PARISH NEWS**

**60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS SUNDAY 30TH MARCH AT 9.30AM MASS**

- ✦ 9.30am Celebration of Mass. The narthex will be opened for extra chairs.
- ✦ Could those who were here by 1995 please sit in the middle section pews as a group?
- ✦ 10.15am Conclusion of Mass with short talk, photo opportunity and certificates ready for collection.
- ✦ Upon exiting ALL Parishioners are invited to take an interesting pamphlet as a memento of the day.
- ✦ 10.30am BIG Morning tea in the hall. Activities for younger members in tar area adjacent the hall and the grass area near the outdoor platform.

*Please support this happy community event. It will be a lovely experience.*

Volunteers are needed to help with hospitality on the day. If you are able to help please contact the parish office.

**THANK YOU.**

Thank you to everyone who responded to our Year of Origin inquiry! It's wonderful to see that we have so many new members of the parish and to know that we have extensive depth of experience in the parish with a significant number of people who have been here a from a couple of decades to 7 decades.

To date: 19 people were here in 1965 and another 82 joined the parish between 1966 and 1995.

Another 125 people who have joined since 1995, have responded. *Thank you so much!*

We encourage all parishioners 18 and over to respond as soon as possible. It helps us appreciate the diversity of our community.

**NEW FRIDGE FOR THE PARISH HALL**

The old fridge in the parish hall was leaking and needed a new compressor which cost \$1600. It was getting very old and Father John has decided to buy a new fridge before the old one completely dies. Donations are welcome towards the cost of the new fridge. If you are able to donate please contact the parish office on 4742 6958 or donate via Parish Website. Thank you for your generosity.

**NEW PARISH CHILDREN'S CHOIR**

Dawn Willis is starting new Children's Choir in our parish to be singing on the 4th Saturday Vigil Mass of each month. She needs at least 6 children between the ages of 7 and 13 to form the new group, and other musicians who play piano or guitar. So she will need an adult or accomplished teen who plays piano to volunteer along with the children of the parish to help. For more details please contact Dawn Willis via the WhatsApp Finbars musos or phone: 0493 664 311.

**PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES**

Please note that the Project Compassion Boxes have been delayed this year. I will have them out in the church as soon as they arrive.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**Glenbrook Catholic Parish was proclaimed on March 30, 1965.** Fr Daniel Fay was appointed as the parish priest. Sunday Mass time was 8.45am. When Father Fay held his first Mass at Glenbrook on Sunday April 4, 1965, he learnt three immediate facts. The little wooden church, while it provided the special serenity required of a church, housed only about 175 people. That day at least 300 people came! He also learnt that car ownership was not ubiquitous and when the Blaxland/Warrimoo folk saw the clock reach 9.50am they left Mass in order to walk to the highway to catch the bus home, as the next bus was at 2pm - long sermons were inadvisable! Additionally, he learnt that parishioners were eager and hospitable. It is said that he received innumerable invitations to lunch that day. His initial lodgings were with parishioners the Manktelow's (a local builder) as obviously the parish did not have a presbytery. By the next Sunday Father Fay had introduced a second Mass at 7am – the famous 'early' Mass and immediately initiated a CYO (Catholic Youth Organisation) for Glenbrook, which provided much appreciated inclusion for older teens and young adults. Within another fortnight the first Glenbrook Parish Baptism was celebrated for Anthony Magers while on June 12, 1965 the first marriage for Glenbrook Parish was blessed for Diane Merchant and Philip Ireland.

**Bateman Battersby**

L A W Y E R S

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

- |   |   |
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## LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 15TH & 16TH MARCH 2025

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	Garry Pursehouse	Brendan Khnouf & 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	Kevin Lloyd	Peter or Trish Hurley	Matilda Howard
2nd Reading	Gideon Goosen	Peter McMahon	Erin Kelly	Joanne Stubbs
Intercession	Margaret Moore	John Isaksen	Frank Fitzpatrick	Nick McMaster
Music	Cantabile		Naomi's Group	N/A
IT Operators	Henry Hanko	Elizabeth Konza	Dan Kensey	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 & Erin Kelly	Volunteer Please
Children's Liturgy	Pia & Andrew			
Lee Jackson	Lee Jackson			
Church Care	Mopping group: Clare Warren, Liam Isaksen & Connor Isaksen			
Hospitality	Trish & Peter Hurley, Irene & Bert Aligno			

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Clementine "Emie" Stapleton, Sara Pinato, Noel Flaherty, Michael Nolan, Diane Taite, Malcolm Watt, Peter Stapleton, Andrew Dennis & Therese Duval.

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

Brian Pope, Beryl & Stan Callaghan, Myrna Ware, Gerard Keenan (Anita Keenan's Son), 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 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:

Joseph Loader, Irene Williams, Patrick Hanson, Harry Ragen, James Cottier, Vicki Noble, Catherine Smith, Robert Bunda, Anthony Clyne, John Everett, Tadeusz Opiel, Maria Cummins and Ruben Stanford.



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