

St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
The Barra
 2nd Sunday of Lent - Year C
 15th & 16th March 2025



Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18; Psalm 26; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 9:28-36

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.....

"No pessimist ever discovered the secrets of the stars, or sailed to an uncharted land, or opened a new heaven to the human spirit."
 -- Helen Keller

Born in 1880 in Alabama USA, Helen Keller suffered an illness at 19 months of age which left her blind and deaf for the rest of her life. But, that didn't stop her from being a writer and lecturer and advocate for several important causes associated with justice. Indeed, her life is immortalized in a Hollywood film bearing her name. She was an indomitable woman, badly affected from ordinary communication skills, but rose above her plights to fill the world with sound wisdom.

Her wisdom, which we are considering today, speaks of the optimism which directed her life in spite of the setbacks she encountered. Why succumb to negative thoughts and emotions which make us feel miserable. Focus on the negative in our lives, then assuredly more negative things will show up. To focus on the positive gives us hope of a new dawn every day, all day.

The downplay of pessimism, as in our quotation above, is the inability to perceive beyond our negative level of consciousness which tends to be pervasive and impedes the purpose of the soul. The immortal soul is given us to perceive and enjoy the manifold gifts of God's creation. Yes, *the secret of the stars and sailing to uncharted lands* gives evidence of the curiosity and spirit of such great men as Copernicus and Kepler on the one hand, and Columbus and Marco Polo on the other. They were people unbounded by horizons that appeared to block in most other people.

As for opening a new heaven to the human spirit, we land in the truth of the spirituality of human wisdom. Every little bit of insight into God that we can muster is an invitation to savour the magnificence of God Almighty. Every positive word about God's mercy and compassion draws us deeper into the mystery of who God is and what he wishes for us.

Every kindly thought about God's love and designs for us are manifestations of wisdom uttered by the Holy Spirit. Whenever we are moved to reach outstretched hands and arms to the Holy One we experience the meaning and purpose of all things: that we belong in heaven.

Helen Keller can be for us someone who has shown what it means to reach out beyond the confines of human disability to make a positive contribution to the people of the world. During Lent we might find it possible to change our negative attitudes about ourselves, others, and life itself, so that we can be rewarded with a deeper sense of gratitude for all we receive. What have we got to lose? Pessimism is what we have to lose! And attain the eye-opening thrills of the Holy Spirit!

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Priest: Fr John Hogan
 E-mail: John.hogan@parracatholic.org
 Emergencies : 0466 500 880
 (Sickness & Death only)

Secretary: Juliana Khnouf
 E-mail: secretary@stfinbars.org.au
 Office Phone: (02) 47426958

Admin: Peter McMahon
 E-mail: admin@stfinbars.org.au

PPC: Cecilia Zammit (Chair)
 E-mail: 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
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.

<p>Sunday 16th March</p> <p><i>2nd Sunday of Lent Year C</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass</p> <p>1.15pm Bridge Club P/C</p> <p>6.00pm Youth Mass</p> <p>Live Streaming Link https://youtube.com/live/RbqEvhwuc4M?feature=share</p> <p>7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C</p>
<p>Monday 17th March</p> <p><i>St Patrick</i></p>	<p>No Mass. Office is closed</p> <p>5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R</p>
<p>Tuesday 18th March</p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>10.00am Timeout Tuesday P/C</p> <p>1.00pm Pastoral Care Meeting M/R</p> <p>6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice</p> <p>7.00pm Finance Committee Meeting M/R</p>
<p>Wednesday 19th March</p> <p><i>St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i></p>	<p>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary</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>Thursday 20th March</p>	<p>9.15am Healing Mass followed by morning tea.</p> <p>1.15pm Bridge Club P/C</p> <p>3.30pm Mila's Lenten Group M/R</p> <p>5.00pm Reconciliation preparation sessions P/C</p> <p>7.00pm RCIA Meeting M/R</p>
<p>Friday 21st March</p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>1.30pm Bowlers P/C</p>
<p>Saturday 22nd March</p>	<p>9.00am Martin Roger's Lenten Group M/R</p> <p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>4.30pm Confessions</p> <p>5.30pm Vigil Mass</p>
<p>Sunday 23rd March</p> <p><i>3rd Sunday of Lent Year C</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass</p> <p>10.45am Baptisms</p>

Positions Vacant

- ✦ Administration Assistant: Mission Enhancement Team
- ✦ Risk & Compliance Facilitator: Governance, Risk & Compliance
- ✦ Administration Assistant: Holy Spirit Parish, St Clair

More details at: parracatholic.org/about/jobs/

Bookings now open: Diocese of Parramatta's Adult 35 years+ Jubilee Pilgrimage

Join a life-changing 19-day pilgrimage from 7 to 25 September 2025, exploring sacred sites in Greece, Turkey, and Rome. Open to adults aged 35 and over, this journey follows St. Paul's path and the early Church, culminating in the Jubilee Year of Hope in Rome. Bookings close on 2 May 2025, with a deposit of \$800 required at the time of booking. The final payment is due by 7 July 2025. Don't miss this incredible faith experience. For more information and to register, visit parracatholic.org/jubileepilgrimage2025/.

SRE TEACHERS

Dear Parishioners,
St. Finbar's Parish is in great need of new SRE teachers or catechists. Our church teaches scripture in six public schools for children from kindergarten to sixth grade. Each class lasts 30 minutes, and it takes about 30 minutes to prepare the lesson for each class.
If you think you can set aside an hour a week to serve as a catechist or SRE, or as a helper, please call Georgina 0451 234 620.

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 12th March to (02) 47426958



Project Compassion Sunday
1st and 2nd 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
Or by calling: 1800 024 413
Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*

Invitation for All to:

60th Anniversary of St Finbar's Parish – Sunday 30th March at 9.30am Mass

We remember the past with thanks and work to respond to the needs of the present.

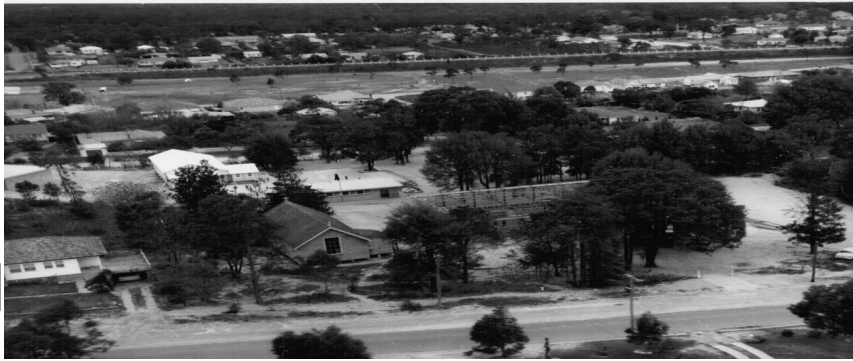
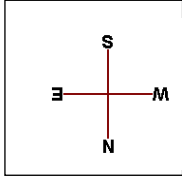
9.30am Mass

Short ceremony to acknowledge those current parishioners who were here in 1965 when the Parish was created, and also those current parishioners here in 1995 when our sandstone church was built. A certificate is available after Mass for each of these parishioners.

A special anniversary pamphlet, for all individuals and families, has been created as a memento.

10.30am. Big Morning Tea in the hall. Fun activities for the younger members.

DID YOU KNOW? Aerial view over St Finbar's 1966—photographer unknown



Great Western Highway

King Street

1954 St Finbar's School

Levy Street

Mackinnon's home
- now school admin

Church

New church /hall being built. Opened December 1966.
New toilets.

GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT ST FINBARS

This year our community will be praying Stations of the Cross a bit differently to normal.

- ✦ For those who are able, please add your name to one of the **small groups** on the warden's table in the narthex for a guided liturgy praying the Stations of the Cross **outside** around the church using the parish prayer walk. A limited number of chairs will be available at each station for those who need to sit. The liturgy will take about 1 hour.
- ✦ For those unable to participate in the outside liturgy, a Stations of the Cross liturgy will be held **inside** the church at 10am.

In case of poor weather, the outside Stations of the Cross will not go ahead, and all parishioners are invited to join for the 10am liturgy.

EASTER ROSTER 2025 & EASTER MASSES AND CONFESSIONS TIMETABLE

Volunteers are needed to help with all the Easter Liturgies, We need qualified Readers, Senior Servers, Sacristans, Junior Servers, Thurifier and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

If you are qualified and able to help, please add your name to the list on the church noticeboard. Please don't wait to add your name, put your name up early as this helps enormously with the organisation of all the ceremonies. Please check this Easter Masses and Confessions timetable sheet placed on the church noticeboard.

Thank you for all your help and support.

PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES

Please note that the Project Compassion Boxes have arrived, please take your box home with you this weekend.

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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Enquiries@batemanbattersby.com.au

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LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 22ND & 23RD MARCH 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 Lynch & Volunteer Please		Elija & Oscar Baird
Warden	Margaret Richards	Volunteer Please	Frank Zammit
1 st Reading	Jessica Doherty	Kevin Lloyd	Cecilia Zammit
2nd Reading	Naomi Cheeseman	Andrew Teece	Annissa Nilsson
Intercession	Katy Ferris	Carl Moll	Joanne Stubbs
Music	N/A		Holy Light
IT Operators	Robyn Flynn	Pat Watson	Joanne Stubbs
Gifts	Steve & Heather Lee	Rivas Family	The Young Family
Communion	Lorraine Brown & Peter McIlvenna	Jessica Tiller & Kath Tierney	Annissa Nilsson & Carmel Higgins
Children's Liturgy	Michelle & Clare		
Piety Stall	Ann Marie King		
Church Care	Jane Lennon, Valeska Madrid & Elizabeth Christie		
Hospitality	Kerry & Peter Herborn		
Lawn Mowing	Lukas Rajnoch, Andrew Howard, Stuart Sheary & Brendan Christie.		

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:

Norman Fisher (Bernie Fisher's brother), Robyn Behrooz, 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:

Gavin Paine, Dorothea Egan, May Hurry, Michael Cloran, John Burrett, Elmer (Bill) Taylor, Catherine McColl, Lance Baker, Scott Robertson, Carmel Koziol and David Burke.



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EST. 2019

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