



St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

**The Barra**

2nd Sunday of Easter—Divine Sunday Year C  
26th & 27th April 2025



**Acts 5:12-16; Psalm 117; Revelation 1:9-13, 17-19; John 20:19-31**

*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.....**

**Siphon off the Grit**

*Siphon off the grit  
so the water runs pure,  
gurgling in the proper channels,  
then you will see shimmering behind its true life  
and your soul, too, made of the same  
indestructible light.*

*Your consciousness is the water  
through which you gaze  
and if it be pure*

*you shall see God as promised. (Joyce W. Povolney)*

This little mediation was composed for the installation of a new baptismal font somewhere in Yorkshire. The location doesn't matter because the text evokes the power of the waters of baptism wherever they are to be found. This water "siphons off the grit" of sin which marks the soul, and it "runs pure" in the proper channels of the font but more importantly in the channels of our souls. These waters bring refreshment and ease in our spiritual and moral lives likening us to Christ himself. The "shimmering behind its true life" indicates the energy of superabundant grace ever active in the baptised. These baptismal waters are immortal, just like our souls, and speak of the Risen Christ who remains the Light of the World. With the Light of Christ we can see clearly where we are going in our lives and rest assured that whatever we see will be heavenly. When we get grit in our eyes we know that we cannot see properly, similarly, the soul's sight is impeded through sin especially Original Sin.

Our consciousness is the ability to raise our sight and contemplation to higher levels where God can be found more easily. Just as water is clear and can be seen through, with increasing holiness our consciousness becomes clearer and clearer. We know that if we wear glasses we must clean them from time to time so that we can view things properly. So with consciousness, we need to reach high levels of purity so that we can see beyond the confinements of this world to glimpse Eternity.

This is not beyond us, but does require assiduous practice of keeping close to Christ at all times. It includes putting on the mind and heart of Christ to whom we are joined in baptism, and to seal that union through the sacramental and worship life of the Church. These have been provided for us by Christ so that slowly but surely we will obtain what is called the "beatific vision". The more pure we keep that inner vision, the more we shall be able to experience what is ultimately the hope of the life of the baptised Christian. And after a life of faithful service and walking in the footsteps of Christ: "we shall see God as promised".

**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

**Thomas Hindley**

this Sunday, and warmly welcomes him 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

<b>Sunday</b> <b>27th April</b> <i>2nd Sunday of Easter</i> <i>(Divine Mercy)</i> <i>Year C</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> <b>10.45am Baptisms</b>
<b>Monday</b> <b>28th April</b> <i>St Peter Chanel</i>	<b>No Mass. Office is closed</b> 5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R 7.30pm Bible Study—Gideon Goosen M/R
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>29th April</b> <i>St Catherine of Siena</i>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> — Sister Larysa from Sisters of St. Elisabeth Convent, Diocese of Minsk 6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice 7.30pm Called and Gifted Session P/C
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>30th April</b>	<b>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary</b> 9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge Club P/C
<b>Thursday</b> <b>1st May</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 1.15pm Bridge Club P/C
<b>Friday</b> <b>2nd May</b> <i>St Athanasius</i>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 1.30pm Bowlers P/C
<b>Saturday</b> <b>3rd May</b> <i>Sts Philip and James</i>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 4.30pm Confessions <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Sunday</b> <b>4th May</b> <i>3rd Sunday of Easter</i> <i>Year C</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> <b>6.00pm Youth Mass</b> 7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C

### GERMANY AND CENTRAL EUROPE PILGRIMAGE.

The parish would like to wish some of our Parishioners Todd & Christine Stanford, Carl Moll, Tulin & Brian Sayah, Katy Ferris, June & Owen Bouche who will be leaving shortly for the Cosmos Central Europe Tour with Fr Joseph Lam & Ruby Travels Worldwide.

They will be joined by a few other Parishioners from St Michael's Baulkham Hills as well. There will be 18 of them travelling together. We wish them a safe & enjoyable trip.

## DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES

### MASS FOR POPE FRANCIS

The Diocesan Mass for Pope Francis will be held this Sunday, 27 April (the culmination of the Easter Octave) at the 11am Solemn Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. All are warmly invited to attend, and we ask that you share this news with your parish, school, agency, or ministry networks. Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv will celebrate the Mass. The Mass will also be [livestreamed](#) on St Patrick's Cathedral YouTube channel.

For anyone wishing to write condolence messages, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is organising a condolence book to pass onto the Apostolic Nuncio to Australia, Archbishop Charles Balvo, who was appointed Nuncio by Pope Francis in 2022. Please email your message to [condolencebook@catholic.org.au](mailto:condolencebook@catholic.org.au).

May he rest in the peace of Christ.

### FaithLIFE Theology Short Course: Wednesdays in May

Considering learning about theology? Interested in faith? Seek understanding? Looking to learn more about the Jubilee Year of Hope? Sign up now for the 3-session FaithLIFE Theology short course with Alison Ryan from MET on Wednesdays 7 + 14 + 21 May: [parracatholic.org/faithlife](http://parracatholic.org/faithlife)

### Study of Luke's Gospel with Dr Laurie Woods: Fridays 2–30 May

Join us for an enriching study of Luke's Gospel, led by Dr Laurie Woods and hosted by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD). Sessions will take place each Friday in May from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. All parishioners are welcome to attend. For more information or to RSVP by 30 April, contact [ccd.training@parracatholic.org](mailto:ccd.training@parracatholic.org)

### Music Workshop 'Exploring Music for the Solemnities': 8 May

Musicians from the Diocese of Parramatta and beyond are invited to attend this workshop led by MET Music Formation Facilitator Eric Grella. The workshop will outline suggested hymns and explore music new and old for the many Solemnities and Feasts that occur in the period of Eastertide. Bring any music related questions along on Thursday 8 May to the Bishop Bede Heather Centre 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown at 7pm. Please RSVP by 2 May via [parracatholic.org/events/OFW](http://parracatholic.org/events/OFW). For enquiries, please contact [ofw@parracatholic.org](mailto:ofw@parracatholic.org) or 0488 000 211.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Catholic charity *Aid to the Church in Need* is seeking for regular volunteers to assist at their national office in Penrith. Days and times as mutually suitable. The office is close to public transport and has parking. For more information contact Peter Harrop, [peter@aidtochurch.org](mailto:peter@aidtochurch.org) or phone 9167 9526.

# ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

## IN MEMORIAM POPE FRANCIS

All Masses in Saint Finbar's this weekend will be offered for the happy repose of the soul of Pope Francis.

The first of seven sermons on the Social Teaching of the Church will be delivered. The subject will be **HUMAN SOLIDARITY**, a subject dear to the heart of Pope Francis who articulated it so wonderfully in his encyclical letter **Fratelli Tutti** (Brothers and Sisters All). May Pope Francis rest in peace, Amen.

The diocese will commemorate Pope Francis at a Solemn Mass at Saint Patrick's Cathedral this Sunday at 11am.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW RCIA MEMBERS

Congratulations to the parish's new RCIA members Tara Brame, Matthew Harris, Natasha Harris and Lorraine Smith who were received into full Communion with the Catholic Church last Saturday at the Easter Vigil.

## THANK YOU FOR ALL WHO HELPED MAKE EASTER THIS YEAR A SPECIAL CELEBRATION

Thank you for all the parish volunteers who helped last week with the Easter celebrations. The parish appreciates all your help and support. May God bless you and your families.

## POSITION VACANT AT ST FINBAR'S PARISH

St Finbar's is looking to hire a dedicated and organised Admin Assistant to provide essential support for the parish and to learn how the parish operates.

The position will initially be 6 hours per week over two mornings, progressing to 10 hours per week for the right person.

If you have admin ability, Microsoft Office skills, database skills and are interested in learning more. please email Peter on [admin@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:admin@stfinbars.org.au).

## FACE TO FACE SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Maria Kervin will be presenting training Face to Face in the upcoming month.

Everyone is welcome to complete this independently online at:

<https://learning.safeguarding.org.au/>

For parishioners who have completed their Cycle 1 Training Modules 1-3 in 2023. The parish is offering Cycle 2 Renewal Training Modules 4 and 5 Face-to-Face Training on the following dates:-

### **Cycle 2 – Renewal Modules 4 and 5**

**Tuesday 6th of May at 7pm** in the parish hall. Module 4 – Applying the Child Safe Standards to Safeguard Children and Adults at Risk (90min), and

**Thursday 22nd of May at 7pm** in the parish hall.

Module 5 – Legal Compliance: Risk of Significant Harm and Reportable Conduct (90min)

**60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CERTIFICATES:** There are still some certificates that have not been collected. Please visit the Parish Office to collect or contact the office to arrange collection at a weekend mass. The surnames remaining are: *Allcock, Di Nucci, Dodds, Dollin, Flavell, Geelan, Holder, King, Leahy, Macri, Mason, O'Hehir, Tobin, Tulk*. Thank you

## SISTER LARYSA FROM SISTERS OF ELISABETH CONVENT IN MINSK—DIOCESE OF BELARUS.

Will be visiting our parish on Tuesday 29th of April at the 9.15am Mass. They are going to set up a small table to sell beautiful religious articles or souvenirs handmade with love and prayer. They support many people with special needs and/or addictions who labor in our workshops to get a chance to rehabilitate through supporting themselves and feeling needed by the society. Thank you for your support on the day.



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

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## LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR THE 4TH & 5TH MAY 2025

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am	6.00pm Youth Mass
Sacristan	Ahyiesha D'Souza	Carl Moll	Gerard Egan	Nick McMaster
Senior Server	Ahyiesha D'Souza	Carl Moll	Lukas Rajnoch	Nick McMaster & Tim Kensey
Junior Servers	Alex & Luc Nilsson	Zoe & Oliver Wilson	Xavier Rajnoch & Benjamin Grus	Volunteer Please
Warden	Vince Dobson	Ben Oxley	Gary Clune	Volunteer Please
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Beth Culliver	John De Mattia	Yvonne Scanlan	Elizabeth Christie
2nd Reading	Katy Ferris	Andrew Teece	Frank Zammit	Volunteer Please
Intercession	Greg Rowe	Kevin Flynn	Amanda Moore	Volunteer Please
Music	Naomi's Group		Anne's Group	N/A
IT Operators	Robyn Flynn & Juliette Lynch	Joseph Wilson	Patrick Watson	Lachlan Lloyd
Gifts	Eleanor Thompson & Volunteer Please	Maria Heinzl & Stanis Drobiszewski	The Grus Family	N/A
Communion	Elizabeth Rowe & Greg Rowe	Volunteers Please	Wendy Brown & Martin Rogers	Brendan Khnouf
Children's Liturgy	Colin & Andrew			
Piety Stall	Carmel Higgins			
Church Care	Robyn Flynn & Wendy Bohan			
Hospitality	Lina Wiecek & Vicky Ang			

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Pope Francis, George Cottee, Father Joe's Dad in Germany, Stuart Steele, Brian Pope (Jim Pope's Brother), Clementine "Emie" Stapleton, Sara Pinato, Noel Flaherty, Michael Nolan and Diane Taite.

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

Norman Fisher (Bernie Fisher's brother), Robyn Behrooz, Beryl & Stan Callaghan, 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), Colleen Nolan, Margaret Christensen, Gwen Cullinan, Lyn Downes, Sophie Hollies, Terry Stevens, Mark Bates, Maddison Farrugia, 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:

Shane Navin, Cheryl Kirton, James Gormly, Letitia Osborne, Katie Jones, Alicia Snaith, Raymond Roberts, John Tregillgas, Walter Pilkinton, Denis Lohan, Marjorie Aussel, Angela Pereira, David Apps and Tadeusz Bojec.



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