

St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

The Barra

Sts Peter & Paul, Apostles - Year C

28th & 29th June 2025



Acts 12:1-11; Psalm: 33; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18; Matthew 16:13-19

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.....

"Happiness cannot be travelled to, owned, earned, worn or consumed. Happiness is the spiritual experience of living every minute with love, grace, and gratitude."

-- Denis Waitley

Who doesn't want a life filled with happiness? Surely it belongs to us by right. We don't want to live without meaning and purpose in our lives and we go to extraordinary lengths to make sure we are well provided for with respect to happiness. Without happiness we feel listless if not downright depressed, a life filled with drudgery and existential malaise. Too right that we try to avoid such meaningless experiences. So, we go to all lengths to fill our days with nice things and joyful experiences to alleviate unhappiness.

From time immemorial people have taken to "comfort shopping" to make themselves feel good. It makes them feel in charge of themselves and gives a sense of purpose in directing their own lives. The allure of buying stuff to fill the gap is certainly encouraged by the advertising we experience. We can be quite gullible in falling for the hype, if only we can find some happiness in the items we buy. And I'm sure that we can be honest if we admit that what we have bought doesn't make us feel good for very long. But grand scale consumerism is the order of the day and we don't want to feel left out, and it promises so much. Irrespective of the advertising claims of things being there to buy and make you whole, the real intention is to get you to buy so that companies can make large profits.

Which is where the teachings of Christ come into their own. Our quotation today, by Denis Waitley, really does open us up to a different dimension of experience and lands us in the realm of spirituality, our true being. Our cravings to buy happiness are narcissistic ploys all about ourselves, and Christ never taught that. He taught us to be one with Him and with the Father. "Living every minute with love, grace, and gratitude" is a heavenly way of living and such things have an ongoing richness in our lives. They lead us to God and other people and away from our own self-centredness. They direct our lives to seek happiness as an ultimate endeavour in the small events as well as the big events of our lives, finding God in all that we do. And God is of the Eternal, the Ultimate Happiness.

When we can recognise that cravings for the things of this world lead us out of spiritual balance and direct our attention and efforts to what is not of heaven, then we have a chance to re-balance our lives towards the Eternal. Yes, we need the things of this world to get through life, but we need a balanced approach to them so that they don't overwhelm us with unspiritual longings. Love, Grace, and Gratitude are eternal and fulfil humanity's real yearnings.

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

Baptisms

The Parish joyfully welcomes the Baptisms of 4 children 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.

PARISH CALENDAR

DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES

Sunday 29th June <i>Sts Peter & Paul Apostles</i> <i>Year C</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass—PPC Commissioning Mass 10.45am Baptisms	Positions Vacant + Faith Educator – Confraternity of Christian Doctrine: Diocese of Parramatta + Cathedral Parish Coordinator: St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta + Healing and Support Counsellor – Safeguarding: Diocese of Parramatta + Training & Development Specialist – Safeguarding: Diocese of Parramatta + Senior Facilitator – Parish Engagement Lead: Diocese of Parramatta More details at: parracatholic.org/about/jobs/ Catholic Outlook Feedback survey! Do you engage with <i>Catholic Outlook</i> through our magazine, website or social media? We invite you to tell us what you enjoy, what you'd like more of and how we can continue to engage and inspire all people in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. Complete the anonymous survey by Friday 25 July by visiting www.surveymonkey.com/r/V9J5Y5Z or by scanning the QR code.  Jubilee of Youth Pilgrimage Commissioning Mass: 6 July Join us on 6 July for 6pm Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta, as we pray for the youth pilgrims who will travel overseas for this year of Jubilee, as Pilgrims of Hope. All welcome. CYP LIFTED Retreat (Year 10-12s): 8 July Catholic Youth Parramatta hosts an annual LIFTED Retreat, a spiritually enriching weekend designed to connect, support and nourish the young people of the Diocese of Parramatta. This retreat is open to Year 10–12 students (ages 16–17), and will be held on 8 July (10am–3pm) at Don Bosco Youth & Recreation Centre, 10 Mamre Rd, St Marys. Register: parracatholic.org/events/cyp-lifted-retreat-8-july/ Bishop Vincent presents Mauricio López: 23 July One of Latin America's most influential lay leaders, Mauricio López Oropeza, will be hosted by the Diocese of Parramatta as part of its "Bishop Vincent Presents" series. Mauricio will offer powerful insights on synodality, justice, and the Church's mission in a changing world. The free public lecture will be held on Wednesday 23 July at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta, from 6pm. To register and learn more, please visit parracatholic.org/lopez Children's Liturgy Workshop: 24 July Are you a part of children's liturgy or looking to get started? Come along to this informative workshop to learn more about the Diocesan guidelines, meet children's liturgy teams from other parishes, and ask any questions you may have about this rewarding ministry. This workshop will be held at Bishop Bede Heather Centre 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown on Thursday 24 July at 7-8:30pm. Please RSVP via parracatholic.org/events/OFW by 18 July. For enquiries, please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.
Monday 30th June	No Morning Mass. Office is closed	
Tuesday 1st July	9.15am Mass 10.00am Timeout Tuesday P/C 6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice	
Wednesday 2nd July	9.15am Mass followed by Rosary 7.00pm Bridge Club P/C	
Thursday 3rd July <i>St Thomas, apostle</i>	9.15am Mass 1.00pm Bridge Club P/C	
Friday 4th July	9.15am Mass 1.30pm Bowlers P/C 4.30pm Concert Committee Meeting M/R	
Saturday 5th July	9.15am Mass 4.30pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass	
Sunday 6th July <i>14th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Year C</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 1st Holy Communion 2.00pm Afternoon tea to farewell Robert and Amy Ampt 6.00pm Youth Mass Live Streaming link https://youtube.com/live/Utg3lq68eyk?feature=share 7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C	

ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

PHOTOS FROM THE FIRST GROUP OF 1ST HOLY COMMUNION CHILDREN.

Father John and the parish community would like to extend a sincere thanks and appreciation to Annemaree Baird for her help preparing 36 children in the last 5 weeks sessions to receive their 1st Holy Communion. Please note that the 2nd celebration will be on Sunday the 6th of July at the 9.30am Mass.



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on Sunday the 7th of September, Bishop Vincent will be celebrating on the day. Preparation sessions will start on Thursday the 7th of August at 5pm in the parish hall. Please contact the parish office if you would like to enroll your child for this year.

NEW PARISH STAFF MEMBER

Our parish Admin Officer, Peter McMahon, has decided to step back from his admin role in the parish over the next few months.

He has set up a succession plan to introduce and train a new employee so that the parish business is able to continue functioning smoothly.

Interviews were recently held, and parishioner Tamara Alzened was the successful candidate.

She will start at a mutually agreeable date in July and work with Peter over a period of about three months to learn all aspects of the job.

Peter will always remain an active parishioner still carrying out all his volunteer roles.

PARISH BEAREAVEMENT TEAM

Volunteers are needed to join the Parish Bereavement team. They will be needed to help with preparing and serving food and refreshments at the parish funerals. If you can help please contact the parish office on 47426958. Thank you for all your help and support.

THANK YOU AFTERNOON TEA FOR AMY AND ROBERT AMPT will be held on Sunday 13th July at 2.00pm in the Parish Centre. Robert has for many years been responsible for the beautiful Easter and Christmas Concerts. This doesn't mean there will be no more concerts, but the future concerts might be slightly different. If you would like to attend this 'thank you' please leave your names on the sheet on the warden's table.
RSVP SUNDAY 29TH JUNE – **Carmel Higgins**.

SISTERS OF CHARITY HERITAGE CENTRE

We invite you to explore the history of our ministries and share in the story of Australia's first religious sisters. Open Tuesday to Thursday 10.00am-3.00pm or by appointment. Free entry and parking available Bookings recommended. A: 1 Rockwall Cres, Potts Point. W: socheritagecentre.org.au. E: heritagecentre@rscoffice.com
P: 02 9138 0835



A special Charismatic Healing Mass will be held on Sunday, 20th July at 2:00pm at Our Lady of the Rosary Church 26 Swanston St, St Marys.

The prayer ministry team from Miracle Prayers, WA, will be joining to offer prayers for healing.

Bateman Battersby LAWYERS

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

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| • Property Law | • Family Law |
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LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 5TH & 6TH JULY 2025

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am	6.00pm Youth Mass
Sacristan	Kylie Mills	Peter McMahon	Gerard Egan	Nick McMaster
Senior Server	Kylie Mills	Peter McMahon	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 st Reading	Beth Culliver	John De Mattia	Yvonne Scanlan	Volunteer Please
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	Juliette Lynch	Joseph Wilson	Patrick Watson	Lachlan Lloyd
Gifts	Eleanor Thompson & Volunteer Please	Maria Heinzl & Stanis Drobiszewski	The Grus Family	N/A
Communion	Beth Culliver & Elizabeth Rowe	Volunteers Please	Wendy Brown & Volunteer Please	Brendan Khnouf
Children's Liturgy	School Holidays			
Piety Stall	Carmel Higgins			
Church Care	Volunteers Please			
Hospitality	Lina Wiecek & Vicky Ang			

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Raymond O'Callaghan (Carmel Dobson's Brother), Jeff Cullinan, Ann Sue-Ellen Reardon, George Cottee, Sara Pinato and Noel Flaherty.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

Chris Wilson, Caroline Goosen, Norman Fisher (Bernie Fisher's brother), Robyn Behrooz, Chris Paine, Beryl & Stan Callaghan, Pat Barrett, Noreen Taylor, Gerard Keenan (Anita Keenan's Son), Jacqui Visser, Margaret Stevens, Christopher Thomson, Colleen Nolan, Lyn Downes, Terry Stevens, Mark Bates, David Haynes (Yvonne Scanlan's Dad), Margaret Christensen, Gwen Cullinan, Sophie Hollies, 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:

Grace Farrell, Bernard Wilson, Michael Kelly, Dr Charles Kerry, Joyce Adamson, Jessie Clayton, Helen Sheehan, Michael Wilburg, Rita O'Malley, Charley Allen, Dr Christopher Kohlenberg and John Bowden.



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