



St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
The Barra

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

26th & 27th July 2025

Genesis 18:20-32; Psalm: 137; Colossians 2:12-14; Luke 11:1-13

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.....

"If we fail to nourish our souls, they wither, and without soul, life ceases to have meaning.... The creative process shrivels in the absence of continual dialogue with the soul. And creativity is what makes life worth living."
- Marion Woodman

Ever felt bored with life? Boredom can be a constant struggle for most people leaving them feeling shiftless and very under-stimulated. It is a massive cause of people feeling useless with a continuing stream of believing themselves to be underutilized and of no value to life or others. Boredom can be a source of angst and presages a decline in personal self-evaluation to the point of diminishing self-respect. People see themselves as no longer agents in life but buffeted by the winds of a minimalist contribution to life itself. Boredom is boring and people wish to be stimulated into doing something more useful if not directly entertaining. They seek relief by watching the TV hoping for a bit of something interesting which they are generally unlikely to find. The internet can provide much in the way of diversion where there are plenty of websites available to provide endless hours of something different. But in the end they are more a distraction than a true source of nourishment which the soul needs.

So, how do we give the soul more of what it needs. We are not talking about sheer survival here, the soul is worthy of much more. For in the soul we find meaning in life, and without meaning we have little worthwhile to live for. As our quotation today reminds us "life ceases to have meaning" if we fail to nourish the soul. From a spiritual point of view, boredom is the soul crying out for nourishment and we nourish the soul by responding to boredom by getting creative.

Becoming creative has many pathways and often requires looking outside of the box, which is what creativity is all about. Yes, we may have time-honoured ways of addressing boredom with such things as hobbies which have been long abandoned. Taking these up again is a fine way to address the problem. Trying new things is even a better way. This may mean pushing the limits of our imagination, but it will be worthwhile. For the soul soars when it is given the opportunity to be freed from boredom. It may entail listening to classical music such as the "Lark Ascending" by Ralph Vaughan Williams which really does capture a bird on the wing. Let your soul ascend with the music. Another idea is to take up writing down your inner thoughts to align with the Holy Spirit who is always ready to respond to the soul's yearnings for greater things. A walk in the bush is never a dull moment and opens the soul in such a way that you can know it better. Why suffer boredom when there is so much better at stake?

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:

Tamar Alzened

E-mail:

admin@stfinbars.org.au

PPC:

Cecilia Zammit (Chair)

E-mail:

stfinbarsppc@gmail.com

Office Hours: 9.30am – 1.00pm

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.

PARISH CALENDAR

DIocese of Parramatta Notices

Sunday 27th July <i>17th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Year C</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass
Monday 28th July	No Morning Mass. Office is closed
Tuesday 29th July <i>St Martha, Mary & Lazarus</i>	9.15am Mass 6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice 7.30pm Baptism Preparation Meeting M/R
Wednesday 30th July	9.15am Mass followed by Rosary 9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge Club P/C 7.00pm Social Justice and Ecology Working Group Meeting M/R
Thursday 31st July	9.15am Mass 1.00pm Bridge Club P/C
Friday 1st August <i>St Alphonsus Liguori</i>	9.15am Mass 1.30pm Bowlers P/C
Saturday 2nd August	9.15am Mass 4.30pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 3rd August <i>18th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Year C</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 6.00pm Youth Mass Live Streaming Link https://youtube.com/live/V9PnHhSQW00?feature=share 7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C

YOUNG ADULT FAITH SESSIONS

Young Adult Faith Formation sessions continue on Sunday 3rd August at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall, South Mt Drutt (9 Ropes Creek Rd Mt Drutt) at 7pm. The speaker is **Fr Marcus Hazelman** who will talk about and lead discussion on **St Peter Chanel**. All adults 18-35 are encouraged to come along and enjoy some faith formation, pizza, and fellowship! If you have any questions, please call Mark on 0477 004 678.

VALE FR TIM HOGAN

On Monday 14 July, family, friends and former parishioners gathered to farewell Fr Tim at St Anthony of Padua Parish, Toongabbie, where he was ordained a deacon in 1993, and served as Assistant Priest from 1999 to 2007.

Fr Tim, a beloved member of the community, had died peacefully on Sunday 6 July 2025, aged 81. Born with cerebral palsy, he lived a life of faith and service.

Fr Tim had served as Assistant Parish Priest at St Anthony of Padua, Toongabbie, and also ministered at St Joseph's Parish Kingswood, Mary Queen of the Family Parish Blacktown, and in the Parramatta Tribunal Office.

Requiescat in pace, Fr Tim.

NATURAL FERTILITY SEMINAR

MET Natural Fertility is holding a free seminar for couples hoping to conceive, on Saturday 2 August from 1pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown.

Hear about Restorative Reproductive Medicine and natural methods of achieving pregnancy.

We will have couples present to share their amazing stories of how their fertility has been restored and they've achieved pregnancy.

For more information and to register please visit [our website](#).

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL

The Diocese of Parramatta will be joining the Australian Church at the Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) in Melbourne from 30 November to 3 December 2025!

You are most welcome and are invited to join thousands of young Catholics from across Australia for an unforgettable festival featuring inspiring guest speakers, artists, and musicians.

For more details and to express your interest by 25 August 2025, visit [our website](#).



ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

OUR PARISH CALENDAR

Looking ahead within our parish, the following activities are planned, and you are invited to be involved:

- ✦ Social Justice and Ecology Group meets on Wednesday 30th July at 7pm
- ✦ Confirmation preparation sessions commence on Thursday 7th August at 5pm
- ✦ Parish Trivia Night will be on Saturday 9th August after 5:30pm Vigil Mass
- ✦ Parish Pastoral Council regular meeting is on Tuesday 12th August at 7pm
- ✦ Our Parish Healing Mass will be on Thursday 21st August at 9:15am
- ✦ The famous Men's Breakfast is on Saturday 30th August at 7:30am
- ✦ Confirmation Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Vincent on Sunday 7th September at 9:30am
- ✦ The "Meeting Yourself" course run by Fr John commences on Thursday 11th September at 7pm.

MEETING MYSELF: A SHORT COURSE IN PSYCHOSPIRITUALITY.

This brief course will introduce us to hidden aspects of ourselves that we may never have considered as impeding ourselves in life and in our relationships with one another and with God.

The eight week presentation will be delivered by Father John Hogan, parish priest in Glenbrook. His hope is to help people flourish in life, unencumbered by underlying traits which can trip people up so easily.

It is beginning on Thursday 11th September at 7pm, and it is essential to book in advance.

Please contact the parish on admin@stfinbars.org.au

PARISH BANKING BECOMES MORE DIFFICULT

Since the start of the new financial year our bank has made it more difficult for the parish to bank coins. It has removed the machine that allowed us to deposit coins directly into the parish account.

Now we are required to count individually each denomination of coin, total them all up, and then prepare a special deposit bag that we have to lodge separately for it to be remotely processed.

It would assist the parish greatly if the amount of coin placed in the collection bags at Mass each weekend could be limited to just \$2 and \$1 coins.

Thank you all for the donations you make – these are vital to keep our parish running, and if you can see your way clear to increasing them slightly this would help even more!

Fr John Hogan P.

NEW JUNIOR SERVERS

Congratulations to Rebekah and Jude Mowbray, Ellie and Sofia Grus, and to Summer Wilson who have undertaken the training and become qualified as new Junior Servers in our Parish. It is wonderful to see our young people becoming involved with the Mass at such an early age.

Thanks also to Michelle Wilson who made the arrangements for these five to be trained.

If any other young Catholics who have made their First Holy Communion would like to be trained as a Junior Server, please submit your name and contact details to the parish office

COLUMBARIUM NICHE PRICE RISE

Please be aware that the cost of a Columbarium niche is likely to rise within the next few months. You might consider reserving a niche at the current price by contacting the Parish office.

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 2ND & 3RD AUGUST 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 & Harry Wilson	Xavier Rajnoch & Benjamin Grus	Volunteer Please
Warden	Vince Dobson	Ben Oxley	Gary Clune	Volunteer Please
1 st Reading	Philomena Watkins	Michelle Wilson	Jessica Doherty	Elizabeth Christie
2nd Reading	Katy Ferris	Andrew Teece	Steve Baird	Volunteer Please
Intercession	Elizabeth Rowe	Kevin Flynn	Martin Rogers	Yvonne Scanlan
Music	Naomi's group		Anne's group	N/A
IT Operators	Juliet Lynch	Joseph Wilson	Pet Watson	Lachlan Lloyd
Gifts	Eleanor Thompson & Volunteer Please	Maria Heinzl & Stanis Drobiszewski	The Grus Family	N/A
Communion	Beth Culliver & Elizabeth Rowe	Brian Grech & Volunteer Please	Martin Rogers & Garry Pursehouse	Brendan Khnouf
Children's Liturgy	Christyna & Angela			
Piety Stall	Carmel Higgins			
Church Care	Volunteers please			
Hospitality	Lina Wiecek & Vicky Ang			
Lawn Mowing	Tony Doyle, Darren Dukes & Bryan Egan			

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

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

David McSorley, Anthony Visser, Peter Bryant, Bernard Wilson, Anni Grundschoettel, Danuta Ryan, Frances Roberts, Leslie Cullen, Jeffrey Plim and Marian Wiecek.



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