

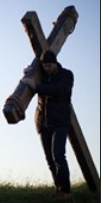


**St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook**  
**The Barra**

**23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C**

**6th & 7th September 2025**

"...whoever does not  
carry their cross and  
follow me cannot be  
my disciple."  
~ Luke 14:27



**Wisdom 9:13-18; Psalm: 89; Philemon 9-10, 12-17; Luke 14:25-33**

*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.....**

***"You can never get to peace and inner security without first acknowledging all of the good things in your life. If you're forever wanting and longing for more without first appreciating things the way they are, you'll stay in discord." (Doc Childre and Howard Martin)***

Staying in balance is a requirement for a healthy and stable psychology for each and every one of us. We yearn to feel normal and unperturbed in living each day to the fullest of our capacity. Disturbances leave us feeling uncomfortable, possibly for an extended period of time. This can have an impact on how successful we judge ourselves to have lived when we come to the close of day. This can then spill over to spoil a restful night. How do we get ourselves out of such a knot?

Part of staying in balance is not to shoot ahead of our capacities constantly yearning for more in our lives. We might imagine that if certain people or things come our way, only then can we be happy. There is plenty of evidence to show that this rarely happens. Yet we continue to dream on, hoping for a quick fix to our bottomless pit of cravings. Which leaves us unaware of all the good things in our lives which are already in evidence.

Beginning to acknowledge all the good which we have can start the ball rolling to appreciate what is there, and then to be grateful for it can help us to reset our out-of-balance thoughts and feelings. It is not healthy to neglect reality as it is and demand a "silver spoon" to make things perfect. Reality is, and no amount of wrangling is going to change it. Changing ourselves is far more important than demanding that reality changes to suit ourselves. If we are going to be mature then we need to take on life as it presents itself – and be grateful for what we find.

Gratitude is one of the most underutilised virtues which God has given us. If we were to be entirely honest and began to say thanks for all that we have received, one whole day would not be enough time to write it all down. Giving God thanks has many positive aspects. First of all it acknowledges God as the originator of all that is good and then sets the true relationship between Him and ourselves, that is, Father and Children. Secondly, it is a matter of justice that the giver of gifts should receive gratitude. Another point is that we acknowledge how much we are already well blessed with all that we receive and need to give thanks. This helps us to have a more conducive perspective to how to assess where I fit into my life and the lives of others. Achieving inner balance involves being grateful for what we already have and doing without the other stuff for which we might crave.

**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:**

Tamar Alzened

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

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY**

Wishing Father John, Father Fernando and all the parish fathers, grandfathers, great grandfathers and stepfathers a very Happy Father's Day for today. May God bless them all and their families.

*Congratulations to all the children who are receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this Sunday. May the Holy Spirit enlighten them and guide them in their Christian journey.*

Fr John

**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

<b>Sunday</b> <b>7th September</b> <i>23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass—Sacrament of Confirmation</b> <b>6.00pm Youth Mass</b> <b>Live Streaming Link</b> <a href="https://youtube.com/live/C8Pilg2WYkk">https://youtube.com/live/C8Pilg2WYkk</a> 7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C	<b><u>Bishop's Father's Day Appeal – supporting our senior priests as they continue to serve.</u></b> This Father's Day, as we thank the father figures in our lives, let's also honour our spiritual fathers — the priests who nurture our faith. Even after stepping back from administration, they continue to serve in faithful ways: offering sacraments, celebrating Masses, hearing confessions, assisting at services, and serving as chaplains in aged care. Your generosity helps ensure our ageing priests receive the care, comfort, and dignity they deserve in this next chapter of their lives. <b><u>Our Parish Father's Day Appeal will be held at all Masses on the weekend of 13th/14th September.</u></b> Please give generously at <a href="http://parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal">parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal</a> or scan the QR code. Thank you.
<b>Monday</b> <b>8th September</b> <i>The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	<b>No Morning Mass. Office is closed</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>9th September</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice	<b><u>WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS</u></b> You are warmly invited to attend the annual Wedding Anniversary Mass to be held <b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October</b> at the new time of <b>2pm</b> . Please join us for 2pm Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta celebrated by Bishop Vincent followed by afternoon tea at the Cathedral Hall. All couples celebrating a significant wedding anniversary will receive a certificate from Bishop Vincent. Please register your name, years of marriage and numbers attending to <a href="mailto:marriage@parracatholic.org">marriage@parracatholic.org</a> by 15 <sup>th</sup> October. Family and friends are welcome.
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>10th September</b>	<b>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary</b> 9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge Club P/C	<b><u>Mary and Synodality Short Course: 3, 10, 17, 24 September</u></b> Join us for a 4-week formation series, Mary & Synodality: Perspectives in Marian Theology for our Synodal Church, presented by Qwayne Guevara (MA Theology and Ministry, Grad Dip Theol). Through Scripture, theology, and contemporary thought, we will explore how Mary's witness offers inspiration for servant leadership, Spirit-filled collaboration, compassionate accompaniment, and hope-filled discernment in a synodal Church. Sessions will be held on Wednesdays 3, 10, 17 and 25 September at the Bethany Centre, 470 Church St, North Parramatta. Register today at <a href="http://parracatholic.org/maryandsynodality">parracatholic.org/maryandsynodality</a>
<b>Thursday</b> <b>11th September</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 1.00pm Bridge Club P/C 7.00pm Meeting Myself talk by Father John P/C	<b><u>Register now for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival</u></b> The Diocese of Parramatta will be joining the Church in Australia at the Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) in Melbourne from 30 November to 3 December 2025! Join thousands of young Catholics from across Australia for an unforgettable festival featuring inspiring guest speakers, artists, and musicians. Registrations are open for young people aged 18-25. Over 25? Consider becoming a small group leader! For more details and to register, see <a href="http://parracatholic.org/connect/acyf">parracatholic.org/connect/acyf</a> or email <a href="mailto:qwayne.guevara@parracatholic.org">qwayne.guevara@parracatholic.org</a>
<b>Friday</b> <b>12th September</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 1.30pm Bowlers P/C	
<b>Saturday</b> <b>13th September</b> <i>St John Chrysostom</i>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 4.30pm Confessions <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass (Father's Day Appeal)</b>	
<b>Sunday</b> <b>14th September</b> <i>The Exaltation of the Cross Year C</i>	<b>7.30am Mass (Father's Day Appeal)</b> <b>9.30am Mass (Father's Day Appeal)</b> <b>10.45am Baptisms</b>	
<b><u>Young adults</u></b> from 18-35 are invited to come along on Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> Sept and learn about the truly remarkable life of <b>St Joan of Arc</b> , and why she is as relevant today as ever. <b>Speaker Mark Buhagiar</b> will lead the faith formation session at Sacred Heart Parish Hall (9 Ropes Creek Rd, Mt Druitt) at 7pm, followed by <b>free</b> pizza, lucky door prize, and fellowship! Call Mark with any questions on 0477 004 678.		

### JEAN DI NUCCI

This week the parish office is farewelling Jean Di Nucci. Jean has been helping our parish priests for the last 17 years. She is going to be helping an unwell friend and couldn't continue in her role. We wish Jean all the best and hope that she will be able to come in and visit us in the office whenever she can.

### LOCKING THE SCHOOL GATES AFTER THE 9.30AM MASS

The parish office have been contacted by the school about the gates being left opened after the 9.30am Mass. If you are the last person to leave the church can you please make sure the gates are locked before you leave the church grounds on Sundays. *Thank you*

**SEASON OF CREATION.** As part of our parish's celebrations for the Season of Creation, Masses on the weekend of 20/21 September will use the Parramatta Diocese's Order of Mass for the Season of Creation. As a tangible sign of thanking God for the bountiful gifts He has given to us in our natural world, parishioners are invited to bring an item of fresh produce (e.g. flowers from your garden, plant cuttings, seedlings, fruit, vegetables, etc) that will be brought to the altar as part of the offertory procession. Please place your offering in the baskets that will be available in the narthex. In order to share these gifts with each other in our parish community, after Mass please take home a gift that has been offered by a fellow parishioner.

### BIBLE STUDY

St Finbars is offering a new, short course called **Introduction to the Bible**. As you know the Bible is the basis of our Christian faith. *"The Bible is not a beautiful collection of sacred books to study – it is the Word of Life to be sown."* Pope Leo XIV

This new course is for those who know very little or nothing about the Bible but would like to know more. It is only for beginners. The course is guided by Gideon Goosen PhD.

It begins after the school holidays, on Tuesdays in October from 11 to 12 noon in the Meeting Room. If you are interested register by 12<sup>th</sup> September with St Finbar's secretary. No cost. Details on the bulletin board.

### ST FINBAR'S FEAST DAY - SUNDAY 28TH OF SEPTEMBER AT THE 9.30AM MASS

All parishioners are invited to join St Finbar's Parish Community to celebrate the Feast of our Patron Saint starting with a 9.30am Mass then a sausage sizzle, morning tea and games for the children. Hope you will be able to attend.

### THE ART OF VIOLIN - PRESENTED BY BACH AKADEMIE AUSTRALIA

Bach Akademie Australia returns to St Finbar's on **Sunday September 28 at 2.30pm** to present a concert featuring Baroque violin concertos.

This program shines a light on how German, Italian and French composers interpreted this genre with concertos by Telemann, Leclair, Handel, Vivaldi and Bach performed by Artistic Director Madeleine Easton, Rafael Font and Simone Slattery.

**Tickets:** <https://www.bachakademieaustralia.com.au/events> or call 1300 785 377

### SAVE THE DATE. SATURDAY 27 SEPTEMBER AT 5:00 PM AT GLENBROOK UNITING CHURCH.

There will be a screening of the documentary *Palestinians Don't Need Sidewalks*, produced by Dare to Struggle Films in partnership with the Hebron Human Rights Defenders.

The documentary takes viewers on a journey through the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem. It also highlights Australia's involvement in the current violence in Gaza.

- 5:00–6:00 PM – Sharing food, space for Muslim prayers, and welcome

- 6:00–7:15 PM – Film screening

7:15–8:15 PM – Q&A session- **Professor Peter Slezak** and **Ahmed Alabadla** –

Tickets are **free** but will need to be reserved online (capped at 100) once the flyer and ticketing QR code are available. Note: The film is confronting – we recommend it for ages 15+.

More information will be made available soon.

### **Bateman Battersby**

L A W Y E R S

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

- |                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| • Property Law    | • Family Law        |
| • Business Law    | • Negligence Law    |
| • Wills & Estates | • Court Appearances |

**Phone: 02 47315899**

**[www.batemanbattersby.com.au](http://www.batemanbattersby.com.au)**

**[Enquiries@batemanbattersby.com.au](mailto:Enquiries@batemanbattersby.com.au)**



### **SCOTT GLEESON Funeral Director**

**0404 770 008**

**02 9896 3299**

**[info@scottgleesonfunerals.com.au](mailto:info@scottgleesonfunerals.com.au)**

**[www.scottgleesonfunerals.com.au](http://www.scottgleesonfunerals.com.au)**

**2 Fennell Street, Parramatta,  
NSW 2150**

### **Turner Freeman**

Lawyers Est. 1952

Turner Freeman Lawyers have been providing members of the community with outstanding legal services since 1952 in the following areas:  
Personal injury claims |  
Wills & estate planning | Property law |  
Deceased estates & will disputes

Suite 4, 311 High Street Penrith NSW 2750

☎ 4729 5200

🌐 **[www.turnerfreeman.com.au](http://www.turnerfreeman.com.au)**

🏠 **[Gerard.Morson@turnerfreeman.com.au](mailto:Gerard.Morson@turnerfreeman.com.au)**





# LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 13TH & 14TH SEPTEMBER 2025

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Jim Barndon	Carl Moll	Garry Purchasehouse
Senior Server	Jim Barndon	Carl Moll	Nick McMaster
Junior Servers	Quentin Lynch & Sophie Lynch		Summer Wilson, Oliver Wilson & Noah Young
Warden	Maree Roach	Volunteer Please	Patricia Murnane
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Maureen Tulk	Peter McMahon	Richard Cutler
2nd Reading	Dawn Willis	Geraldine Agahari	Volunteer Please
Intercession	Felicity Lindfield	Elizabeth Konza	Joanne Stubbs
Music			Finnie's Group
IT Operators	Juliette Lynch	Kylie Mills	Sophia Karatovic
Gifts	Margaet & Michael Richards	Volunteers Please	Dorothea Walsh & Volunteer Please
Communion	Brian Robertson & Vince Dobson	Brian Grech & Helen Keogh	Yvonne Scanlan & Colin Stead
Children's Liturgy	Carolyn & Clare		
Piety Stall	Beth Culliver		
Church Care	Volunteers Please		
Hospitality	Anne King, Lynne Atkinson, Daren & Liz Dukes		
Lawn Mowing	Lukas Rajnoch, Andrew Howard, Stuart Sheary & Brendan Christie		

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Terry McMahon (Peter McMahon's Brother), Vanda O'Donnell (Tim O'Donnell's Mother), Wim Boere, Yeranouhy Apkarian (Tamar Alzened' s Mother).

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

Anita Keenan, 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, Terry Stevens, Noreen Taylor, Jacqui Visser, Mark Bates, Maddison Farrugia, Lyn Downes, Gerard Keenan (Anita Keenan's Son), Margaret Stevens, Christopher Thomson, Colleen Nolan, David Haynes (Yvonne Scanlan's Dad), Sophie Hollies, Margaret Christensen, 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:

Dorothy Parslow, Arthur Auckett, Hugh Smith, George Frampton, Norah Trathen, Dorothy Luland, Bendina Va de Weyer, Bernadette Greig, Barbara Fisher, Raymond McSweeney, Barbara Short, Alexandra Jankowski, Cecilia Mitchell, Stefanie Webber, Edward Parslow and Agnes Auckett.

Available  
For  
Advertising

Available  
For  
Advertising

Available  
For  
Advertising