



St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

The Barra

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

20th & 21st September 2025

Amos 8:4-7; Psalm: 112; 1 Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 16:1-13

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.....

"Handle them carefully, for words have more power than atom bombs."

-- Pearl Strachan Hurd

Our quotation today may seem to be somewhat over the top. With TV to bring us pictures, we have been privy to all the wars since the end of World War II, and previously in the newspapers. At the moment we have plenty of wars whereby we continually see the devastation in Ukraine, Gaza and elsewhere. We are also well aware of the two atom bombs dropped on Japan in 1945. Yet, Pearl Strachan Hurd does have a point to make. Words can be very powerful, even more powerful than atom bombs! They can stir hearts, they can cause revolutions, they can spread ideologies for good or bad. In this respect words can be used for us or against us. How careful must we be?

On this Sunday when we celebrate the new Mass of Creation, during the Season of Creation, let us consider just six words that were far more powerful than all atomic weapons conceivable put together both now and in the future. They are the six words which brought about creation. On each of the six days God speaks a word (in the Hebrew text) and low and behold things really begin to happen. By the sixth day humanity comes into being, resembling God Himself, as male and female. They are given the first commandment: to be fruitful, multiply and fill the earth. What a superior participation in the continuing work of creation, to bring into being other Images of God. On the seventh day God spoke another word and swore an oath to uphold His creation.

For God, His words are sacred and are used to build up. Creation is still with us, we are here for a time to enjoy creation to the very best of our abilities. Then we hand over to the next generation, as God ordained. In spite of our willfulness God has also brought into existence both salvation and sanctification. Note the precious seven words Christ spoke on the cross, words of forgiveness and love by which we are no longer victims of the assault wrought on humanity by Satan. Because of Christ it is now possible for us to flourish in virtue living lives acceptable to God and being restored to His likeness. Talk about the power of words being more powerful than atom bombs! Warfare destroys, God builds up.

Likewise, our duty as Christians is to speak powerful words throughout our lives. Like God these words need to be creative, building up others rather than knocking them down no matter how we feel about the other. Likewise, we need to speak these creative words to ourselves, honest words, so that we can become stronger in this fallen world through which we have to get through one way or the other. To become agents in a world which has so much to give in establishing a new humanity in Christ. Let us participate in God's work.



**PEACE
WITH CREATION**
SEASON OF CREATION 2025

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 – 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.

Sunday 21st September <i>25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 1.00pm Bridge Club P/C 6.00pm Youth Mass 7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C
Monday 22nd September	No Morning Mass. Office is closed
Tuesday 23rd September <i>St Pius of Pietrelcina</i>	9.15am Mass 6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice
Wednesday 24th September	9.15am Mass followed by Rosary 9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge Club P/C
Thursday 25th September	9.15am Mass 1.00pm Bridge Club P/C 7.00pm Meeting Myself talk by Father John P/C
Friday 26th September	NO MORNING MASS 1.30pm Bowlers P/C
Saturday 27th September <i>St Vincent de Paul</i>	9.15am Mass 11.00am Private Baptisms 4.30pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 28th September <i>26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 2.50pm Bach Akademie Concert.

Thank you for caring for our spiritual father's.

Because of your compassion, our Bishop's Father's Day Appeal is to provide much-needed care and support for those who have dedicated their lives to serving our community.



Your generosity and love ensure they receive the care, comfort and dignity they deserve in this next chapter of their lives. If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or scan this QR code. Thank you.

Back to the Basics Serving at the Altar Seminar

Saturday 11th October

9.30am-3pm for Acolytes and Senior Servers presented by Mr Chris Ohlsen at Bede Heather Centre Blacktown

In this seminar we will revisit some of the basic principles in serving at the altar. Why we do what we do. There is also the opportunity to send in any questions beforehand.

RSVP 7 October 2025

ofw@parracatholic.org or phone 0460 037 795 refreshments and lunch provided.



Closing soon! Register now for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival

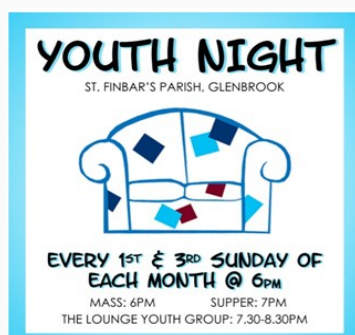
The Diocese of Parramatta will be joining the Church in Australia at the Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) in Melbourne from 30 November to 3 December 2025! Join thousands of young Catholics from across Australia for an unforgettable festival featuring inspiring guest speakers, artists, and musicians. Registrations have been extended until **1 October** for young people aged 18-25. For more details and to register, see parracatholic.org/connect/acyf or email qwayne.guevara@parracatholic.org

Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass: 26 October

Join us for the annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass to be held on Sunday 26 October at 2pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Those celebrating a significant wedding anniversary (10 years and over) will receive a certificate. If you would like to attend, please register your name, numbers attending and any dietary requirements. Family and friends are welcome. RSVP to marriage@parracatholic.org or call 0488 000 211 by 20 October.

Registrations now open for Diocesan Retreat Opportunities

The Diocese is hosting one final retreat opportunity for adults of all ages to engage more with this Jubilee Year of Hope. Take the time to step away from your usual routine to experience a diocesan retreat – a sacred space for prayer, reflection, renewal and encounter with God. Registrations are now open for the final retreat on 15 November. Visit <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-15-november/> for more details.



ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

NO MORNING MASS ON FRIDAY THE 26TH OF SEPTEMBER

Please note that Father John has a medical appointment and he is unable to celebrate Mass on Friday the 26th of September.

COLUMBARIUM PRICE CHANGE

Please note that the Parish Finance Committee has agreed to increase Columbarium Niche price to \$2700/each starting from the 1st of October.

YEAR 12 HSC PARISH YOUTH MASSES SUNDAY 5TH OCTOBER AT 6PM

We invite all HSC students to participate in the annual Year 12 HSC Parish Youth Mass initiative to acknowledge the Year 12 students embarking on their final school exams. This long-standing initiative is a great opportunity to connect with local secondary schools and support the young people in your parish community.

We look forward to celebrating with you, and we ask you to join us as we pray for all HSC students on their educational journey.

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. **If you can please wear green to Mass in honour of our Irish patron saint.**

Please note that there will also be a commemorative tree planting on this day to mark 10 years of Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si.

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. Pope Leo XIV recently referred to the bible when he stated that "a more just, more human, more fraternal world" can only be "a world more imbued with the Gospel."

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 with St Finbar's secretary. No cost. Details on the bulletin board.

PIETY STALL CLEARANCE SALE

The parish is trying to revamp the Piety Stall at the front of the church with new products. The sale items will be put in baskets in the Narthex and will be for sale for less than half price. Thank you for your support.

VOLUNTEER PARISH HANDYMAN is needed for the parish to help with small jobs in the Presbytery, parish hall and the church.

If you can help please contact the parish office on 4742 6958. Thank you.

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



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L A W Y E R S

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LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 27TH & 28TH SEPTEMBER 2025

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Kylie Mills	Carl Moll	Stephen Brown
Senior Server	Kylie Mills	Carl Moll	Stephen Brown
Junior Servers	Volunteers Please		Sebastian & Oscar Baird
Warden	Margaret Richards	Volunteer Please	Volunteer Please
1 st Reading	Jessica Doherty	Kevin Lloyd	Volunteer Please
2nd Reading	Naomi Cheesman	Andrew Teece	Annissa Nilsson
Intercession	Katy Ferris	Peter McMahon	Yvonne Scanlan
Music			Holy Light
IT Operators	Pat Watson	Robyn Flynn	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	School Holidays		
Piety Stall	Ann Marie King		
Church Care	Volunteers Please		
Hospitality	Kerry & Peter Herborn		
Lawn Mowing	Tony Doyle, Darren Dukes & Bryan Egan		

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Robyn Behrooz, 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, 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:

Joan Paine, John Nolan, Philomena Quinn, ethel Cornish, Eileen Gillian, Sylvia Bourke, Maria Boehm, Marie Hill, Christopher McNamara, Mary Heaver, Grace Chambers, Roch Cunningham, Mary O'Connor, Kathleen Rowe, Patricia Nagle, Patricia Nolan, Thelma Dwyer and Shirley Glover.