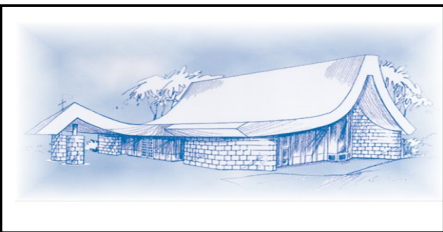


St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

The Barro The Baptism of the Lord Year A 10th & 11th January 2026



Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Psalm 28; Acts 10:34-38; Matthew 3:13-17

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.....

**"The eye sees only what the mind is prepared to comprehend." --
Henri Bergson**

Life can often seem to be a mystery. We believe we have mastered all that we put our energies into, yet our experience does not yield the satisfaction that we thought we might achieve. Some frustration may be experienced leading to our believing that whatever we have attempted we just didn't understand in the first place. As fallen individuals we are left with dimmed intellects, yet we try to master the universe in this condition. We think we know it all, but we keep getting signals that this is very definitely not the case. Having already adopted a world view early in life together with a value system and then a series of expectations on life and others, we are already set up with what might be "closed vision". This limits what we can see and understand to the bare minimum of possibilities. We become too comfortable with what we are used to. Breaking out of this rigid mindset can help us to see well beyond our normal limited vision. Certainly this is how science has progressed throughout the ages. Little by little, building on theories over time. Copernicus thought he had it right with his theory of the solar system and the universe. His supporter, Galileo, thought so too and caused an almighty row with the Church. But they were not correct in the details which wouldn't become clear for another two centuries as other scientists suggested improvements. With better instruments we now know a lot better. But what improved astronomy was the willingness of people to move beyond the boundaries of what was generally accepted without critical thinking.

Such a lesson can help us to be dissatisfied with the presumptions we take for granted about ourselves, others and our world. If we are not truly aware of God's presence and graces poured out into the world we remain trapped in a shrunken consciousness which doesn't allow for miracles both great and small. Our quotation today encourages us by identifying a changing of our minds to be able to comprehend limitless opportunities. When we devote ourselves to seeing beyond our limitations then we will find ourselves on the "extra mile" which, unfortunately, is inhabited by very few people. We can see through the self-imposed mist which had clouded our vision.

Prejudices are reconsidered and vision clarified. This is a necessary and worthy attitude towards other people and about ourselves. We may be convinced that a leopard does not change its spots as we make pronouncements about a particular individual. Given the call to repentance and the graces of God inundating the world, leopards indeed, can change their spots! Having faith in others at least gives the other the possibility of improvement. Seeing beyond our annoyance opens a world of other possibilities for the better.

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: 8.30am – 2.00pm
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

Phone: 4724 3600

AUSTRALIA DAY MASS

Mass will be celebrated at 9.15am on Monday, 26 January, for Australia Day.

All are warmly invited to join us as we pray for our nation, it's people, and our shared future.



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

Sunday 11th January <i>2nd Sunday in Ordinary time Year A</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass
Monday 12th January	No Mass. Office is closed
Tuesday 13th January	9.15am Mass
Wednesday 14th January	9.15am Mass followed by Rosary 7.00pm Bridge P/C
Thursday 15th January	9.15am Mass 1.00pm Bridge P/C
Friday 16th January	9.15am Mass 1.30pm Bowlers P/C
Saturday 17th January <i>St Anthony</i>	9.15am Mass 4.15pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 18th January <i>2nd Sunday in Ordinary time Year A</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 1.00pm Bridge Club P/C

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:
Natalie Gott, Miguel Cordoba (Nora Cordoba) and Chris O'Meara.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:
John Brown, Mila Svehla, Anita Keenan, Melissa Mills (Kylie Mills' sister in law), Chris Wilson, Caroline Goosen, Chris Paine, Norman Fisher (Bernie Fisher's brother), Noreen Taylor, Beryl & Stan Callaghan, Pat Barrett, Terry Stevens, 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:
Phillip Dowding, Lyndsay Walmsley, Patrick Egan, Lesly Whitford, Lachlan Turnbull, Olive O'Neill, Reginald Moore, Doris Gibson, Darcie Pizarro, Maureen Ingram, Catherine Castor, Georg Hauswirth, Daniel O'Keefe, Marie Boyle, James Barret and Thelma Johnstone.

PREPARING OUR 2026 MINISTRY ROSTERS
As we begin planning for the year ahead, the parish office is currently preparing the new rosters for 2026. If you feel called to serve, we would be delighted to hear from you. We warmly welcome volunteers for the following ministries: Readers, Sacristans, Senior Servers, Ministers of Communion, IT Operators, and Lawn Mowing. If you would like to add your name or learn more about any of these roles, please contact the parish office. Your willingness to share your time and gifts is truly appreciated and helps our community flourish.

PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Happy new year parishioners of St Finbars! What a wonderful end of 2025 we had thanks to the various carols events and Christmas liturgies. Thank you to all who initiated, lead and participated in them. Such talent we have among us. You are all invited and encouraged to attend our Annual General Meeting on February 1 in the hall from 11 am. Beginning with morning tea at 10.30 am, we will be reviewing 2025 and looking to upcoming events for 2025. Please put **FEBRUARY 1ST** in your diary and come -meet the parish council and finance council members, and find out what is happening behind the scenes. Your questions and comments are welcome.

Cecilia Zammit/PPC Chair

LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 17TH & 18TH JANUARY 2026			
Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Vince Dobson	Peter McMahon	Stuart Sheary
Senior Server	Vince Dobson	Peter McMahon	Martin Rogers
Junior Servers	Volunteers Please		Joseph Sheary & Johnny Hamilton
Warden	Lorraine Brown	Volunteer Please	Frank Fitzpatrick
1 st Reading	Maire Griffin	Kevin Lloyd	Volunteer please
2nd Reading	Gideon Goosen	Carl Moll	Erin Kelly
Intercession	Margaret Moore	John Isaksen	Frank Fitzpatrick
Music	NO MUSIC	IN	JANUARY
IT Operators	Henry Hanko	Elizabeth Konza	Dan Kensey
Gifts	Thea & Brian Robertson	Kay Whitty	The Wilson Family
Communion	Ahyiesha D'Souza & Bernie Fisher	Brian Grech & Helen Keogh	Todd Stanford & Erin Kelly
Lawn Mowing	Lukas Rajnoch, Andrew Howard, Stuart Sheary & Brendan Christie		