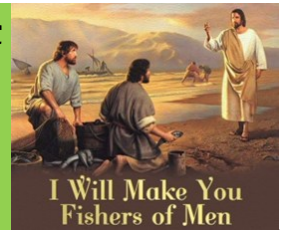


St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

The Barra

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

24th & 25th January 2026



Isaiah 8:23 - 9:3; Psalm 26; 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17; Matthew 4:12-23

FATHER JOHN PONDER'S.....

"The well of Providence is deep. It's the buckets we bring to it that are small." -- Mary Webb

As we pursue our way through life we may find ourselves believing that we do not have the resources that we need to be successful. We can be so caught up with the small stuff of engaging with family life or the wider world that we feel impoverished and vulnerable that the wherewithal to do justice to ourselves and our efforts is lacking. We may even pray that we can be successful in our endeavours and then blame God when he doesn't issue the goods we demand. In our frustration we require God to step up to the mark we have set Him so that we may succeed and feel better about ourselves. What is this all about? If we look at it closely we should recognise that it is all about Me, Me, Me. What a whopper of a mistake!

Looking at the situation in the cool light of day, and with faith and reason, we'll see it for what it is. A failure to trust God and a belief in our own capabilities alone. We, who have dimmed intellects and weakened wills! How do we expect it to play out? Badly is the answer. We continually need to learn that God has loving plans for us and that God's intentions for us may be at variance to our expectations. While God desires that we flourish while we are on earth He specifically intends this towards the life of virtue. Being overly caught up in the things of this world may very well be a distraction from the Almighty One. And this won't do!

Our lesson of life is to trust God. God's providence for our good knows no bounds. But we need to understand it for what it is. It is a bottomless pit of graces and blessings ordered towards our holiness not necessarily towards earthly rewards. The triumph of our lives is to be rewarded with heaven and God's providence in our lives is orientated towards this. If God seems to be withholding His help we can be sure that it is for our good. Better to pray that His will be done rather than to pray a check list of our own desires. This is the small bucket we bring, according to our quotation today. The holy saints, throughout the ages, have continually shown us what can be achieved when we pray that God's will be done and rely solely on His grace and mercy. God will deliver what we need, not what we crave if it isn't according to His will. Yes, it requires a level of abandonment to God. What a great way to live our lives.

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 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

PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

You are all invited and encouraged to attend our Parish Annual General Meeting on Sunday February 1st in the hall from 11am.

Beginning with morning tea at 10.30am, 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

PARISH CALENDAR

| | |
|---|--|
| Sunday 25th January <i>3rd Sunday in Ord time . Year A</i> | 7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass |
| Monday 26th January <i>AUSTRALIA DAY</i> | 9.15am Australia Day Mass |
| Tuesday 27th January | 9.15am Mass 6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice 7.30pm Baptism Preparation Meeting |
| Wednesday 28th January <i>St Thomas Aquinas</i> | 9.15am Mass followed by Rosary 9.30am Kindergarten play day 7.00pm Bridge P/C 7.30pm Liturgy Committee Meeting M/R |
| Thursday 29th January | 9.15am Mass 12.00pm SRE Meeting M/R 1.00pm Bridge P/C |
| Friday 30th January | 9.15am Mass 1.30pm Bowlers P/C |
| Saturday 31st January <i>St John Bosco</i> | 9.15am Mass 4.15pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass |
| Sunday 1st February <i>4th Sunday in Ordinary time Year A</i> | 7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 6.00pm Youth Mass 7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C |

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:
Phil Bailey (Michelle Santoro’s Dad), Natalie Gott and Miguel Cordoba (Nora Cordoba husband).

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:
Allan Jones, Marcia Pereira, 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, Joan (Marcia Pereira's Niece), Catherine, Elizabeth and Monika Gawlik.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:
Margaret Lane, Andrew Patterson, John Brown, Pat Psaila, Christopher Auckett, Rosanna O’Loughlin, Michael O’Connor, Dr Michael McGirr, Jeremy Crawley and Paul Hammerton.

YOUTH MASS & YOUTH GROUP RETURN IN 2026
Our parish Youth Mass and Youth Group will resume on **Sunday, 1 February 2026 at 6.00pm.** Young people **from Year 7 and up** are warmly invited to take part. The evening begins with Youth Mass, followed by Youth Group activities that help our young parishioners grow in faith, friendship, and service. It’s a wonderful way for teens to feel at home in their parish community. All are welcome to come along and be part of this vibrant ministry.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2026 –FOCUS ON NIGERIA
Service Date: Friday 8th March 2026 at 7.30pm
Location: CaLM Uniting Church Blaxland
Address: 72 Old Bathurst Ro, Blaxland East
Contact: Peter 0402 045 093



LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 31ST JANUARY & 1ST FEBRUARY 2026

| 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 Master & Tim Kensey |
| Junior Servers | Alex & Luc Nilsson | Summer & Oliver Wilson | Xavier Rajnoch, Elizabeth & Sofia Grus | James Horner |
| Warden | Vince Dobson | Ben Oxley | Gary Clune | Volunteer Please |
| 1 st Reading | Philomena Watkins | Volunteer Please | 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 | Henry Hanko | Joseph Wilson | Pat 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 |
| Church Care | Volunteers please | | | |
| Hospitality | Lina Wiecek & Vicky Ang | | | |