



St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

The Barra

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

31st January & 1st February 2026



Zephania 2:3, 3:12-13; Psalm: 145; 1 Corinthians 1:26-31; Matthew 5:1-12

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.....

PARISH INFORMATION

This weekend let us consider a very recent teaching from Pope Leo XIV

Approval, public consensus and visibility are often given undue importance in modern society, shaping how people think, behave and even understand themselves, Pope Leo XIV said yesterday.

That focus, he warned, can lead to personal suffering, social division and relationships that are fragile and ultimately disappointing.

Such pursuits become “substitutes for happiness,” the Pope said, arguing that true fulfilment is not found in fleeting success or fame but in the belief that each person is loved and wanted by God.

“Approval, consensus and visibility are often given excessive importance, to the point of shaping people’s ideas, behaviours and even their inner lives,” the Pope said before he led the recitation of the Angelus prayer with visitors gathered in St Peter’s Square.

“This causes suffering and division, and gives rise to lifestyles and relationships that are fragile, disappointing and imprisoning,” he added.

Pope Leo pointed to the teachings of Jesus and St. John the Baptist, describing a God who does not seek to impress through dramatic displays but instead enters into human struggle and shares in people’s burdens. That presence, he said, reveals the inherent worth and dignity of every individual.

“Our joy and greatness are not founded on passing illusions of success or fame, but on knowing ourselves to be loved and wanted by our heavenly Father,” Pope Leo said.

He urged believers to remain attentive to what he described as God’s presence and to resist being distracted by appearances or superficial goals.

“Let us be content with what is essential and make time each day, when possible, for a special moment to pause in silence to pray, reflect and listen — in other words, ‘to withdraw into the desert,’ *in order to meet the Lord and remain with him.*”

JH.....Our true identity and its fulfilment is to be found, not in the things of this world, but in the truth that we are made in the Image of God and hence dependent on the approval of the Almighty. We are loved and cherished by God and that should be enough for us to make our way through the World. Everything else is a distraction.

Parish Priest: Fr John Hogan
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(Sickness & Death only)

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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:
Phone: 4724 3600

Ash Wednesday Volunteers Needed

The Liturgy Committee is seeking volunteers to assist with the various ministries at the **7.00pm Mass on Ash Wednesday.**

If you are able to help, please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the notice board.

Your support is greatly appreciated as we prepare for the beginning of Lent.

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.

<p>Sunday 1st February <i>4th Sunday in Ordinary time Year A</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 11.00am Parish AGM Meeting P/C 6.00pm Youth Mass 7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C</p>
<p>Monday 2nd February <i>The Presentation of the Lord</i></p>	<p>No Morning Mass -Parish office is closed 5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R</p>
<p>Tuesday 3rd February</p>	<p>9.15am Mass 10.00am Timeout Tuesday P/C 6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice 7.30pm Baptism preparation meeting M/R</p>
<p>Wednesday 4th February</p>	<p>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary 9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge P/C</p>
<p>Thursday 5th February <i>St Agatha</i></p>	<p>9.15am Mass 1.00pm Bridge P/C</p>
<p>Friday 6th February <i>St Paul Miki and Companions</i></p>	<p>9.15am Mass 1.30pm Bowlers P/C</p>
<p>Saturday 7th February <i>St John Bosco</i></p>	<p>9.15am Mass 10.00am PPC M/R 4.15pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass</p>
<p>Sunday 8th February <i>5th Sunday in Ordinary time Year A</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 10.45am Baptisms 12.30pm Private Baptisms</p>

Annual Diocesan Red Mass: 3 February
Fr Robert Riedling, Dean of St Patrick’s Cathedral, Parramatta, cordially invites members of the judiciary and legal community, public service officials, law students and their families to the [annual Red Mass](#). Join us on Tuesday 3 February at 7pm, refreshments will be served following the Mass. Please RSVP by Friday 30 January to enquiry@stpatscathedral.com.au or call (02) 8839 8400.

Diocesan World Day of the Sick: 11 February
A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on 11 February 2026 at St Patrick’s Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. To register, please visit parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-world-day-of-the-sick-mass/

When should I complete my Safeguarding Training?
All Clergy, employees and volunteers in parish ministry are required by the NSW Children’s Guardian Act 2019 to be current and complete with Safeguarding Training. Check with your Parish Office when you are due to update your Safeguarding Training.

- If you are new to ministry, you must complete the Introductory Modules 1-3 (Cycle 1).
- If you completed Cycle 1 modules two years ago, you must complete Renewal Modules 4 and 5 (Cycle 2)

If you renewed your Cycle 2 two years ago, you must complete a Refresher Module 6 (Cycle 3) Safeguarding Training Modules can always be completed online at <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au/>.
Face-to-face training opportunities can be found at <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>.

BE THE WITNESS, a production being brought to life by a team at Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown, is gathering momentum across our Parish and the Diocese with vocal auditions now having commenced. We would love to extend the invitation to all those in our parishes to our **open auditions on Sunday 1st from 11am-1pm and 2pm-4pm and Monday 2nd of February from 6pm-8pm**, which will take place at the **Parish Office at St Patrick’s Church, Blacktown**. Please register to audition by emailing music@bethewitness.com.au

We would also love to invite anyone who is interested in assisting in any way in any of our teams – production, event management, communications, finance, fundraising, and prayer – to get in touch using the QR code provided. We are also currently looking for a director and choreographer. Musicians and dancers can also scan the relevant QR codes to register their interest and be kept informed of upcoming Live Band and Dance auditions.

Registration for core teams



Dancers



Musicians



UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE DIARY

Please save these dates in your calendars:-

- ✦ Ash Wednesday (Fast and abstinence): **18th of February**, the parish will be having 2 Masses on the day. Morning Mass at 9.15am and Evening Mass at 7pm. Please remember to bring your old palms to be burned next week.
- ✦ Lenten Groups: 2 Lenten groups will be on during Lent, Mila's group starting Thursday 19th of February at 3.30pm in the meeting room and Martin Roger's group starting Saturday 21st of February at 9am in the meeting room.
- ✦ Workshop on Waste and Recycling: **Saturday 21st of February at 10am** in the parish hall. Limited number available, please check the flyer on the church noticeboard.
- ✦ Called & Gifted training run by Dan Kensey - **Saturday 28th of February at 9am** in the parish hall.
- ✦ Sacramental Program Parents Information Night: **Tuesday 3rd of March at 7.30pm** in the parish hall.
- ✦ Lenten Soup Sunday: Sunday the 8th of March at 11am will be held at the Baptist Church, King Street, Glenbrook.
- ✦ Emotional Development Course run by Father John Hogan for 10 weeks starts on **Thursday 3rd of September at 7pm.**

TIMEOUT TUESDAY

Come along to Timeout Tuesday. Enjoy a relaxed morning sharing ideas and experiences at the Timeout Tuesday gathering. Maybe you are looking to improve your craft skills or find out about the crafts others enjoy. No crafts? No worries. Come along and enjoy a chat, a cuppa and meet more members of our community. Timeout Tuesday is at the Parish Hall 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month from 10am to 1pm. Come when you can, stay as long as you like, but it ends at 1pm.

PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES—UNITE AGAINST POVERTY THIS LENT

Boxes will be available in the narthex this weekend. Please take yours home.



2ND WORKING BEE: SATURDAY FEBRUARY 14TH

TIME: 7.30am to 9.30am

TASK: Mulching some of the garden

A limited supply of relevant tools will be available so it would be great if you can bring any of these tools: **rake, shovel, bucket/s**

For your own comfort and protection please bring items such as long-sleeve shirt, hat, sunscreen, gloves, water. **If you are able to help, please contact Kieran 0419246972.**

A sincere thank you to those 5 fabulous parishioners who assisted us at the 1st working bee. Thank you also to the one person who mowed the lawn owing to rain preventing the work previously. You did a great job.

A special thank you to all those who prayed for me while looking for a new place to live and the help given towards my move from my friends in the parish and my Vinnies Conference friends as well for all the assistance given to me. Thank You, God Bless. **Dawn Willis.**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2026 –FOCUS ON NIGERIA

Service Date: Friday 6th March 2026 at 7.30pm

Location: CaLM Uniting Church Blaxland, 72 Old Bathurst Ro, Blaxland East

Contact: Peter 0402 045 093

An initiative of the Glenbrook Blaxland Interchurch Group.

All are welcome to come together in prayer and reflection.



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LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 7TH & 8TH FEBRUARY 2026

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Jim Barndon	Carl Moll	Garry Pursehouse
Senior Server	Jim Barndon	Carl Moll	Nick McMaster
Junior Servers	Quentin Lynch & Sophie Lynch		Summer Wilson, Oliver Wilson & Noah Young
Warden	Maree Roach	Ben Oxley	Patricia Murnane
1 st Reading	Maureen Tulk	Peter McMahan	Dan or Tim Kensey
2nd Reading	Jessica Doherty	Elizabeth Konza	Kristina Rajnoch
Intercession	Dawn Willis	John Isaksen	Yvonne Scanlan
Music			Finnie's group
IT Operators	Juliette Lynch	Kylie Mills	Sophia Karatovic
Gifts	Margaret Richards & Michael Richards	Volunteers Please	Dorothea Walsh
Communion	Thea Robertson & Vince Dobson	Jim Tierney & Kath Tierney	Gerard Egan & Yvonne Scanlan
Children's Liturgy			
Church Care	Volunteers please		
Hospitality	Anne King, Lynne Atkinson, Liz & Daren Dukes		

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Gilbert Frontain (Jeannine Ashbee's Dad), Phil Bailey (Michelle Santoro's Dad), Natalie Gott and Miguel Cordoba (Nora Cordoba's 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:

Henriette Harrington, Monica Cashman, Peter Burrett, Fredrick Casey, John Halligan, Lillie Ferrie, Amanda McCulloch, Olive O'Neill, Thomas Nolan, Stella Ryan and Esme Kramhoft.

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