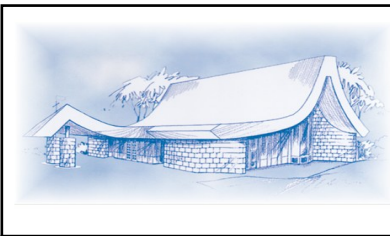


# St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

## **The Barra**

4th Sunday of Easter - Year A

25th & 26th April 2026



Acts 2:14, 36-41; Psalm 22; 1 Peter 2:20-25; John 10:1-10

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.....**

*"I'm not afraid of storms, for I'm learning to sail my ship". – Aeschylus*

Aeschylus was an ancient Greek dramatist who wrote mostly about the tragedies affecting humanity as the gods played puppet-master with people for their own amusement. He described so many challenges that seriously affect the lives of these chosen ones, tragedies that seemed to reflect the lives of Aeschylus's contemporaries, and ourselves too. But so many of them actually won through in the end because of their tenacious attitude toward adversity. While we don't particularly believe in the characters, we can easily identify with their struggles. Our lives can be so mixed with adversity.

As Christians we believe in Christ risen from the dead, the one who has promised to be with us. Yet we may often wonder where he is when we most need him in the tragedies of our own lives. Life may not be easy but we seem to be able to draw on such great depths in our personalities that we appear to manage the flow of adversities that we encounter. Of the many things with which we are endowed is the virtue of fortitude, both as a human, natural virtue and as a direct gift of the Holy Spirit. Hence our ability to manage whatever life throws at us. While life's challenges can appear overwhelming and we forget to turn to God or forget the gifts we have received, they readily accompany us to provide the power and energy to cope with things. We should not wish to be free from adversity, it will come knocking anyway. Our thoughts should lead us to ask God to make us strong enough to withstand the adversity. Hence our quotation today that we learn to face heavy storms as we learn to cope with life as it is. It will have its benefits.

In recent years, in the field of psychology, much research has gone into the concept of resilience helping people to get through difficulties, even life-threatening problems. There is something in most of us that assists us make better conditions for ourselves and overcome obstacles. It is very much a learning experience in establishing ways of doing and thinking as each obstacle comes along. A life full of such experiences makes us stronger to withstand the dramas of life.

An interesting novel *The Book Thief* by Marcus Zuzac tells the story of Death seeking out those who are about to die so their souls can be taken away. The revelation on the penultimate page is that Death wonders why everyone is afraid of him because Death, in his own experience, is afraid of people because of their resilience both to life and death, we clearly cling on no matter what. Learning resilience through practice is great skill to acquire through learning to cope and learn with life's adversities.



#### 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:**

E-mail:

Cecilia Zammit (Chair)

[stfinbarsppc@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.stfinbars.org.au)

**Facebook:**

Glenbrook Catholic Church St Finbars

**Parish School:** Principal (Acting)

Mrs Kym Romanous

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.*

**PARISH CALENDAR**

**PARRAMATTA DIOCESE NEWS**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Sunday</b><br/>26th April<br/><i>4th Sunday of Easter</i><br/><i>Year A</i></p> | <p><b>7.30am Mass</b><br/><b>9.30am Mass</b></p>   |
| <p><b>Monday</b><br/>27th April</p>   | <p><b>No Morning Mass -Office is closed</b><br/>5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R<br/>7.30pm Gideon Goosen Bible Study M/R</p>   |
| <p><b>Tuesday</b><br/>28th April<br/><i>St Peter Chanel</i></p>                       | <p><b>9.15am Mass</b><br/>6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice<br/>7.30pm Baptism Preparation Meeting M/R<br/>7.30pm PPC Meeting /Presbytery</p>                        |
| <p><b>Wednesday</b><br/>29th April<br/><i>St Catherine of Siena</i></p>               | <p><b>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary</b><br/>9.30am Playgroup P/C<br/>7.00pm Bridge P/C</p>  |
| <p><b>Thursday</b><br/>30th April</p>   | <p><b>9.15am Mass</b><br/>1.00pm Bridge P/C<br/>5.00pm Reconciliation preparation sessions P/C</p>   |
| <p><b>Friday</b><br/>1st May</p>  | <p><b>9.15am Mass</b><br/>1.30pm Bowlers P/C</p>   |
| <p><b>Saturday</b><br/>2nd May<br/><i>St Athanasius</i></p>                           | <p><b>9.15am Mass</b><br/>2.30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation<br/>4.15pm Confessions<br/><b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b><br/>7.00pm Bush School Cambodia's Concert P/C</p> |
| <p><b>Sunday</b><br/>3rd May<br/><i>4th Sunday of Easter</i><br/><i>Year A</i></p>    | <p><b>7.30am Mass</b><br/><b>9.30am Mass</b><br/><b>6.00pm Youth Mass</b><br/>7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C</p>  |

**Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities for May 2026**

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Renewal Training will be held on 2 May at St Joseph's Parish, Kingswood. More training opportunities are available throughout May at different parishes. Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>.

For more information, please email: [safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org)

**Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers: 12 May**

All liturgical ministers – readers, servers, extraordinary ministers are invited to join us for our Annual Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers. Families and friends are also invited. This celebration will take place at 7:30pm on 12 May 2026, at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Liturgical ministers are asked to please arrive by 7pm and be seated by 7:15pm. To register the number of guests and ministers attending please register by Thursday, 7th May. To register please contact [ofw@parracatholic.org](mailto:ofw@parracatholic.org) or 0460 037 795.

**Music Workshop 'Exploring Music for the Solemnities': 5 May**

Musicians throughout the Parramatta Diocese and beyond are invited to attend this workshop led by MET Music Formation Facilitator Eric Grella. On Tuesday 5 May at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown, the workshop will outline suggested hymns and explore music new and old for the many Solemnities and Feasts that occur in the period of Eastertide. Please RSVP by 1 May via <https://parracatholic.org/events/music-workshop-exploring-music-for-the-solemnities>. For enquiries, please contact [ofw@parracatholic.org](mailto:ofw@parracatholic.org) or 0460 037 795.

**Ministry of Care courses: 3-24 June**

Those who visit the sick and are involved in the Ministry of Communion to the Sick and Dying in Hospitals, Aged Care Facilities and in Homes are invited to attend this course on the Ministry of Care. The course will take place every Wednesday in June at 7pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Please register via [parracatholic.org/ministry-of-care-courses](https://parracatholic.org/ministry-of-care-courses) to reserve your spot. For enquiries, please contact [ofw@parracatholic.org](mailto:ofw@parracatholic.org) or 0460 037 795.

**Nominations open for the 2026 Papal & Diocesan Awards**

Nominations are now open for the 2026 Papal and Diocesan Awards, recognising individuals – both religious and lay – who have made outstanding contributions to the Catholic Church and its community. Do you know someone who deserves to be recognised? Nominations close at midnight on 30 June 2026. For more information or to submit a nomination, visit [parracatholic.org/contribute/papal-diocesan-awards/](https://parracatholic.org/contribute/papal-diocesan-awards/)



**2026 NATIONAL COUNT OF ATTENDANCE – MAY 2026**

The National Count of Attendance will take place across the first four weekends of May, beginning 2–3 May 2026. All parishes across Australia are required to take part.

Our parish will conduct attendance counts at every Mass each weekend in May. This data supports pastoral planning and resource allocation across our Diocese and the wider Church.

We kindly ask all parishioners attending Mass on these weekends to speak with the Warden on duty so your attendance can be recorded accurately.

**PARISH SAFEGUARDING AUDIT 2026 – IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS**

Our parish has been selected to participate in the Diocesan Safeguarding Audit taking place between April and June 2026, conducted by Quality Innovation Performance (QIP).

As part of this process, we are required to provide evidence that our parish is meeting all Safeguarding Standards, including current Safeguarding training for all volunteers.

We kindly remind all parish volunteers to ensure their Safeguarding training is completed and up to date. Please use this website to complete your Safeguarding training <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au/courses>

Your cooperation helps our parish remain fully compliant with Diocesan requirements.

*Juliana/ Parish Secretary*

**HANDMADE QUILT RAFFLE — Supporting Our High Tea Fundraiser**

We are delighted to share that the *Timeout Ladies* have generously donated a beautiful handmade quilt to support our fundraising efforts to replace the carpet in the Parish Office.

**Raffle tickets will be on sale starting next weekend.**

- 3 for \$5
- Or 10 for \$15
- Tickets can be purchased from the Warden on duty

The quilt will be on display on the noticeboard inside the church for all to admire.

Thank you for your continuous help, generosity, and support as we work together to care for our parish facilities

**ANNUAL VARIETY CONCERT FOR BUSH SCHOOL CAMBODIA.**

**When :** Saturday 2 May 202

**Where :** St. Finbar's Church Hall, Levy St., Glenbrook,

**Time:** 7pm to 9.30 pm

This will be a most enjoyable night, featuring vocal and instrumental music in a true spirit of variety and will include the impressive "Vocal Edge" and "Moo" choirs and the "Neil Hall Band". A sumptuous supper, the drawing of some great raffle prizes and an informative photo history of the school will complete the evening. The cost is \$35 per person, \$60 for family, with some concessions available.

**To book:** Phone Doug on 0403 303 943 or email: [bushschoolcambodia@gmail.com](mailto:bushschoolcambodia@gmail.com) (some seats will be available at the door). We'd love to see you at the concert, but if you can't make it and would still like to donate, this can be done also through our special updated account below:

Commonwealth Bank "Cambodian Educational Support Inc."

Account: 062601 10496685—Note that all donations to the school are now tax deductible and receipts will be issued for this purpose (please provide name, amount donated and email). A one-off donation is much appreciated, but we also have an urgent need for monthly subscribers, to secure the school into the future. Can you help? If so, email [bushschoolcambodia@gmail.com](mailto:bushschoolcambodia@gmail.com). For further information, visit [www.bushschoolcambodia.com](http://www.bushschoolcambodia.com) or see Fb: bush school Cambodia

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## LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 2ND & 3RD MAY 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 McMaster & Quentin Lynch |
| Junior Servers          | Alex & Luc Nilsson  | Summer & Oliver Wilson             | Xavier Rajnoch<br>Elizabeth & Sofia Grus | Sophia Lynch & James Horner   |
| Warden                  | Vince Dobson  | Ben Oxley                          | Gary Clune                               | Daniel Lynch                  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading | Beth Culliver   | John De Mattia                     | Pearse Cremin                            | Elizabeth Christie            |
| 2nd Reading             | Jessica Doherty   | Andrew Teece                       | Amanda Moore                             | Joanne Stubbs                 |
| Intercession            | Greg Rowe   | Kevin Flynn                        | Patricia Murnane                         | Emily Mulhall                 |
| Music                   | Naomi's Group   |                                    | Anne's Group                             | Youth Band                    |
| IT Operators            | Henry Hanko   | Joseph Wilson                      | Patrick Watson                           | Lachlan Lloyd                 |
| Gifts                   | Volunteers Please   | Maria Heinzl & Stanis Drobiszewski | The Grus Family                          | N/A                           |
| Communion               | Elizabeth Rowe & Jim Barndon  | Volunteers please                  | Wendy Brown & Martin Rogers              | Brendan Khnouf                |
| Children's Liturgy      | Carolyn & Matthew   |                                    |  |                               |
| Church Care             | Jeannine Ashbee, Elizabeth Plummer, Leesa & Wayne Gillard, Sandra Hanigan |                                    |  |                               |
| Hospitality             | Lina Wiecek & Vicky Ang   |                                    |  |                               |
| Lawn Mowing             | Tony Doyle, Darren Dukes and Bryan Egan                                   |                                    |  |                               |

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

John Broomhead (Elizabeth's Father), Ray Mirabito (Briony Mowbray's Father), Michelle Pereira (June Bouche's sister), Margaret Moore and Jennifer Devlin.

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

Tony Phoebus (Mark's Uncle), Tom Torrance, John Brown, Mila Svehla, Anita Keenan, Chris Wilson, Caroline Goosen, Chris Paine, Norman Fisher (Bernie's brother), Noreen Taylor, Beryl & Stan Callaghan, Pat Barrett, Terry Stevens, Jacqui Visser, Mark Bates, Lyn Downes, Maddison Farrugia, Margaret Stevens, Gerard Keenan (Anita Keenan's Son), Colleen Nolan, Christopher Thomson, David Haynes (Yvonne Scanlan's Dad), Sophie Hollies, Margaret Christensen, Joan and Marcia Pereira, Catherine, Elizabeth and Monika Gawlik.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

Shane Navin, Cheryl Kirton, James Gormly, Letitia Osborne, Katie Jones, Alicia Snaith, Raymond Roberts, John Tregillgas, Walter Pilkinton, Dennis Lohan, Marjorie Aussel and Angela Pereira.

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