



# St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

## **The Barra**

5th Sunday of Easter - Year A

2nd & 3rd May 2026

Do not  
let your hearts  
be troubled.  
*Trust in God.*  
JOHN 14

**Acts 6:1-7; Psalm 32; 1 Peter 2:4-9; John 14:1-12**

*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.....**

*"When the heart grieves over what it has lost, the spirit rejoices over what it has left." -- Sufi epigram.*

The various religions with which we are in contact all describe the sufferings of people who are too attached to the things of this world. There are many ways to overcome this blight on our natures. In the Catholic tradition we have an advanced form known as *ascesis* which is undertaken in an extreme form by enclosed religious. Others follow this advice by just living a simple life. But we can still be badly affected when we lose out on something. True, we have legitimate needs which need to be fulfilled if we are to function properly. The problem lies in making everything a necessity and constantly seeking more and more stuff to fill our lives rather than a way by which we can fulfil our lives. Hence the conundrum. If we rely on stuff to make us happy we know that it cannot fulfil its purpose.

Relying only on the things of this world is to live on shifting sands. We clothe stuff in such specialness and call it "mine" that we set ourselves up for disappointment inculcating an attachment which supports the very idea of who we are by possession. If stuff is taken away we are bereft because it may indicate a lessening of our self-worth. Stuff breaks or goes out of fashion or is taken away and we grieve and possibly experience nostalgia for how things used to be. This is not a valid way to be human and certainly not a way to be a child of God. It indicates a heart which is coarse and earth-bound not living to its potential.

The spirit of humanity takes a different view because it wants God to be its heart and soul and to rely on Him alone. When we take too much time in tending to the acquisitions of stuff and consider stuff to be more important than God Almighty we find that we have lost the true path and when stuff is no longer present we don't know what to do with ourselves because what we relied on for self-definition is no longer there to support us.

Our spirit leads us to acknowledge that a more simple life is far more self-fulfilling because it is not clogged up with minor distractions. We are more satisfied with what we have than being regretful for what we don't have. This is one way to serenity by which we can be consciously aligned with God and others at all times and fulfil our vocations as children of God knowing we will receive peace on earth.

### 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:** Cecilia Zammit (Chair)  
E-mail: [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

### **MOTHER'S DAY WHOLE SCHOOL MASS**

**Thursday, 7 May at 9.15am**

Our whole school community will gather for a special Mother's Day Mass on Thursday, 7 May at 9.15am. We invite all mothers, grandmothers, and carers to join us as we give thanks for the gift of motherhood and pray for the women who nurture, guide, and support our children.

### **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.*

<b>Sunday 3rd May</b>  <i>5th Sunday of Easter Year A</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> <b>6.00pm Youth Mass</b> 7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C
<b>Monday 4th May</b>	<b>No Morning Mass -Office is closed</b> 7.30pm Gideon Goosen Bible Study M/R
<b>Tuesday 5th May</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 10.00am Timeout Tuesday P/C 1.30pm Pastoral Care Meeting M/R 6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice
<b>Wednesday 6th May</b>	<b>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary</b> 9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge P/C
<b>Thursday 7th May</b>	<b>9.15am Whole School Mother's Day Mass</b> 1.00pm Bridge P/C 1.00pm SRE Meeting M/C 7.00pm Earth Care and Social Justice Group M/R
<b>Friday 8th May</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 1.30pm Bowlers P/C
<b>Saturday 9th May</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 2.30pm Mother's Day High Tea P/C 4.15pm Confessions <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Sunday 10th May</b>  <i>6th Sunday of Easter Year A</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b>

Schoenstatt Annual Marian Pilgrimage Day  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Program:

- 9.30am Sacrament of Reconciliation is available
  - 10.00am Welcome & Opening Prayer
  - 10.30am Holy Mass with Bishop Tony Percy - Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney
  - 2.00pm Eucharistic Procession OR Anointing of the Sick
  - 3.00pm Benediction
- Please bring your Pilgrim Mother Shrines along.  
Drinks & food will be available for purchase.  
This is an outdoor event - bring your own chairs.  
Address: 230 Fairlight Road Mulgoa  
Contact: Sr. M. Rita 0493 026 628  
Web: [www.schoenstatt.org.au](http://www.schoenstatt.org.au)

**Eucharist28 Update – Renewal has begun!**

The International Eucharistic Congress in Sydney in 2028 ('Eucharist28') will be a global gathering of the Church centred on the Eucharist, the source and summit of our Christian lives, culminating in a Papal Mass with Pope Leo XIV. It will be a festival of faith, rich with worship, prayer, testimonies, art, music – a truly 'once in a lifetime' experience, and a transformative moment for our nation.

But this is more than an event in Sydney. It is a national journey, an invitation to renewal for the whole Church, wherever we are. The journey begins now, in our own hearts, in our own parishes.

Across the Easter weekend, thousands of catechumens and candidates throughout Australia were baptised and received into full communion with the Church. Our churches were alive with faith—pews filled, hearts renewed.

It was a beautiful witness to what the Church is called to be every week, not only at Christmas and Easter.

The great gift of the Eucharist is that it is not merely a story remembered over a few sacred days. At every Mass, we encounter the reality itself: we offer ourselves to God alongside Christ, truly present in our midst. How wonderful it would be to see our pews full every week—because people have truly encountered the living Lord in the Eucharist! For more information and regular updates, please register on the website: [eucharist28.org](http://eucharist28.org)



*"We are an Easter people, and Alleluia is our song!"*  
— Pope Saint John Paul II

**Jeff Hood**

Was ordained to the diaconate on Sunday night at John 23rd Stanhope Gardens.

It was a beautiful liturgy.

We congratulate Jeff on this special occasion as he moves closer to priesthood. The photo is of bishop Vincent with Jeff and his brother Peter and sister in law Jenny. May the Lord continue to bless him on his journey.



**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RECONCILIATION CANDIDATES**

This weekend we congratulate the **41 children** who will be celebrating the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** for the first time. We hold each of them in prayer as they take this important step in their faith journey.

*May God bless them and their families with peace, joy, and a deep sense of God's loving mercy.*

**ST FINBAR'S EARTH CARE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP**

Have invited Chris Tobin (Catholic Aboriginal Elder) from the upper Blue Mountains to meet with us on Thursday 7th May at 7.00pm in the Parish Meeting Room. The purpose of this meeting is to enhance our understanding and appreciation of indigenous people living in the Blue Mountains.

It is an opportunity for us to listen and learn. Any parishioner who is interested would be most welcome to join us.

**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 a book of 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.

**MANDATORY SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS**

Our parish will host a face-to-face Safeguarding Training session on **Saturday 20th June**, commencing at **10am** in the Parish Hall starting at 10am.

10am-11am – Mod 1- Introduction to Safeguarding

**30min Morning Tea Break**

11.30am-1pm – Mod 2 – Legal Compliance: Mandatory Reporting & Reportable Conduct

**30 min Lunch break**

1.30-3pm – Mod 3 – Working With Adults at Risk and Understanding Boundaries

If you have done Cycle 1 Mods 1-3 before – you would just need to stay for first two sessions.

If you are ready to refresh for Cycle 3 (i.e. already completed Cycle 1 Mods 1-3 and Cycle 2 Mods 4 & 5), you would just need to attend the middle session to refresh their legal compliance – Mandatory Reporting / Reportable Conduct – for another 2 years. The middle session would be: 11.30am-1pm

We are grateful to **Maria Kervin**, who has kindly offered to deliver the **three required Safeguarding modules** onsite to make attendance easier for our volunteers. Morning tea and lunch will be provided between modules.

To ensure our parish remains fully compliant with Diocesan Safeguarding requirements, attendance is required for **all parish volunteers.**

Please contact the Parish Office to register your name on 47396958 or email secretary. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

**LADIES MOTHER'S DAY HIGH TEA — Fundraising for the Parish Office Floor Covering**  
**Saturday, 9 May 2026 • 2.30pm • Parish Hall.**

**Cost: \$25 per person. Spots are still available!**

We invite mothers, grandmothers, stepmothers, daughters, and all the wonderful women of our Parish to join us for a joyful afternoon of high tea, friendship, and fun. Enjoy light games, activities, and plenty of prizes as we celebrate together. To add your name, please contact the Parish Office on 4742 6958.

Thank you for supporting this parish fundraiser. Please bring cash on the day.

**Bateman  
Battersby**

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Legal.**

We invite members of the parish to take advantage of our legal services.

- |                               |                             |
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## LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 9TH & 10TH MAY 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 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Maureen Tulk	Peter McMahan	Richard Cutler
2nd Reading	Therese Ross	Geraldine Agahari	Frank Zammit
Intercession	Felicity Lindfield	Elizabeth Konza	Joanne Stubbs
Music	Dawn Willis & Michael Taylor		Finnie's Group
IT Operators	Juliette Lynch	Kylie Mills	Sophia Karatovic
Gifts	Margaret & Michael Richards	Volunteers Please	Dorothea Walsh
Communion	Vince Dobson & Volunteer Please	Jim & Kath Tierney	Gerard Egan & Yvonne Scanlan
Children's Liturgy	Michelle & Andrew		
Church Care	Volunteers please		
Hospitality	Ann King, Lynne Atkinson, Daren & Liz Dukes		

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

John Broomhead (Elizabeth's Father), Ray Mirabito (Briony Mowbray's Father), 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:

David Apps, Tadeusz Bojec, Jonathan Baines, Michael Wilcox, Raymond Smith, Edna Mooney, Alexander Laing, Peter Smith and Michael Au.

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