

St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

The Barra

6th Sunday of Easter - Year A

9th & 10th May 2026

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; Psalm 65; 1 Peter 3:15-18; John 14:15-21

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 find it fascinating that most people plan their vacations with better care than they plan their lives. Perhaps that is because escape is easier than change." - Jim Rohn

Discovering new things in new places is fascinating and so it is little wonder that the international vacation industry has become so large since the 1960s. To say it is booming would almost be an understatement. Experiencing different cultures, rubbing shoulders with different people, being introduced to unfamiliar practices and having the time to just relax brings the added bonus of "getting away from it all". We take a breather from our familiar life settings in order to return refreshed. Possibly what brings more excitement is the preparation which goes into the enterprise. First of all we need to choose the destination and then we will spend hours finding everything about it. Spending money will give us the opportunity to find everything we want to do and everywhere we want to visit so that we don't miss out on anything important. We plan to exhaust ourselves during those few weeks or months in having the experience of a lifetime!

Expecting the experience and excitement to last is the downside, for we know from experience that it will not last. We find ourselves back in the familiar life we have escaped for a short time. Now what do we do with ourselves? Life has been enriched for a little time but it won't have changed us on the inside. Our quotation today brings to the fore that we tend to be prone to avoidance in the form of escape. One area of escape is to neglect our biggest task in life which involves changing ourselves so that we can flourish in every aspect of our being. We find it easier to shirk this responsibility because it can seem too difficult or maybe we don't know precisely what it might involve. Cardinal John Henry Newman once remarked that "to live is to change and to have lived well is to have changed often". Being content with who we are without any intentions of moving forward is the very essence of the cardinal sin of sloth.

Having been made in the Image of God and being restored by Christ to the Likeness, it is really incumbent on us to allow grace to initiate the changes that this most noble journey involves. We can prepare by understanding that this may involve a rough ride, our imperfections can be so deep-seated that they take time to resolve and ultimately shine with the presence of Christ. Attending to our human/spiritual/moral formation with all the vigour with which we plan our holidays will bring us far more satisfaction than mere escape. This is to live with purpose knowing our destination is eternity.

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 (Acting)

Mrs Kym Romanous

Phone: 4724 3600

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

We wish all our parish mothers, grandmothers, and step-mothers a very happy and blessed Mother's Day this weekend.

May God pour out His grace upon you and bless you for the love, strength, and care you share with our community.



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>Sunday 10th May <i>5th Sunday of Easter</i> <i>Year A</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass</p>
<p>Monday 11th May</p>	<p>No Morning Mass - Office is closed 5.30pm SVDP Meeting M/R 7.30pm Gideon Goosen Bible Study M/R</p>
<p>Tuesday 12th May</p>	<p>9.15am Mass 6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice</p>
<p>Wednesday 13th May</p>	<p>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary 9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge P/C</p>
<p>Thursday 14th May <i>St Matthias</i></p>	<p>9.15am Mass 1.00pm Bridge P/C</p>
<p>Friday 15th May</p>	<p>9.15am Mass 1.30pm Bowlers P/C</p>
<p>Saturday 16th May</p>	<p>8.30am Dwell Women's Retreat P/C 9.15am Mass 4.15pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass</p>
<p>Sunday 17th May <i>The Ascension of the Lord- Year A</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 1.00pm Bridge Club P/C 6.00pm Youth Mass 7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C</p>

Positions Vacant:

- ✦ Housekeeper Supervisor – Holy Spirit Seminary, Harris Park
- ✦ Parish Secretary – St Monica's Catholic Church, Richmond

More details at: parracatholic.org/jobs

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities for May 2026

There are several face-to-face Safeguarding Training opportunities 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

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 or 0460 037 795.

Adult Confirmations 2026

The Office for Worship will host a Catechesis and Formation Day for those candidates (16+) interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. This will be on Saturday 29th August, 9.30am – 2.00pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. A light lunch will be provided on the day. It is recommended that all sponsors attend the catechesis day. A contribution of \$40 is suggested from the candidates to assist in covering the Catechesis Day.

The Confirmation will take place on Tuesday 1st September, 2026 at 7:30pm at the Cathedral. Please Note: Enrolment forms and a copy of Baptismal Certificates should be sent to OFW before Monday 18th August, 2026. For more information, please contact the Office for Worship 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 to reserve your spot. For enquiries, please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

Owen & June Bouche, Parishioners of St Finbar's Catholic Church, are starting the Camino Walk - the Scenic Portuguese Route from 22nd May - 31st May, 2026 (Porto to Porto). They are well prepared in Mind, Body & Soul and request prayers from our Parishioners for their well being and to be able to complete the walk. They will have all the Parishioners in their Daily Thoughts and prayers.

LAUDATO SI' WEEK 17TH – 24TH MAY

That's a global celebration where we remember Pope Francis urging us in his encyclical Laudato Si' to hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor and to humbly place ourselves in communion with our common home.

As a Catholic Earthcare Parish we celebrate our part in the great progress the whole Church is making on its journey towards the seven Laudato Si' Goals set before us by Pope Francis to achieve ecological conversion.

BISHOP'S GOOD WORKS APPEAL

Across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, people turn to the Church for care, hope, guidance and belonging. Through the Bishop's Good Works Appeal, our Diocese supports vital ministries including Holy Spirit Seminary, Catholic Care, the Ephpheta Centre and the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.

Over the coming weeks, this Appeal will support Holy Spirit Seminary at Harris Park, helping form the future priests our Diocese will need in the years ahead.

Your generosity provides education, spiritual formation, pastoral training and safe accommodation for seminarians as they answer God's call. Please give generously at parracatholic.org/appeal or scan the QR code.



Thank you for supporting the future priests of our Church. **Envelopes will be available on the church pews next weekend.**

MEN'S BREAKFAST - SATURDAY 30th May 2026 AT 7.30AM IN THE CHURCH HALL

The Parish is holding another Men's Breakfast as an opportunity for parishioners to meet and get to know one another. This invitation is open to all male parishioners and any of their sons, grandsons, neighbours and friends. For catering purposes we will need to confirm numbers by Sunday 24th May. Please add your name to the list on the Warden's table.



Any questions please contact Carl Moll 0417 471 137 or John De Mattia 0419 919 443.

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.

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.

Juliana/ Parish Secretary

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

- Conveyancing & Property Law
- Business & Commercial Law
- Wills & Deceased Estates
- Family Law
- Disputes & Litigation
- Criminal & Employment Law

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LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 16TH & 17TH MAY 2026

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am	6.00pm Youth Mass
Sacristan	Vince Dobson	Peter McMahon	Stuart Sheary	Nick McMaster
Senior Server	Vince Dobson	Peter McMahon	Martin Rogers	Nick McMaster & Tim Kensey
Junior Servers	Volunteers please		Joseph Sheary & Johnny Hamilton	James Horner
Warden	Lorraine Brown	Ben Oxley	Frank Fitzpatrick	Volunteer Please
1 st Reading	Maire Griffin	Kevin Lloyd	Peter or Trish Hurley	Elizabeth Christie
2nd Reading	Gideon Goosen	Carl Moll	Erin Kelly	Emily Mulhall
Intercession	Volunteer Please	John Isaksen	Frank Fitzpatrick	Yvonne Scanlan
Music	Cantabile		Cormac's group	
IT Operators	Anne Hobbs	Elizabeth Konza	Dan Kensey	Lachlan Lloyd
Gifts	Volunteers Please	Kay Whitty	The Wilson Family	N/A
Communion	Volunteers Please	Helen Keogh & Brian Grech	Todd Stanford & Erin Kelly	Brendan Khnouf
Children's Liturgy	Colin & Gwen			
Church Care	Jane Lennon, Melissa McDonald, Gabrielle Lynch & Lucy Limbers			
Hospitality	Trish & Peter Hurley, Irene and Bert Aligno			

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Marietta Cable (Marie) Doug's wife, John Broomhead (Elizabeth'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:

George Paine, Joseph (William) Horneman, James Nolan, Laurence Brooks, Maureen Holmes, Emma Peters, Marjorie Aussel, Peter Buckley, Thomas Hannigan, Kathleen Scholfield, Michael Hughes, John Appleton and Anita Dyson.

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