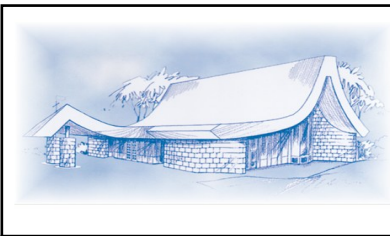


St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

The Barra

The Ascension of the Lord - Year A

16th & 17th May 2026



Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 46; Ephesian 1:17-23; Matthew 28:16-20

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.....

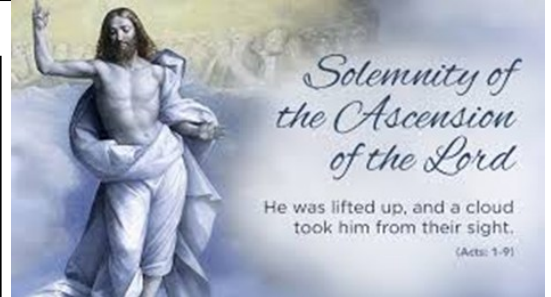
"Who does not thank for little will not thank for much." - Estonian proverb.

There is an Irish proverb which states that "bread given is soon forgotten." It is a bleak assertion describing the very human capacity to be ungrateful and forgetful for what has been done for you. Certainly each of us has been indulged in a variety of gifts, assistance, company in hard times, affirmations when needed, the list is practically endless. In the world of modern psychology gratitude is accepted as one of the primary virtues of the well-rounded and well-grounded personality. Once upon a time we referred to such a person as the "perfect gentleman" which also was applied to ladies. We don't want to get lost in phrases which are no longer in vogue. We can get the message that gratitude is a required virtue for good social relationships especially within the family. Maybe the time has come to reassert gratitude as a nourishing and strengthening element in human affairs.

If it is true that narcissism has increased by thirty percent in the last fifteen years then we might ponder the significance of the effects of such self-absorption. One such consequence has also seen the rise of self-entitlement attitudes. If a person is of the opinion that they are entitled to receive all that is given to them, then no word of thanks will be proffered because the person will not be set up to acknowledge a gift freely given. This is one way of souring interpersonal relationships.

Simple gratitude acknowledges both the gift and the giver, and a heartfelt word of gratitude enables the receiver to recognise that they are the recipient of something precious and undeserved. This is far more than some kind of transactional effort but rather a spiritual closeness which acknowledges a bonding of love and concern, one for the other. Reciprocity is part of the virtue of gratitude. The giver should be acknowledged as giver of the gift which is given. The thing given may be important but it is the person behind the gift who is more important. Neglecting to say thanks is a negation of the person who has given, while the gift may be greedily accepted. Certainly this is not a Christian state of affairs and an attitude of entitlement goes against the grain of every Christian concept.

We might wonder if we are grateful enough, especially toward God. On the whole we probably are somewhat neglectful in communicating our thanks for all we receive from God. There might be the attitude that we have worked hard for all we have and that God has given us nothing. As the old saying goes: the self-made man worships his own creator! The truth is that we are not gods and we are dependent on the Almighty for every breath we take and for every morning we wake up.



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

Parish Youth:

Brendan Khnouf

sfyglenbrook@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

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 17th May</p> <p><i>The Ascension of the Lord - Year A</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass</p> <p>9.30am Mass</p> <p>1.00pm Bridge Club P/C</p> <p>6.00pm Youth Mass</p> <p>7.00pm Youth Group P/C</p>
<p>Monday 18th May</p>	<p>No Morning Mass -Office is closed</p>
<p>Tuesday 19th May</p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>10.00am Timeout Tuesday P/C</p> <p>12.00pm Pastoral Care meeting M/R</p> <p>6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice</p> <p>7.00pm PFC Meeting M/R</p>
<p>Wednesday 20th May</p>	<p>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary</p> <p>9.30am Playgroup P/C</p> <p>7.00pm Bridge P/C</p>
<p>Thursday 21st May</p>	<p>9.15am Healing Mass followed by morning tea</p> <p>1.00pm Bridge P/C</p> <p>5.00pm 1st Holy Communion preparation Sessions P/C</p>
<p>Friday 22nd May</p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>1.30pm Bowlers P/C</p>
<p>Saturday 23rd May</p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>4.15pm Confessions</p> <p>5.30pm Vigil Mass</p>
<p>Sunday 24th May</p> <p><i>PENTECOST SUNDAY Year A</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass</p> <p>9.30am Mass</p> <p>10.45am Baptisms</p>

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.

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 this weekend.**



" EXPLORING THE BIBLE AT ST FINBARS".



THE POWER OF PENTECOST

The CCR Parramatta Diocese and The Emmaus Prayer Community invite you to come and Celebrate Pentecost

2 pm Holy Mass, Praise & Worship, Talk, Prayer Ministry and Fellowship
COME RECEIVE THE POWER

Talk by Abraham George

Sunday 24 May 2pm to 5pm
OLQP Church, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes

All Welcome Enquiry Desiree 0478 765 772.
Amila 0404 445 397

MEN AT THE SHRINE

Is a monthly hour of adoration at the Schoenstatt Shrine in Mulgoa, held on the second Wednesday of each month. The hour begins with a brief reflection before a time of silent prayer. Confessions are available.

The evening finishes with a cup of tea. All men are welcome. No RSVP is necessary. Find the event on Facebook, or contact Bernard, 0416 106 871.

Guess the Lollies in the Jar!

Take a guess at how many Lollies are in the jar for your chance to win the whole jar of Lollies. A **gold coin donation** enters you into the competition. Fundraising for the replacement of the meeting room and office carpet. Please write your guess and phone number on the sheet provided on the Piety Stall table. Whoever is closest to the correct number wins. The Competition will be on for the next two weeks. You have to be in it to win it. Good luck



THANK YOU TO OUR MOTHER'S DAY HIGH TEA HELPERS

Our very first Parish Mother's Day High Tea was a wonderful success 55 ladies attended the event, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped bring this special afternoon to life.

A very warm thank you to **Cecilia, Margaret, Jeannine, Gabrielle, Kylie, and Annissa** for their time, hard work, and dedication in preparing for the event. Your generosity and joyful spirit made the afternoon truly memorable. We also express our deep gratitude to the **Timeout Ladies** for their generous donation of the beautifully hand-sewn quilt for our raffle. Your craftsmanship and kindness added something truly special to the day. Thanks to the support of our parish community, the High Tea raised **\$1910** towards replacing the carpet in the Parish Office and Meeting Room. Your contributions help us continue caring for our parish spaces. Please keep an eye on this space for more fun and meaningful parish activities.

With gratitude,
Juliana and Tamar

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Our parish community extends its heartfelt thanks to all parishioners for your wonderful generosity during our recent Lenten appeals.

Through your kindness, Project Compassion received a total of **\$5,316.55**, supporting Caritas Australia in their mission to bring hope, dignity, and practical assistance to communities in need.

We also thank you for your support of the Holy Land Collection on Good Friday, where our parish raised **\$980** to assist the Christian communities and sacred places in the land of Jesus.

Your giving spirit reflects the heart of our faith and strengthens our mission as a parish family. Thank you for your continued support and compassion.

BUSH SCHOOL CAMBODIA

Special thanks to the many parishioners who attended, or otherwise supported our recent concert for the Bush school. It was wonderful night of entertainment and fellowship for many who have continued to support our concerts over a number of years. Your concern for the education and welfare of the Cambodian children is of great value and funds raised at the concert will secure the school for another year. Thankyou also to St. Finbar's Parish for the use of the hall and kitchen facilities. The school has tax deductible status (DGR) and gift donations as one off or on a monthly basis are welcome so the future of this school is ensured. Direct credit payments can be made to CommBank Cambodian Educational Services Inc. BSB 062601. account 10496685. Please give clear details of donor so receipts can be issued.

With grateful thanks,

Doug Frewer, on behalf of School Committee Members.

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.

SAVE THE DATE: PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT

SATURDAY 8TH AUGUST AT 6.30PM

Mark your calendars for our next Parish Trivia Night.

Table lists will be available on the Warden's table from the beginning of June.

More details to come — we look forward to a fun night together!

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.



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LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 23RD & 24TH MAY 2026

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Peter McIlvenna	Peter McMahon	Stephen Brown
Senior Server	Peter McIlvenna	Peter McMahon	Stephen Brown
Junior Servers	Volunteers Please		Sebastian & Oscar Baird Nicholas Egan
Warden	Margaret Richards	Volunteer Please	Frank Zammit
1 st Reading	Jim Barndon	Kevin Lloyd	Cecilia Zammit
2nd Reading	Naomi Cheeseman	Andrew Teece	Annissa Nilsson
Intercession	Katy Ferris	Volunteer Please	Yvonne Scanlan
Music			Holy Light
IT Operators	Thais Turner	Robyn Flynn	Joanne Stubbs
Gifts	Steve & Heather Lee	Rivas Family	The Young Family
Communion	Volunteers Please	Jessica Tiller & Jean Di Nucci	Annissa Nilsson & Carmel Higgins
Children's Liturgy	Elizabeth & Clare		
Church Care	Volunteers Please		
Hospitality	Kerry & Peter Herborn		
Lawn Mowing	Rob Lennon & Bob Hanigan		

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Elaine Fisher (Bernie's sister in law), Marietta Cable (Marie) Doug's wife, 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, Lyn Downes, Beryl & Stan Callaghan, Pat Barrett, Terry Stevens, Jacqui Visser, Mark Bates, 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:

Michael Moelroy, Paul Zoeller, Claire Fisher, Dennis Barron, Cyril Fitzjohn, Millicent Grant, Moira Holmes, Denis Smith, Michael Klein, Hilder Ahrenfeld, William Osborne, Irena Chambers, Vincent Noonan, Clare Konza, Betty McSweeney, Patricia Mungovern, Kerrie-Anne Regent (McGrath), Ann Reardon, Hazel Caldwell, Mary O'Sullivan, Peter Stapleton (1980), Winifred Shindorfer and Helen Hunt.

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