

# St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

## The Barra

PENTECOST SUNDAY - Year A

23rd & 24th May 2026



Acts 2:1-11; Psalm 103; 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13; John 20:19-23

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.....

*"Learn to pause... or nothing worthwhile will catch up to you." --  
Doug King*

Learning to slow down and even learning to stop are life skills that reap enormous rewards yet are severely rejected in our modern world. Is it because we are so spiritually unaware that we cannot allow the soul to breathe? We seem to be socialized into business and if we are not busy it amounts to laziness. From the point of view of utility we can understand that lack of productivity can be understood to be tantamount to lassitude and equal to mortal sin. However, applying the principles of industry to all aspects of the human person is a serious error against the true nature of humanity. Yet we can feel guilty if we are not continually doing and making a contribution to whatever it is with which we concern ourselves. Anyone ever suggest that you slow down?

If so, you have received extremely wise advice. The essence of humanity is the soul which has a completely different life and experience than the world of work and success which we ordinarily inhabit. Our quotation today recognises that pausing enables us to create space for contemplation, a lull in our business where we can collect our thoughts and our experiences so that we can learn from them and be enriched by them. As T. S. Eliot reminds us in *The Four Quartets* "the greatest tragedy is to have the experience and miss the meaning." The quality of our experiences and our endeavours need to be processed in silence so that the meaning and purpose of our lives can be absorbed into the soul, the very nature of who we are. But we do need rest and quietness to make the best of who we are. Otherwise we can never profit from the experiences which inform the very nature of who we are, made in the Image of God and being restored to the Likeness of Christ.

Yes, we need space to allow things to catch up with us, otherwise our efforts to develop wisdom will be crowded out by the peripherals of life. Business will impede our appreciation of the "deep down things" of who we are. That is why resting on the sabbath was built in to human affairs by the Almighty to give us a good example of necessary rest which revives our souls and which gives us constant spiritual energy instead of the experience of drudgery which is the lot of the overworked. Truth, beauty and kindness are considered ultimate, transcendentals—core ideals that enlighten human life and guide flourishing. And they certainly need time-out to work on us.

### 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)

**Parish Youth:** Brendan Khnouf

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

**Facebook:**

Glenbrook Catholic Church St Finbars

**Parish School:** Principal (Acting)

Mrs Kym Romanous

Phone:

4724 3600

### Baptisms

The Parish joyfully welcomes the Baptisms of

**Marcel Dahdah &  
Felix Dahdah**

this Sunday, and warmly welcomes them into our Faith Community here at St Finbar's.



**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> 24th May <i>PENTECOST</i> <i>SUNDAY</i> <i>Year A</i></p>	<p><b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> <b>10.45am Baptisms</b></p>
<p><b>Monday</b> 25th May <i>Our Lady, Help of Christians</i></p>	<p><b>No Morning Mass –Office is closed</b> 5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R</p>
<p><b>Tuesday</b> 26th May <i>St Philip Neri</i></p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b> 6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice 7.30pm Baptism Preparation Meeting M/R</p>
<p><b>Wednesday</b> 27th May</p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary</b> 9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge P/C 7.30pm Liturgy Committee Meeting M/R</p>
<p><b>Thursday</b> 28th May</p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b> 1.00pm Bridge P/C 5.00pm 1st Holy Communion preparation Sessions P/C</p>
<p><b>Friday</b> 29th May</p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b> 1.30pm Bowlers P/C</p>
<p><b>Saturday</b> 30th May</p>	<p><b>7.30am Men's Breakfast</b> <b>9.15am Mass</b> 4.15pm Confessions <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b></p>
<p><b>Sunday</b> 31st May <i>The Most Holy Trinity</i> <i>Year A</i></p>	<p><b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> <b>10.45am Baptisms</b></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](http://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.**



**EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION.**  
 The Diocese of Parramatta and the Maronite Eparchy have joined up to host a Eucharistic Procession through the streets of Parramatta on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June. The procession will begin after a Mass at Our Lady of Lebanon, and wind its way through Parramatta to the Cathedral where a period of silent adoration before the Eucharistic Lord will take place in the forecourt. We would encourage the faithful to bring parish/community banners and flags as a show of solidarity and faith. We hope to draw big crowds for a strong show of faith and unity for all the people of Parramatta to see. Please check the flyer on the church noticeboard.

**PRAY FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS IN NIGERIA**  
 Christians in Nigeria continue to suffer greatly for their faith, yet many persevere with deep trust in Christ and devotion to Our Lady. *Aid to the Church in Need* invites you to join with John, a Catholic farmer in Nigeria, in praying a decade of the Rosary this week for persecuted Christians and all who suffer for their faith. **Watch John's moving testimony and download a free Red Rosary Prayer Card** to unite your prayers with the suffering Church throughout the world. Scan the QR code or visit [www.rebrand.ly/RedRosary26](http://www.rebrand.ly/RedRosary26)



**Be The Witness**  
THE MUSICAL THAT WILL TURN YOUR LIFE AROUND

An ancient message, a timeless calling, a musical not to be missed!

From 10-13 September, Parramatta Riverside Theatres will be ablaze with **Be The Witness**, the powerhouse Gospel musical, produced by Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, and

**TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE!**

But it's so much more than a musical. It's a movement! Andrew brought his brother Peter to Christ. Who will you bring?

10 - 13 September  
 RIVERSIDE THEATRES, Parramatta





**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



**THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION THIS YEAR**

Preparation for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion has now begun, with the first session held last Thursday afternoon.

Please note that the Sacrament will be celebrated **on Sunday, 21 June**, at the **9.30am Mass**.

This year **33 children** are taking part in this Sacrament.

We invite our parish community to keep the children and their families in your prayers as they continue their journey of faith.

**MANDATORY SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS**

To ensure our parish remains fully compliant with Diocesan Safeguarding requirements, **all parish volunteers are required to complete their Safeguarding training.**

Volunteers may complete the training **either online or face-to-face in the Parish Hall:**

**Online Option:**

Training can be completed at your convenience using the Diocese link:

<https://parracatholic.org/safeguarding/training/>

**Face-to-Face Option:**

Our parish will host an onsite Safeguarding Training session on **Saturday 20th June**, commencing at **10am** in the Parish Hall.

**Session Schedule:**

10.00–11.00am – **Module 1:** Introduction to Safeguarding followed by 30-minute Morning Tea Break

11.30am–1.00pm – **Module 2:** Legal Compliance – Mandatory Reporting & Reportable Conduct.

30-minute Lunch Break

1.30–3.00pm – **Module 3:** Working With Adults at Risk & Understanding Boundaries

**Which sessions do you need to attend?**

If you have previously completed **Cycle 1 (Modules 1–3)**, you only need to attend **Modules 1 & 2**.

If you are refreshing for **Cycle 3** (already completed Cycle 1 Mods 1–3 and Cycle 2 Mods 4 & 5), you only need to attend **Module 2** (11.30am–1.00pm).

Please contact the Parish Office to register your name on **4739 6958** or email the secretary.

Thank you for your cooperation, your support, and your ongoing commitment to keeping our parish safe.

**Juliana – Parish Secretary**

**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!*

**CORRECTION REGARDING DONATIONS FOR CAMBODIA SCHOOL**

For donations to the bush school in Cambodia, its account name is:

Cambodian education support Inc

BSB 062 601 Account 10496685

Donations are tax deductible so give details and receipts can be issued .

*Many thanks/ Cecilia*

**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 30TH & 31ST MAY 2026

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Peter McIlvenna	Peter McMahon	Garry Pursehouse
Senior Server	Peter McIlvenna	Peter McMahon	Nick McMaster
Junior Servers	Volunteers Please		Rebekah & Jude Mowbray, James Horner
Warden	Margaret Richards	Ben Oxley	Patricia Murnane
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Dawn Willis	Kevin Lloyd	Irene Aligno
2nd Reading	Katy Ferris	Andrew Teece	Pearse Cremin
Intercession	Felicity Lindfield	Carl Moll	Yvonne Scanlan
Music	Cormac's Group		
IT Operators	Robyn Flynn	Joseph Wilson	Volunteer Please
Gifts	Parishioners are	Invited to offer to	Bring the gifts
Communion	Thea Robertson & Kylie Mills	Jim Tierney & Kath Tierney	Erin Kelly & Carmel Higgins
Children's Liturgy	Cate & Dan		
Church Care	Fran Isaksen, Lynne Atkinson, Veronica Clune and Emily Mulhall.		
Hospitality	Julie Fehon, Anne Hobbs, Martin & Lyndal Rogers		

### 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:

Stanley Sharp, Michael Seymour, Derek Elliott, Harry Nolan, Evelyn Philpott, Matthew Ingram, Thomas Etherington, Robert Toirkens, Franciscus Van De Weyer, Frederick Charlton, Maria Fransen, Irene Flynn, Annie Breakspear, Michael Flynn, Stephen Grundschoettel, Matthew Fisher, Charles Martin and Stephen Skinner.

# GRACE

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