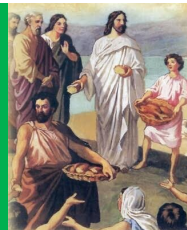


# St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

## The Barra

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

1st & 2nd August 2026



Isaiah 55:1-3; Psalm 144; Romans 8:35, 37-39; Matthew 14:13-21

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.....

*"The pessimist complains about the wind, the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails." (William Arthur Ward)*

When the events of life seem to turn against us we often become despondent and we may even wonder if we are the only people in the world who continually have a hard time of life. We mull over life's tragedies and count ourselves as so unfortunate that we eagerly share our woes with anyone who will listen! And we'll probably hear back their list of misfortunes which may easily outnumber our own. 'Misery loves company' as the saying goes. This doesn't leave us satisfied at all and we may continue the lethargy by immersing ourselves into a forlorn hope that a miracle may be in the offing and everything turn out rosy. Already this thinking indicates a complete waste of time and we have missed opportunities to do something positive about our situations, which means our involvement.

Our quotation today recommends adjusting the sails when a storm threatens. It may be a nautical reference but it is entirely applicable to everyday events. We can start by reviewing previous exasperating times and recognizing that we are still around to tell the tale. We weren't drowned by an opposing force. Treading water indicates that we are survivors, and this in itself is a positive. Already we are changing our attitude from negative to believing that there can be a silver lining to our dark cloud. Our next step can be approaching the Good Lord, presenting the details of what is confronting us, and asking for some divine wisdom to help us along the path of right judgment. Next we ask for grace to understand whatever thoughts occur to us in finding a clear path to resolve the situation. We can then thank God in anticipation of everything turning out well.

By this time we should be in a positive frame of mind with plenty of energy to begin following up what resolutions have emerged. Then we can assemble together whatever is necessary for us to complete the answer to the challenge, not forgetting to ask for help from family or friends if needed. Remember, a problem shared is a problem solved. And who knows? Someone else may have a different perspective on the issue and suggest a completely new way of looking at it, initiating a fresh engagement. Suddenly a solution emerges and all is well. We are no longer treading water but surfing on the surface totally carefree and ready to go. "If God is for us, who can be against us?" (Rom 8:31).

### WELCOME BACK, FATHER JOHN

We joyfully welcome back Father John Hogan to our parish community. Father John has spent the past few weeks in England visiting his family and celebrating the wonderful occasion of his brother's ordination to the priesthood. We are grateful for his safe return and look forward to having him back among us this weekend.

#### 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 Apkarian

E-mail:

[admin@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:admin@stfinbars.org.au)

**PPC:**

Kylie Mills (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:**

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Weddings:

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**Web:**

[www.stfinbars.org.au](http://www.stfinbars.org.au)

**Facebook:**

Glenbrook Catholic Church St Finbars

**Parish School:**

Principal

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

|                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday</b><br><b>2nd August</b><br><i>18th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i><br><i>Year A</i> | <b>7.30am Mass</b><br><b>9.30am Mass</b><br><b>6.00pm Youth Mass</b><br>Live Streaming Link<br><a href="https://youtube.com/live/37QdwtwpzQs?feature=share">https://youtube.com/live/37QdwtwpzQs?feature=share</a><br>7.30pm Youth Group P/C |
| <b>Monday</b><br><b>3rd August</b><br><i>St Dominic</i>                                    | <b>No Morning Mass –Office is closed</b><br>5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Tuesday</b><br><b>4th August</b><br><i>St John Vianney</i>                              | <b>9.15am Mass</b><br>10.00am Timeout Tuesday P/C<br>6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice<br>7.30pm Parish Volunteering Listening Workshop M/R                                                                                                    |
| <b>Wednesday</b><br><b>5th August</b>                                                      | <b>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary</b><br>9.30am Playgroup P/C<br>7.00pm Bridge P/C                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Thursday</b><br><b>6th August</b><br><i>The Transfiguration of the Lord</i>             | <b>9.15am Mass</b><br>1.00pm Bridge P/C<br>5.00pm Confirmation Preparation Session P/C                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Friday</b><br><b>7th August</b>                                                         | <b>9.15am Mass</b><br>1.30pm Bowlers P/C                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Saturday</b><br><b>8th August</b><br><i>St Mary of the Cross</i>                        | <b>9.15am Mass</b><br>4.15pm Confessions<br><b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b><br>6.30pm Parish Trivia Night P/C                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Sunday</b><br><b>9th August</b><br><i>19th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i><br><i>Year A</i> | <b>7.30am Mass</b><br><b>9.30am Mass</b><br><b>10.45am Baptisms</b>                                                                                                                                                                          |



## PARRAMATTA DIOCESE NEWS

### **Celebrate the Feast of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop**

Join the Sisters of Saint Joseph at Mary MacKillop Place as we celebrate the Feast of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop on **Saturday 8 August**. Make a pilgrimage to Mary's tomb, spend time in prayer in the Chapel, and celebrate the Eucharist with us at one of our Feast Day Masses:

- **8:00am & 6:00pm** – Chapel
- **10:00am & 1:00pm** – Glen Roy Green (outdoors)

The 10:00am and 1:00pm Masses will be AusLan interpreted, and the 10:00am Mass will be livestreamed for those unable to attend in person.

### **Diocese of Parramatta World Youth Day Seoul 2027 Launch: 12 August**

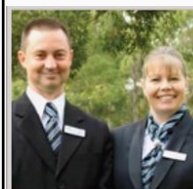
Come and discover the pilgrimage to the 17th International World Youth Day in Seoul, South Korea (26 July – 11 August 2027), themed “Take courage! I have overcome the world” (John 16:33). Join us for an inspiring evening to learn about the pilgrimage, hear testimonies from past pilgrims, explore the faith and culture of the Korean Church, and enjoy fellowship with other young people. Date: 12 August 2026 Doors open at 6:30pm. Venue: Nagle College, 58A Orwell Street, Blacktown Register today at [parracatholic.org/events/wyd27-launch/](http://parracatholic.org/events/wyd27-launch/) We look forward to welcoming you!



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## **FATHER JOHN'S 45TH PRIESTHOOD ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Join us in celebrating Father John's 45th Anniversary of Priesthood!

We warmly invite all parishioners to join us on **Sunday, 16 August**, following the **9.30am Mass**, as we gather to give thanks for **Father John's 45 years of faithful priestly ministry**.

This special occasion is an opportunity for our parish community to express our gratitude and appreciation for Father John's dedicated service, spiritual guidance, and generous commitment to our parish over the last 2 years. Please come and share in this joyful celebration as we honour Father John and thank God for the many blessings received through his ministry.

All parishioners are most welcome. We look forward to celebrating together as a parish family.

### **9.15AM WEEKDAY MASSES**

Please note that the weekday Mass will be back on Tuesday the 4th of August at 9.15am.

### **VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK**

This week we celebrate **Vocations Awareness Week**, a special time to pray and reflect on God's call in our lives. Every Christian is called to holiness and service, whether through marriage, priesthood, religious life, or dedicated single life.

Let us pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, and encourage our young people to listen with open hearts to God's call. May our parish community support and nurture those discerning their vocation. **"Speak, Lord, your servant is listening." (1 Samuel 3:10)**

Please keep all those discerning their vocation in your prayers this week.

### **PARISH MAINTENANCE UPDATE**

We are pleased to advise parishioners that the replacement of the carpet in the Parish Office and Meeting Room was completed last week. Everything went smoothly, and we are very happy with the outcome.

A special thank you to Tamar our parish Admin officer for coordinating this project, as well as the many parish maintenance works that have been undertaken over the past few months. Her ongoing efforts have helped ensure that our parish facilities remain safe and well-maintained for all to use.

A sincere thank you to everyone for your help, patience, and support during the works, your help and support greatly appreciated.

All parish computers, screens, sound, power, internet...etc. should now be functioning well. If you are aware of any maintenance issues that have not yet been addressed, or if you notice any future concerns, please contact the Parish Office by email Tamar on: [admin@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:admin@stfinbars.org.au). Thank you for your continued support of our parish community.

### **THE COLUMBARIUM UPDATE**

The **Friends of the Columbarium** group has now met 3 times, with each meeting generating valuable feedback and ideas. We are pleased to announce that one of our first action items has now been completed—the cleaning of the Columbarium and resealing of the sandstone. This work has significantly refreshed the appearance of the area and will help protect it for years to come. We would like to sincerely thank our volunteer team—Kylie Mills, Vince & Carmel Dobson, Brian & Thea Robertson, Nora Cordoba, Mark Phoebus, Carl Moll, Tamar Apkarian, Juliana Khnouf and for their time, commitment, and support in helping bring this project to fruition.

### **PARISH VOLUNTEERING LISTENING WORKSHOP**

Our parish is hosting a one-hour listening workshop to better understand what encourages people to volunteer, what makes it difficult, and how we can better invite and support parishioners to share their gifts in parish life. Parish helpers, ministry leaders and anyone with a heart for service are warmly invited to come and share their experience and ideas. The workshop will be held on **Monday 3 August, 7:15 pm for a 7:30 pm start**, and will run for **one hour only**. A light supper will be provided. To register your interest, please contact the parish office. For further information contact Anissa Nilsson or Kylie Mills

**BIBLE STUDY—THE GOSPEL OF MARK.** 29th November marks the beginning of Advent, the readings will be those for YEAR B and the gospel will be that of MARK. Watch this space for more information!

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## LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 8TH & 9TH AUGUST 2026

| Liturgical Ministries   | 5.30pm                                                                                                                        | 7.30 am            | 9.30 am                                      |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Sacristan               | Jim Barndon                                                                                                                   | Carl Moll          | Garry Purchasehouse                          |
| Senior Server           | Jim Barndon                                                                                                                   | Carl Moll          | Nick McMaster                                |
| Junior Servers          | Quentin & Sophie Lynch                                                                                                        |                    | Summer & Oliver Wilson,<br>Noah Young        |
| Warden                  | Maree Roach                                                                                                                   | Ben Oxley          | Patricia Murnane                             |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading | Maureen Tulk                                                                                                                  | Peter McMahon      | Dan or Tim Kensey                            |
| 2nd Reading             | Jessica Doherty                                                                                                               | Elizabeth Konza    | Kristina Rajnoch                             |
| Intercession            | Therese Ross                                                                                                                  | John Isaksen       | Yvonne Scanlan                               |
| 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               | Thea & Brian Robertson,<br>Vince Dobson                                                                                       | Jim & Kath Tierney | Gerard Egan,<br>Yvonne Scanlan & Colin Stead |
| Children's Liturgy      | Michelle & Jess                                                                                                               |                    |                                              |
| Church Care             | Jane Lennon, Melissa McDonald, Gabrielle Lynch & Lucy Limbers<br>Mopping: Andrew Flaherty, Carl Mill, Steve Lee & Bryan Egan. |                    |                                              |
| Hospitality             | Anne King, Lynne Atkinson, Daren & Liz Dukes                                                                                  |                    |                                              |

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Jeffrie Harsh (Helen's Husband), James McCaughan (Cormac's Father) and Anita Keenan.

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

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

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

Leslie Cullen, Jeffrey Plim, Marian Wiecek, Brian Martland, Daisy Watterson, John Guerin, Gweneth Pinson, Carmel Harris, John Costello, Robert Murphy, Freda Weston, Robyn Connors, Eric Jeckeln, Reginald Hambilton and Michael Cahill.

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