



St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

The Barra

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

29th & 30th August 2026



Jeremiah 20:7-9; Psalm 62; Romans 12:1-2; Matthew 16:21:27

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 ability to simplify means to eliminate the unnecessary so that the necessary may speak." -- Hans Hofmann

It can be fascinating to stand back and listen to someone give an explanation of something and make it so complicated that the listener has little chance of making sense of the explanation. Sometimes the speaker may be so full of themselves that they wish to make themselves out to be far more intelligent than they really are. Or perhaps the speaker is only giving the impression that they know the subject-matter and is simply full of hot air. The problem for the learner is that these are fruitless exercises in frustration and the person walks away none the wiser for the time taken.

When entering into explanation it is better to be honest and declare that you don't really know the subject matter, or to engage the other with a suggestion that the two of you might enter into a joint venture to discover together what the explanation might be. Religion can be particularly prone to long-winded explanations which wind around the universe seeking to attach more and more theological ideas that leave the listener bamboozled. While God is mystery, explanations about Him are not mysterious nor unknowable. Occam's Razor suggests that we don't multiply concepts beyond need. It only confuses both the listener and the one spouting. When we think of the Nicene Creed we are presented with the least number of truths to describe God and believing in these teachings we can become enriched in our understanding of an uncomplicated God. The revelation of Christ about the Godhead had no flim flam just wonderful parables about the Kingdom and the perfect example of divine love in the outpouring of his life in death for the sake of the world.

In his beautiful novella "The Little Prince" Antoine de Saint-Exupery asserts that "it is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye." Getting to the heart of what matters requires a particular love of the subject which needs constant exploration to keep it alive and to continually discover how the parts fit so snugly together that they reveal their unity and simplicity and a powerful explanation becomes obvious. Loving your subject helps one to give up frothy explanations and to get to the bottom of deep-down things. So, it is best not to compound explanations with what is unnecessary so that what is necessary can shine out.

In our apostolic work of announcing the Good News of Jesus Christ we need to learn not to hide our precious Lord behind long-winded arguments. Speak of his life and promises.

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 Apkarian

E-mail: admin@stfinbars.org.au

PPC: Kylie Mills (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

Mrs Kym Romanous

Phone: 4724 3600

Baptisms

The Parish joyfully welcomes the Baptism of

Andrea Lauren Mowbray

this Sunday, and warmly welcomes her 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

Sunday 30th August <i>22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 10.45am Baptisms
Monday 31st August	No Morning Mass -Office is closed 5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R
Tuesday 1st September	9.15am Mass 10.00am Timeout Tuesday P/C 6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice 7.00pm Columbarium Meeting M/R
Wednesday 2nd September	9.15am Mass followed by Rosary 9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge P/C
Thursday 3rd September <i>St Gregory the Great</i>	9.15am Mass 1.00pm Bridge P/C 5.00pm Confirmation Rehearsal—P/C 7.00pm Emotional Development Course/ Father John P/C
Friday 4th September	9.15am Mass 1.30pm Bowlers P/C
Saturday 5th September	9.15am Mass 4.15pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 6th September <i>23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass—Sacrament of Confirmation 6.00pm Youth Mass Live Streaming Link https://youtube.com/live/THCOTVwDCW8?feature=share 7.30pm Youth Group

Bishop's Father's Day Appeal 2026

The Bishop's Father's Day Appeal is to support the retired and unwell priests of our Diocese, our spiritual fathers, who have devoted their lives to serving God and His People. The Clergy Support Foundation will run on the weekend of, from **29–30 August**.

Thank you for your continued support in helping care for our retired priests & clergy experiencing ill health.



St Carlo Acutis's Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition: 11-25 October

Designed by **St Carlo Acutis**, the first **millennial Saint**, this exhibition documents reported Eucharistic miracles from around the world and is touring parishes across our Diocese. We are delighted to announce that ***our parish will host the exhibition from Sunday 11 October to Sunday 25 October.*** Parishioners, students, teachers, families and visitors are warmly invited to attend. **Entry is free and no bookings are required.** To see where the exhibition is heading next across the Diocese, visit parracatholic.org/iec2028/.

HOLY SHROUD EXHIBITION
Be a witness to the **Holy Shroud Exhibition** at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, from **6–13 September 2026**.

A special presentation, **"The Shroud Puzzle Solved,"** by author, journalist and Shroud expert **Mr. William West** will be held on **Sunday, 6 September at 1:00 pm** in Cloister Hall. All are welcome.

SPRING SPRUCE-UP - Get your garden Spring-ready!. Looking to freshen up your garden before Spring really gets underway? A long-standing parishioner of 20+ years, volunteer grounds man, men's breakfast helper, and Finance Committee member is offering *special pricing exclusively for parishioners* through his Garden & Landscaping business. From a simple tidy-up to a larger garden makeover, *Mark can work with your budget* to get your outdoor space looking its best. ***See the advertisement below for details and contact information.***

YOUTH NIGHT

ST. FINBAR'S PARISH, GLENBROOK

EVERY 1ST & 3RD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH @ 6PM

MASS: 6PM SUPPER: 7PM
THE LOUNGE YOUTH GROUP: 7.30-8.30PM

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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

Our parish community warmly congratulates the 23 children who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, 6 September.

We are honored that **Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv** will celebrate the Confirmation and confer this Sacrament upon our candidates.

Please keep these young people, their families, sponsors, and catechists in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Holy Spirit in a special way.

May God bless our Confirmation candidates abundantly on this important day.

SENIOR SERVERS, SACRISTANS & MINISTERS OF COMMUNION REFRESHER COURSE

On Sunday September 20th after 9:30 Mass there will be a session for Senior servers, Sacristans and Extraordinary Ministers of Communion with Father John to review the changes involving the two chalices for the Blood of Christ. Father John will be able to answer any question you may have about the liturgy. All ministers are invited to attend so our practice is the same at all Masses. Please come on September 20th after 9:30 Mass, in the church.

UPCOMING COURSE ON EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT STARTING 3RD SEPTEMBER AT 7PM

It is beyond doubt that the emotional life is the richest part of our lives and earthly experience.

It is also true that the emotional life is the least understood aspect of our lives.

God has given us the emotions for a purpose, each of them has a message for us so that we can live life to the full. If we are unaware of these messages then we fail to live out the meanings presented to us.

In our fallen state we can easily misconstrue how the emotions are instructing us for healthy living.

It is easy to become under the influence of what has come to be called the "amygdala highjack" whereby we are at the mercy of the emotion. *Anger and fear are especially prone for taking over our lives.*

This course will deal with the thoughts and feelings about emotions, how emotions are to be understood, the message each emotion has for us and how to interpret the messages and apply them to our lives. It is a safari into our inner lives which can provide all the secrets to a controlled and well-ordered emotional life. There will be 10 sessions in total. If you would like to join the group please email secretary@stfinbars.org.au.

Fr John

JOIN US FOR SOME EARTHCARE AROUND GLENBROOK LAGOON The Kodala Lane Bushcare afternoon is coming up this Sunday afternoon, August 30th 1.30-4.30. Join us as we come together to help to maintain our beautiful local environment.

Meeting point is Kodala Lane, cnr Carmel & Kedron St. Please RSVP to Liesje 0430586133 or Melissa 040869304. BYO water, hat, sunscreen, closed footwear.

ST FINBAR'S FEAST DAY CELEBRATION

Join us as we celebrate **St Finbar's Feast Day** on **Sunday, 27 September**, following the **9:30am Mass**. Everyone is invited to stay and enjoy a wonderful morning of fellowship and celebration, including:

- ☐ Sausage sizzle and morning tea
- ☐ Games and activities for the children
- ☐ Live music from our Youth Band

To help create a festive atmosphere, parishioners are encouraged to **wear green** on the day in honor of St Finbar. Come along with your family and friends for a day of **fun, community, and celebration** as we gather to celebrate our parish patron saint. We look forward to seeing you there! **All are welcome.**

MARK'S GOSPEL, REGISTER WITH PARISH SECRETARY BY 4TH SEPTEMBER.

SEASON OF CREATION CAMPING TRIP 2026

Come along for a relaxed camping weekend of family fun and friendship, as we celebrate, reflect and pray with the Lord, delighting in the marvelous gift of His creation.

When: Friday, October 2 – Monday, October 5, 2026. Where: Wooglemmai Catholic Bush Retreat Centre, Oakdale
For more information and to register visit: www.seasonofcreationcamping.org

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LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 5TH & 6TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am Confirmation	6.00pm Youth Mass
Sacristan	Kylie Mills	Peter McMahon	Gerard Egan	Nick McMaster
Senior Server	Kylie Mills	Peter McMahon	Lukas Rajnoch	Nick McMaster & Tim Kensey
Junior Servers	Alex, Luc Nilsson & Patrick Barach	Summer & Oliver Wilson	Xavier Rajnoch, Elizabeth & Sofia Grus	James Christie
Warden	Vince Dobson	Volunteer Please	Gary Clune	Volunteer Please
1 st Reading	Beth Culliver	John De Mattia	Confirmation Group	Elizabeth Christie
2nd Reading	Jim Barndon	Andrew Teece	Confirmation Group	Emily Mulhall
Intercession	Greg Rowe	Volunteer Please	Confirmation Group	Yvonne Scanlan
Music	Naomi's Group	N/A	Anne's Group	N/A
IT Operators	Henry Hanko	Joseph Wilson	Patrick Watson	Lachlan Lloyd
Gifts	Volunteers Please	Maria Heinzl & Stanis Drobiszewski	Confirmation Group	N/A
Communion	Beth Culliver Elizabeth Rowe & Jim Barndon	Brian Grech & Helen Keogh	Martin Rogers, Garry Purchasehouse & Wendy Brown	Brendan Khnouf
Children's Liturgy	Danielle & Matthew			
Church Care	Jeannine Ashbee, Elizabeth Plummer, Deb Gall, Belinda Harding & Sandra Hanigan			
Hospitality	Lina Wiecek & Vicky Ang			
Lawn Mowing	Tony Doyle, Darren Dukes, Brian Egan and Courtney Whiticker			

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Monika Locke, Norman Fisher (Bernie's brother), Fr Eugene Stockton, Peter McIlvenna, Pam Bailey (Michelle Santoro's Mother) and Jeffrie Harsh.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

Bridget Sharp, Frank Higgins, Tony Phoebus (Mark's Uncle), Tom Torrance, John Brown, Mila Svehla, Chris Paine, Pat Barrett, Caroline Goosen, Noreen Taylor, Lyn Downes, Mark Bates, Sophie Hollies, Beryl & Stan Callaghan, Terry Stevens, Jacqui Visser, 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:

James Griffin, Shiela Anderson, Walter Quealy, Noel Gibson, Mary McKenzie, Michael Price, Valma Jones, Eileen Trevaskis, Anna Instance, Elsie Whitton, Gweneth Scott and June Jones.

GRACE

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