



St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

The Barra

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

5th & 6th September 2026

For where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them.

-Matthew 18:20

Ezekiel 33:7-9; Psalm 94; Romans 13:8-10; Matthew 18:15-20

Father John ponders.....

"The key is to not resist or rebel against emotions or to try to get around them by devising all sorts of tricks; but to accept them directly, as they are." -- Takahisa Kora

Given that we have just begun a fairly long parish course on emotional development, this quotation fairly sums up how we should treat the emotions which come across our paths. We should deal with them directly as they are. Hiding from them, misinterpreting them or confining them to some kind of hidden box deep within our unconscious is neither of value nor of worth because unresolved emotions will come back to haunt us. The emotions are there for a very good reason whether we like it or not. The pleasant emotions we will encourage and stay with them for they bring us an overall sense of wellbeing. The more negative emotions we dislike because we see them as an affront and challenge to us.

Yet it is true that these negative emotions are our best friends. God has given them to us to keep us safe on the path of life. Not understanding their value is because we have grown up not understanding the messages these negative emotions bring with them. It is surely true that the emotional life is the most misunderstood aspect of a person's life. We see such negative emotions as evil incursions into our otherwise stable lives. We don't want them especially when they are so strong that they seem to take us over and we lose control. You may think it flippant to describe negative emotions as our best friends when we generally try to avoid them with all the strength we can muster.

While our quotation may be correct in advising that we accept emotions as they are, even the negative ones, it is quite incomplete in leaving people stranded. How do we negotiate the emotions, what sense do we make of them, what messages do they have for us so that we can see them as our best friends, how do they protect us. Of course it is not possible to answer such questions in this brief column. While our parish course on emotional development is one week in, there is still plenty of time to catch up in learning how to control our emotions. This way we can be in charge, the master of these unruly hounds and use them for our own benefit thus establishing an enhanced state of wellbeing at all times. Phone the parish office, enroll on the course, and give yourself the best present you could wish for!

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.*

Welcome Bishop Vincent

We extend a heartfelt welcome to **Bishop Vincent Long** and thank him for joining our parish to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. We pray that this special day will be a blessing for our candidates, their families, and our entire parish community.

As we gather this weekend, we also wish **Father John and all fathers and grandfathers in our parish community a very happy Father's Day**. May God bless them with good health, joy, and the love of their families, and may they continue to be strengthened in their vocation of care, guidance, and service.



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

PARISH CALENDAR

PARRAMATTA DIOCESE NEWS

Sunday 6th September <i>23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass—Confirmation Mass 6.00pm Youth Mass 7.30pm Youth Group
Monday 7th September	No Morning Mass –Office is closed
Tuesday 8th September <i>The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	9.15am Mass 6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice
Wednesday 9th September	9.15am Mass followed by Rosary 9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge P/C
Thursday 10th September	9.15am Mass 1.00pm Bridge P/C 7.00pm Emotional Development Course/ Father John P/C
Friday 11th September	9.15am Mass 1.30pm Bowlers P/C
Saturday 12th September	9.15am Mass 4.15pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 13th September <i>24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Thanksgiving Mass for Fr Seth Harsh 10.45am Baptisms

Bishop's Father's Day Appeal – Honour a lifetime of faithful service

We give thanks for the fathers, grandfathers, mentors and spiritual fathers who have guided us with love, wisdom and faith. Among them are our priests, who have devoted their lives to serving God's people. They have celebrated the Sacraments with us, prayed with us, accompanied our families and helped bring us closer to Christ. After a lifetime of faithful service, many of our senior priests now need practical care and support as they face the challenges of ageing, illness and retirement. Your generous tax-deductible gift will help care for our retired and unwell priests and ensure they can live with the dignity, care and support they deserve. Please give generously at parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or use the envelopes on the seats. **Thank you for caring for those who have spent their lives caring for us.**

Positions Vacant:

Parish Secretary – St Madeline's Sophie Barat Parish, Kenthurst

More details at: parracatholic.org/jobs

Catholic Outlook Magazine out now | Season of Creation & Spring Edition 2026

The latest *Catholic Outlook* magazine is out now, keeping you connected with news and events across the Diocese of Parramatta. Inside this edition, you'll find: Celebrating the Special Year of Saint Francis, our Papal and Diocesan award winners, why St Francis' message is right for our time, a profile on the new Parish of the Upper Blue Mountains ... and much more. Pick up a copy at your [local parish](#) or read online at catholicoutlook.org/e-edition

Music Workshop for Weddings & Funerals: 10 September

All musicians in the diocese are invited to attend the Office for Worship's new upcoming music workshop on 10 September at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre from 7pm-8:30pm. Mr Eric Grella will focus this workshop on choosing music that is suitable for weddings and funerals and will be present to answer any questions you may have. Please register via parracatholic.org/music-workshop

HOLY SHROUD EXHIBITION

St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta is hosting the Holy Shroud Exhibition featuring a life-size replica of the Shroud of Turin. **Sunday 6 – Sunday 13 September, 9:00am – 6:00pm.** From **Thursday 10 – Sunday 13 September**, the exhibition will have extended opening hours from **9:00am – 10:00pm daily** and will be located in the Chapel.

Parking: Available via Victoria Road. Everyone is warmly invited to visit this special exhibition and learn more about the history and significance of the Shroud of Turin. For more details please contact:

coordinator@stpatricscathedral.com.au

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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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.

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.**

SEASON OF CREATION MASS

As we celebrate the **Season of Creation**, all parishioners are warmly invited to our special **Season of Creation Masses on the weekend of 19-20 September**.

To help celebrate the gifts of God's creation, parishioners are invited to bring fresh fruit and vegetables, plants, flowers, herbs, or other garden produce to Mass. These offerings will be brought forward during the Entrance Procession and shared with fellow parishioners after Mass.

Reflecting this year's theme, "**Living Water**," each Mass will begin with a sprinkling rite, reminding us of God's gift of water and our responsibility to care for our common home. We look forward to celebrating and giving thanks for God's creation together.

FEAST OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI AND BLESSING OF ANIMALS

This year marks **800 years since the death of St Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)**, the beloved patron saint of animals and ecology. To commemorate his feast day, all parishioners are invited to join us for the **Blessing of Animals on Saturday, 3 October, after the 9.15am Mass**.

You are welcome to bring your pets and other animals to receive a special blessing. Together, we will give thanks for the gift of God's creation and honor the example of St Francis, who inspired a deep love and care for all living creatures. Everyone is warmly welcome.

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: Wooglemai Catholic Bush Retreat Centre, Oakdale

For more information and to register visit: www.seasonofcreationcamping.org

MY AGED CARE FORUM: Are you or a loved one seeking information about aged care services and support? St Andrews Glenbrook Uniting Church is hosting a **My Aged Care Forum on Thursday 24 September 2026, from 10:30am to 12:30pm at 7 Green Street, Glenbrook**. Hear from experts about navigating the aged care system, available government-funded support, and the steps to register. The morning will include practical information, Q&A opportunities, and morning tea.

For more information or to register, please contact St Andrews Glenbrook Uniting Church on **(02) 4739 6295**.

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LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 12TH & 13TH SEPTEMBER 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 & James Horner
Junior Servers	Alex Nilsson & Emily Pawlyk		Summer & Oliver Wilson, Noah Young
Warden	Maree Roach	Volunteer Please	Patricia Murnane
1 st Reading	Maureen Tulk	Peter McMahon	Richard Cutler
2nd Reading	Therese Ross	Geraldine Agahari	Frank Zammit
Intercession	Felicity Lindfield	Elizabeth Konza	Joanne Stubbs
Music	Cantabile		Finnie's Group
IT Operators	Volunteer Please	Kylie Mills	Sophia Karatovic
Gifts	Margaret & Michael Richards	Volunteers Please	Dorothea Walsh
Communion	Thea Robertson Brian Robertson Vince Dobson	Jim Tierney & Kath Tierney	Gerard Egan, Yvonne Scanlan & Colin Stead
Children's Liturgy	Cate & Dan		
Church Care	Volunteers please		
Hospitality	Ann King, Lynne Atkinson, Daren & Liz Dukes		

Prayers for former parishioner FLAVIO VARNIER, husband of Celia Carroll (former parishioners and pilgrims) who passed away 29/08/2026. RIP. His Funeral Service is on Monday 14th September 2026, at OLOW Emu Plains at 11am. You will need to be there by 10:30am to witness his grand arrival at the Church. ORANGE is the new BLACK so please wear something Orange.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Flavio Varnier, 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, 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:

Charlotte Mansour, Harold Brown, Lynette Beltran, Dorothy Parslow, Arthur Auckett, Hugh Smith, George Frampton, Norah Trathen, Dorothy Luland, Bendina Van de Weyer, Robyn Behrooz, Bernadette Greig, Barbara Fisher, Raymond McSweeney, Barbara Short, Alexandra Jankowski and Cecilia Mitchell.

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