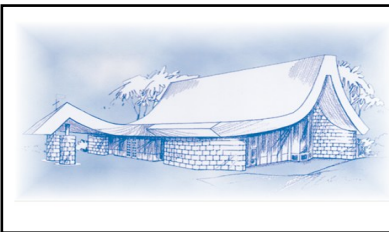


St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

The Barra

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

19th & 20th September 2026



Wisdom 13:1-9; Psalm 104; Colossians 1:15-20; Matthew 6:24-34

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.....

If the doors of perception were cleansed, everything would appear to man as it is, Infinite. For man has closed himself up, till he sees all things thro' narrow chinks of his cavern.

'The Marriage of Heaven and Hell' - William Blake

Considering the Season of Creation in which we find ourselves this year we might consider the wisdom of the British mystic William Blake. We shall need to take it for what it is worth for Blake was a controversial figure in his day. But he certainly had insights into the peculiarity of humanity which can school us to open up our thinking and see beyond the obvious.

When we are presented with the vast panoply of the heavens and the earth we believe in faith that there is a creator God who has gifted us with everything we have for our needs, especially one another.

Various forms of evolutionary theory attempt a scientific explanation which doesn't need a God. Whatever such explanations persist to this day tend to be quite reductionist and hardly do justice to humanity itself. The pinnacle of creation is reduced to a cousin of monkeys and not awarded the status of being made in the Image of God, a fact on which the Catholic Church bases so much of its teaching. To think of ourselves as having no standard higher than other animals flies in the face of other facts such as the much higher capacity for thinking, planning and developing high standards of living, and co-operating with others when we can make that happen.

God has given us a world which is flourishing with domestic and wildlife as well as the beautifying benefits of the world of flora. Seed and fruit bearing trees not only form a majestic and colorful sight but demonstrate the true prodigality of the God who provides for his children. As Blake reminds us, if only we can open our perception to see all that is there, we will see what is truly there: Infinity. It is not in the nature of a creating and loving God to be stingy in providing for us. Water itself, which sustains life in general falls generously from the heavens to provide for the earth. Crops spring up so that we can feed ourselves and vegetables abound to nourish us with sufficient nutrients to have healthy bodies to the glory of God.

As we come close to the feast day of Saint Francis of Assisi and the 800th anniversary of his death let us join in the sentiments of that wonderful poem singing of the beauties of creation where we can acknowledge all things connected as brothers and sisters to the praise and glory of God.

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

Season of Creation Mass

The Season of Creation is a time for Christians around the world to unite in prayer and action to care for God's creation.

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land and give thanks for their enduring connection to country and care for creation. We are invited to reflect on our responsibility as stewards of the earth through prayer, sustainable living, and practical actions that protect our common home. Let us come together in gratitude for God's gifts and in hope for a more just and sustainable future for all.

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 20th September <i>25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 10.30am Liturgy of Eucharist Refresher meeting 1.00pm Bridge Club P/C 6.00pm Youth Mass 7.30pm Youth Group
Monday 21st September <i>St Matthew</i>	No Morning Mass –Office is closed
Tuesday 22nd September	9.15am Mass 6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice
Wednesday 23rd September <i>St Pius of Pietrelcina</i>	9.15am Mass followed by Rosary 9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge P/C 7.30pm Liturgy Committee Meeting M/R
Thursday 24th September	9.15am Mass 1.00pm Bridge P/C 7.00pm Emotional Development Course/ Father John P/C
Friday 25th September	9.15am Mass (Whole School) 1.30pm Bowlers P/C
Saturday 26th September	9.15am Mass 4.15pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 27th September <i>26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass—St Finbar's Feast Day

Positions Vacant:

- Parish Secretary – St Madeline's Sophie Barat Parish, Kenthurst
- Paralegal & Compliance Support – Diocese of Parramatta

More details at: parracatholic.org/jobs

Bishop's Father's Day Appeal 2026: Thank you for caring for our spiritual fathers

Because of your compassion, our Bishop's Father's Day Appeal raised \$1385 to provide much-needed care and support for those who have dedicated their lives to serving our community. Your generosity and love ensure they receive the care, comfort and dignity they deserve in this next chapter of their lives. If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal. Thank you.

Major Pilgrim Relic & Exhibition of St Carlo Acutis: 28-30 September

The First-Class Major Pilgrim Relic of St Carlo Acutis will be at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta from 28 to 30 September. Come and pray before the Major Pilgrim Relic of St Carlo Acutis and experience the Vatican International Exhibition of The Eucharistic Miracles of the World. The Major Pilgrim Relic will be housed in the Chapel for personal prayer and veneration throughout the visit. All welcome. Find the full program on parracatholic.org/events/relic-exhibition-st-carlo-acutis

SCHOENSTATT COUPLES GROUP

ORIENTATION DAY

Sunday 27 September 2026

1.30pm – 3.30pm

Joseph Kantenich House Marian Hall

Mt. Schoenstatt 230 Fairlight Road

Mulgoa 2745 NSW

FREE Registration

Afternoon Tea provided

RSVP by 25 September

Derek and Joycelyn Boog Phone 0420 543 364

Or Sr Luisa Maria Phone 0439537976

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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FEAST OF ST FINBAR'S SCHOOL MASS

Parishioners are warmly invited to join **St Finbar's School** for a special **Whole School Mass** celebrating the **Feast of St Finbar, our Parish Patron Saint**, on **Friday, 25 September at 9.15am**.

This Mass is a wonderful opportunity for our parish and school communities to come together in faith as we honor the life of St Finbar. We look forward to celebrating this special feast day with our students, staff, families, and parishioners. **All are welcome.**

RCIA PROGRAM BEGINNING SOON – HELPERS AND SPONSORS NEEDED

Our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program will be commencing soon, and we are delighted to already have four candidates preparing to journey towards full initiation into the Catholic faith.

Father John is seeking parishioners who would be willing to assist with the program. We are particularly looking for volunteers to help accompany and support our candidates throughout their faith journey, as well as sponsors who can provide encouragement, guidance, and a welcoming presence as they prepare to become fully part of the Church. If you feel called to assist with the RCIA program or serve as a sponsor, please speak with Father John or contact the Parish Office. Your support can play an important role in helping others grow in faith and become active members of our parish community. If you know of anyone who may be interested in learning more about the Catholic faith and joining the RCIA program, please encourage them to contact the Parish Office. We would be delighted to welcome them and support them as they explore the faith and begin their journey towards becoming part of the Catholic Church.

URGENT NEED FOR CATECHISTS

Our SRE Catechist team is in urgent need of new volunteer teachers to help fill our requirement to teach at the six local public primary schools in our Parish. No experience needed; just the desire to plant the seed of our faith into the hearts, souls and minds of the young primary school children. Full training and mentoring available. If you can spare an hour a week, please consider joining the team.

"The harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few" Gospels of Matthew and Luke

For more information please contact the parish office or Mike Rivas M: 0414655470

SEASON OF CREATION BUSHCARE GROUP GATHERING

Pope Leo remarked in his message for the World day of care for creation, September 1 that “*we are once again invited to contemplate the gift of life and to cherish the earth that sustains it, for they are tangible ways of offering praise to our Creator.*”

In this spirit, some parishioners recently joined a Council run Bushcare group near the Glenbrook lagoon. This group meets 3 monthly and it's next meeting is on November 29. Save the date and come and join us as we remove weed species (this time we targeted the all too prolific Yorkshire fog) and plant more preferable plant species for our precious local ecosystem.

“Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Mother Earth, who sustains us and governs us and who produces varied fruits with colored flowers and herbs.” Excerpt from Saint Francis’ Canticle of the Sun



WORKING BEE: SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26TH

Calling for help please! At least 8 people required. Ages 12 years and up.

WORKING BEE: SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26TH

The work is mostly light.

TIME: 9.00am to 10.30am Morning tea will be provided

TASK: Putting tree and hedge cuttings on a truck.

For your own comfort and protection please **bring items such as long-sleeve shirt, hat, sunscreen, gloves, water.**

If you are able to help, please contact Kieran 0438242652. Thank you.



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LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 26TH & 27TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Ann O'Connor	Carl Moll	Stephen Brown
Senior Server	Ann O'Connor	Carl Moll	Stephen Brown
Junior Servers	Rebekah & Jude Mowbray		Sebastian & Oscar Baird, Nicholas Egan
Warden	Margaret Richards	Volunteer Please	Frank Zammit
1 st Reading	Jessica Doherty	Kevin Lloyd	Cecilia Zammit
2nd Reading	Volunteer please	Andrew Teece	Annis Nilsson
Intercession	Katy Ferris	Peter McMahon	Yvonne Scanlan
Music			Holy Light
IT Operators	Patrick Watson	Robyn Flynn	Joanne Stubbs
Gifts	Steve & Heather Lee	Rivas Family	The Young Family
Communion	Lorraine Brown Jim Barndon & Vince Dobson	Jessica Tiller & Kath Tierney	Annis Nilsson Elizabeth Rowe & Todd Stanford
Children's Liturgy	School Holidays		
Church Care	Volunteers Please		
Hospitality	Kerry Herborn– Volunteers will be needed to help on the day.		
Lawn Mowing	Rob Lennon, Bob Hanigan & Terry Downes		

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Bridget Sharp, 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:

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:

Rosina Merchant, Victorio Girenti, John Nolan, Philomena Quinn, Ethel Cornish, Eileen Gillian, Sylvia Bourke, Maria Boehm, Marie Hill, Christopher McNamara, Mary Heaver, Grace Chambers, Roch Cunningham, Mary O'Connor, Kathleen Rowe, Patricia Nagle and Patricia Nolan (McQuade).

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