

St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

The Barra

ALL SAINTS - Year A

31st October & 1st November 2026

Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14;
Psalm 23;
1 John 3:1-3;
Matthew 5:1-12

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.....

"And those who were seen dancing were thought to be insane by those who could not hear the music." -- Friedrich Nietzsche

The variety built into creation and into each of our lives by God is truly quite prodigious. On the one hand each of us is a part of the great human family established throughout the world which stretches across the millennia and on into the future. A humanity which is also called to be at one with the rest of creation too. On the other hand, we seem to have a great capacity to isolate ourselves from the greater whole and carry on as if the greater reality did not exist. We concentrate on ourselves and within that scope include our nearest and dearest. Certainly, this can help to account for the millions of different lives and lifestyles which inhabit planet Earth and we can benefit from such great variety. But isn't it strange when we become easily uncomfortable with the thoughts and practices with which we are not familiar.

Our quotation today seems to give evidence of how easily we estrange ourselves from the familiar and everyday traffic of human existence. One thing all of us holds in common is the Image of God which should hold all of us in a togetherness which this world cannot bring about. But we are unused to thinking and acting in this divine concept. We easily differentiate ourselves from others because we "don't hear the music to which they are dancing" and then conclude that there is something wrong with them or that they are just wrong to think and act in this way.

Attuning ourselves very finely to the being of others can help us to come closer to them and counteract the slovenly and counterproductive ways into which we easily slip in defending our own notions and behaviour and decrying anything different. If what is different still beats with the presence of the Blessed Trinity, then we have no need to be defensive but welcome the difference as an invitation from God to enjoy the variety of humanity and nature for our benefit in heaping thanksgiving and praise on the Almighty. No matter the differences we can all dance to the glory of God with whatever steps we like and listen closely to the music of the spheres as we do so and join together in one great dance of thanksgiving and praise.

And now it comes for the time for me to sign off.

I have been writing this column on human formation for two years now and have enjoyed sharing with you the capacity of human nature to be filled with God.

May the Lord protect each of you on your journey through life.

Farewell! ***Father John.***

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Priest: **Fr Matthew Dimian**
E-mail: matthew.dimian@parracatholic.org
Emergencies :
(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 Finbar's
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

Sunday 1st November *ALL SAINTS Year A*	**7.30am Mass** **9.30am Mass** **6.00pm All Souls Mass** 7.30pm Youth Group P/C
Monday 2nd November *All Soul's Day*	**No Morning Mass –Office is closed**
Tuesday 3rd November	**9.15am Mass** 10.00am Timeout Tuesday P/C 6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice 7.00pm Interfaith Formation Event P/C
Wednesday 4th November *St Charles Borromeo*	**9.15am Mass followed by Rosary** 9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge P/C
Thursday 5th November	**9.15am Mass** 1.00pm Bridge P/C 7.00pm RCIA Program M/R
Friday 6th November	**9.15am Mass** 10.00am Chair Yoga P/C 1.30pm Bowlers P/C
Saturday 7th November	**9.15am Mass** 4.15pm Confessions **5.30pm Vigil Mass**
Sunday 8th November *32 Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A*	**7.30am Mass** **9.30am Mass** **10.45am Baptisms** 3.00pm Sydney Chambers Choir Concert

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

The Book of Remembrance will be on permanent display on the Sanctuary during the month of November. Parishioners can add the names of any family members or loved ones who have passed to eternal life. Please do not enter any names that are already in the book.

NOVEMBER

Is the month we especially remember our departed brothers and sisters, parents and family members. Please pray for them and remember them in the Masses. Special Mass Envelopes are available on the Warden's table.

RED NOVEMBER MASS THE WEEKEND OF 21ST AND 22ND NOVEMBER 2026

Red November is an international initiative of Aid to the Church in Need. It is a day to stand up for faith and freedom; to gather and pray for those who suffer and are persecuted for their faith. Around the world, churches and public buildings will light up in red.

GENUINE DIALOGUE: A PATH TO PEACE

In a world that cries out for cohesion across our diverse communities, the Jubilee Year of St Francis deepens our Gospel call to be people of peace and fraternity.

St Finbar's welcomes Fr Patrick McInerney and members of the diocesan Interfaith Commission to share insights and reflections with us on Tuesday 3rd November 7:00-8:30PM in the Parish Centre. Fr Patrick is Director of the Columban Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations and Consultor with the Vatican Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue. Please register your interest via Juliana in the parish office secretary@stfinbars.org.au. An opportunity not to be missed!

2727 CALENDARS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE WARDEN'S TABLE

Franciscan: $9 Columban: $12

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

• Lawns & Edging • Landscaping
• Trees & Hedging • Parking Bays
• Property Care • Project Mgt

evolveme GROUNDS

Mark: 0423 257 057

☑ Fully Insured ☑ Built to your budget
☑ NDIS Provider ☑ Parishioner discount

NEPEAN VALLEY FUNERALS

Local family owned and operated

Traditional Care with Dignity & Respect
24 hrs. / 7 days



Tel: 4722 8222
info@nepeanvalleyfunerals.com.au
nepeanvalleyfunerals.com.au
Shop 4 2-6 Castlereagh Street, Penrith

FAREWELL FR JOHN AND WELCOME FR MATTHEW

As we farewell **Fr John Hogan** and thank him for his dedicated ministry and pastoral care at St Finbar's Parish over the past two years, we also warmly welcome **Fr Matthew Dimian** as our **Parish Administrator** for the next three months.

We are deeply grateful to Fr John for his faithful service, generosity, and support of our parish community. His ministry among us has been a great blessing, and we wish him every happiness, good health, and peace as he begins his retirement. Please keep Fr John in your prayers as he enters this new chapter of life.

At the same time, we extend a warm St Finbar's welcome to Fr Matthew. We thank him for his willingness to serve our parish during the coming months and look forward to sharing in his ministry, leadership, and pastoral care.

May God richly bless both Fr John and Fr Matthew: Fr John as he enjoys a well-earned retirement, and Fr Matthew as he begins his time with our parish community. We wish Fr Matthew every blessing, happiness, and success during his stay with us and pray that his time at St Finbar's will be a rewarding one for all.

Please keep both priests in your prayers. God bless them always.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS EXPLAINED

PARISH'S MONEY (includes the 2nd Collection)

Gained through the Planned Giving system, loose cash 2nd Collection, and Tap 'n' Go.

1. **PLANNED GIVING VIA DEBIT AND CREDIT CARDS**
   Most of the parish's income comes through the Planned Giving system. We no longer use an envelope donation system. This is the main source of income.
2. **The Second Collection:** *stays with the parish*
3. **Tap 'n Go Machines in the Church:** Income from this system is divided proportionally for contributions to the 1st and 2nd collections, with the greater proportion going to the 2nd collection (parish).

What is it used for?

All parish running expenses, including parish ministries e.g. Youth, SRE program; financial support for the parish priest's needs; hospitality; insurance; liturgical costs; rates, electricity & water; repairs and maintenance; wages & superannuation, office expenses including computer/photocopier costs and all other costs that occur from time to time.

SUNDAY 1ST COLLECTION – Clergy Fund

Goes entirely to the Clergy Fund to be shared across all Parramatta parishes to assist with the living expenses of priests. This includes a priest's stipend. *Therefore,* some money is returned to St Finbar's Parish to assist funding of living expenses of the parish priest, apart from his car and phone/internet usage.

The parish funds the difference.

Bateman Battersby | Complete Legal.
We invite members of the parish to take advantage of our legal services.
• Conveyancing & Property Law • Family Law
• Business & Commercial Law • Disputes & Litigation
• Wills & Deceased Estates • Criminal & Employment Law
02 4731 5899
bbcl.com.au
enquiries@bbcl.com.au

SCOTT GLEESON
Funeral Director
02 9896 3299
info@scottgleesonfunerals.com.au
www.scottgleesonfunerals.com.au
2 Fennell Street, Parramatta, NSW 2150

Turner Freeman
Lawyers Est. 1952
Turner Freeman Lawyers have been providing members of the community with outstanding legal services since 1952 in the following areas:
Personal injury claims | Wills & estate planning | Property law | Deceased estates & will disputes
Suite 4, 311 High Street Penrith NSW 2750
4729 5200
www.turnerfreeman.com.au
Gerard.Morson@turnerfreeman.com.au


LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 7TH & 8TH NOVEMBER 2026

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Jim Barndon	Carl Moll	Garry Pursehouse
Senior Server	Jim Barndon	Carl Moll	Nick McMaster & James Horner
Junior Servers	Quentin & Sophie Lynch, Emily Pawlyk		Summer & Oliver Wilson, Noah Young
Warden	Maree Roach	Ben Oxley	Patricia Murnane
1st Reading	Maureen Tulk	Peter McMahon	Richard Cutler
2nd Reading	Therese Ross	Geraldine Agahari	Frank Zammit
Intercession	Felicity Lindfield	Elizabeth Konza	Joanne Stubbs
Music	Dawn Willis		Finnie's Group
IT Operators	Juliette Lynch	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	Kim & Gwen		
Church Care	Volunteers Please		
Hospitality	Ann King, Lynne Atkinson, Daren & Liz Dukes		
Lawn Mowing	Rob Lennon, Bob Hanigan & Terry Downes		

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:
Thelma Fogarty and Monika Locke.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:
Frank Higgins, Tony Phoebus (Mark's Uncle), Tom Torrance, John Brown, Mila Svehla, Mark Bates, Chris Paine, Pat Barrett, Caroline Goosen, Noreen Taylor, Lyn Downes, Sophie Hollies, Jacqui Visser, Beryl & Stan Callaghan, Terry Stevens, 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*:**
Virginia Criswick, Charlie Psaila, Richard Formosa, Alice Cleary, Julie Young, Scott Blondahl, Kathleen Grange, Marjorie Gormly, Ian Robinson, Gerard Vanderweyer, Marie Hurley, Julia Barakat, Andrew Pallett, Patricia Hazelton, Rose Hannigan, Genevieve Donnelly, Elizabeth Rynne, Agnes Gregory, Clive McInnes, Lude Bos, Rose Hughes and Mikaela Au.

