

Finbar's Catholic Parish Glenbrook

The Barra

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

21st & 22nd November2026

Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17; Psalm 22; 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28; Matthew 25:31-46

Gospel Reflection by Fr Matthew Dimian

Christ the King

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe is the last Sunday of the liturgical calendar. The church's calendar follows the key events of salvation history. It appropriately begins with Advent, which is the anticipation of the first coming of Christ in the Incarnation. And it fittingly ends with today's solemnity Christ's second coming and glorification as Judge and eternal King as the summit of salvation history. Christ's kingship over everything, including a new Heavens and a new earth, is the goal to which all history is moving, and which is already present in some way now.

The Solemnity of Christ the King was instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925. It was an affirmation that, while many worldly powers and forces claim ultimate authority over human affairs, only Christ has the right to such a position. We must be on guard against any human ideology that makes itself the ultimate authority.

One example is the Cristero war in Mexico in the 1920s. The militantly secular Mexican government of the day amended the constitution to squash the Church's influence in society, including by a persecution of the Catholic clergy. In response, a Catholic rebel group, called the Cristeros, raised a resistance. They opposed the unjust laws and asserted their loyalty to Christ their true sovereign with their rallying cry "Viva Criso Rey!" ("Long live Christ the King!"). These were the last words of the martyr Blessed Miguel Pro, a priest who ministered undercover during the persecution and was executed for it by firing squad. St Jose Sanchez del Rio gave a similar witness. He was a fourteen-year-old young man who became a flag-bearer for the Cristeros and was captured, tortured and martyred. His captors tried to provoke him to apostatise: 'If you shout, 'Death to Christ the King' we will spare your life". José would only shout in reply, "Yo nunca voy a ceder! Viva Cristo Rey!" ("I will never give in. Long live Christ the King!").

The takeaway for us today is that we ought to give Christ full reign over each and every aspect of our lives: our thoughts, our heart, our actions, our families, our society, our past, our future, our needs, sufferings and hopes – everything to the governance of Christ! When we say, "thy Kingdom come" in the Lord's Prayer, this is what's implied. It takes a great degree of trust to surrender so much of our lives to Christ. But he is worthy and capable of taking such a role. He has proved his love for us by creating the universe for humanity to live in his paradise of joy. And when humanity strayed, he humbled himself to become one of us and to assume our fallen human nature. He is a king, therefore, who does not domineer over us his creatures but descends to lead us from beside us. And he put aside his divine glory to accept for his royal crown a wreath of thorns and the cross for his throne for love of his subjects. He has proved himself to be a conqueror of sin, death and hell by breaking through the gates of hades in his resurrection. And he has shared his infinite wealth with us by giving us the Holy Spirit making us heirs of the Kingdom of Heaven. Christ alone is worthy to be called King and Lord of the universe and to be given all our allegiance, trust, honour, glory and power. Viva Cristo Rey!

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Administrator: **Fr Matthew Dimian**
E-mail: matthew.dimian@parracatholic.org
Emergencies : 0411 783 173
(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

Baptisms

The Parish joyfully welcomes the Baptisms of

Jack Guy Kramhoft,
Amelia Maree Kramhoft,
Annabelle Lisa Duncan &
Jamie Alexander Duncan

this Sunday and warmly welcomes them 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

Sunday 22nd November *Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe*	**7.30am Mass** **9.30am Mass** 10.45am Baptisms 2.00pm Concert Committee Meeting M/R
Monday 23rd November	**No Morning Mass –Office is closed** 5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R
Tuesday 24th November *St Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions*	**9.15am Mass** 6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice 7.30pm Baptism Preparation Meeting M/R
Wednesday 25th November	**9.15am Mass followed by Rosary** 9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge P/C
Thursday 26th November	**9.15am Mass** 1.00pm Bridge P/C 3.30pm Advent group M/R 7.00pm RCIA Program M/R
Friday 27th November	**9.15am Mass** 10.00am Chair Yoga P/C 1.30pm Bowlers P/C
Saturday 28th November	**9.15am Mass** 4.15pm Confessions **5.30pm Vigil Mass**
Sunday 29th November *1st Sunday of Advent Year B*	**7.30am Mass** **9.30am Mass**

2027 CALENDARS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE WARDEN'S TABLE

Franciscan: $9 Columban: $12

RED NOVEMBER: PRAY FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS THE WEEKEND 21ST AND 22ND NOVEMBER AT ALL MASSES

Aid to the Church in Need invites all Catholics to pray, support and act for persecuted Christians throughout Red November. Register today and receive a **free prayer card** and **complimentary pair of Rosary beads**, handmade by Christians in Syria. To join us in prayer, scan the QR code, or visit rebrand.ly/RedNovemberRosary

YOUNG ADULTS ADVENT RETREAT – JOURNEY TOWARDS EUCHARIST28

Catholic Youth Parramatta invites young adults (18–35) to an Advent Retreat featuring international guest speaker Fr Patrick Briscoe OP, co-host of the *Godsplaining* podcast and confirmed speaker at the 2028 International Eucharistic Congress. Exploring the theme, "God became man so that we may become like God," the day will include talks, Mass, Confession, Eucharistic Adoration and fellowship as we prepare for Christmas and journey towards Eucharist28.

Saturday 5 December | 9:00am–2:30pm
St Finbar's Catholic Church, Glenbrook
Cost: $10 | Limited to 100 places.
Register here: CYP Advent Retreat (5 December) | Diocese of Parramatta

CAROLS IN THE PARK

Everyone is warmly invited to *Carols in the Park* on **11 December at 7.45pm in Glenbrook Park**. Hosted by the Blaxland-Glenbrook Inter-Church Group, with music from the Blue Mountains Concert Band and Mountain Youth Band, this special community event supports the Christmas Bowl Appeal. Bring a picnic rug or chair and join us for an evening of Christmas carols and fellowship under the stars. If wet, the event will be held at Glenbrook Uniting Church.

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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ST FINBAR'S PARISH CHRISTMAS CAROLS. Come and join us for a joyful evening of Christmas Carols at **St Finbar's Parish** on **Sunday, 12 December at 5:00pm**. Gather with family, friends, and fellow parishioners as we celebrate the spirit of Christmas through music, singing, and community. **Everyone is warmly invited. We look forward to celebrating with you!**

HOW WILL YOU PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR?

Advent Group offers you an opportunity to explore the message of Jesus with others, to relate it to your own experiences and thereby to express it more fully in your daily life. You are invited to join an Advent Group and to journey to Christmas with other members of our Parish Family. We meet every Thursday at 3.30 PM in the Parish Meeting Room during Advent. Dates – 26.11. 3.12. 10.12. 17.12.
If you want to join or more details contact Mila on 0402 442 561.

PRESBYTERY GARDEN WORKING BEE: SATURDAY DECEMBER 5th. Calling for help please! At least 8 people required. Ages 10 years and up. TIME: 8.30am to 11am at the latest. ***Morning tea will be provided.*** **TASK: Some weeding; apply mulch – Light Work. Bring** trowel and bucket and water to drink. **Wear** items such as long-sleeve shirt, hat, sunscreen, gloves. **If you are able to help,** ***please contact Kieran 0419246972*****. Thank you.**

THE STORY BEHIND THE NEW CROSS ABOVE THE CHURCH

I began work on the new cross in 2025 to mark several important parish milestones: the **30th anniversary of our current church**, the **60th anniversary of the parish**, and the **70th anniversary of the St Vincent de Paul Society in our parish**. Inspired by the crosses of our original **1912 church**, this Celtic-style cross connects our past and present, celebrating our faith, heritage, and the dedication of generations of parishioners. It stands as a symbol of gratitude for the past and hope for the future.
Vince Dobson

PERFECT CATHOLIC GIFTS FOR THE LITTLE ONES NOW AVAILABLE FOR SALE. We are delighted to introduce **a new range of** a beautiful faith-inspired Christmas collection designed to help children grow closer to Jesus and Mary through prayer, creativity and learning. The range includes ***The Story of Christmas for Little Hearts, The nativity mini gold tin box and the nativity puzzle 50 pieces***, more products will be available soon.



FUN SINGERS. The St Finbar's Fun Singers were established nearly 25 years ago by the late Marie Hurley who strongly believed that older people benefit from music, which is now scientifically supported. Unfortunately, the Fun Singers have lost several members due to various personal and health reasons so we are appealing to parishioners to consider using their singing skills to bring happiness and hope to our older community. We perform on every third Monday morning of the month, so can you please join us to ensure we can continue. All you require is enjoy singing various tunes, can access emails and open documents to read our monthly program and bring a smile. We need at least another three men and women to volunteer. For more information, please ring Colleen Sisson on 0448 100 005 or email colleensisson48@gmail.com

BUSHCARE GROUP GATHERING. BMC Council run a Bushcare group near the Glenbrook Lagoon (Kodala lane). This group meets monthly and it's next meeting is November 29 1.30 to 4.30pm. 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.

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We invite members of the parish to take advantage of our legal services.

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LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 28TH & 29TH NOVEMBER 2026

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Lorraine Brown	Carl Moll	Chris Barach
Senior Server	Lorraine Brown	Carl Moll	Chris Barach
Junior Servers	Elondra & Thomas Karam, Volunteer Please		Rebekah & Jude Mowbray
Warden	Mark Phoebus	Ben Oxley	Frank Fitzpatrick
1st Reading	Dawn Willis	Kevin Lloyd	Patricia Murnane
2nd Reading	Katy Ferris	Andrew Teece	Pearse Cremin
Intercession	Felicity Lindfield	Peter McMahon	Yvonne Scanlan
Music	Men's group		Claire Brown
IT Operators	Volunteer Please	Joseph Wilson	Patrick Watson
Gifts	Parishioners are	Invited to offer to	Bring up the gifts
Communion	Vince Dobson Kylie Mills Volunteer please	Jessica Tiller & Jean Di Nucci	Annissa Nilsson, Todd Stanford Irene Aligno
Children's Liturgy	Cate & Dan		
Church Care	Jeannine Ashbee, Deb Gall and Sandra Hanigan		
Hospitality	Julie Fehon, Anne Hobbs, Martin & Lyndal Rogers		

Death Notice: Amy Whiticker (daughter of Margaret and Graham Collins and long-term parishioners of St Finbar's whose five children attended St Finbar's school).

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:
Amy Whiticker, Genevieve Keoghi (Kath Tierney's sister), Dietrich Blatz (Carl Moll's Cousin), Thelma Fogarty and Monika Locke.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:
Vanessa Lawson, 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*:**
Joseph McGoldrick, Keith Trevenar, John Hennessy, Ida Brown, Marie Brooks, Myee Goymour, Raelene Baskett, Winifred Lawrence, Cecil White, Nicholas Haddock and Stephen Hutchins.

