



# Newsletter for the Parishes of St Clare and St Francis Xavier

In the care of the Franciscan Friars

## 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time July 18th, 2010—Year C

**We warmly welcome all parishioners and visitors to today's Eucharist.**

Our responses today are:

Entrance Antiphon

God himself is my help. The Lord upholds my life. I will offer you a willing sacrifice; I will praise your name, O Lord, for its goodness.

Psalm Response

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Happy are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

The Lord keeps in our minds the wonderful things he has done. He is compassion and love; he always provides for his faithful.



**This week**

*Make time this week to 'sit at the feet of the Master'. This could mean reading the Scriptures or other religious literature or listening to someone who can teach you something of the life of faith.*

**MISSION STATEMENT**

We, the people of St Francis Xavier's & St Clare's parishes, seek to live Christ-centred lives, celebrating God's presence & our faith values through worship, outreach, service, justice & hospitality.

### *Mary and Martha*

'Mary and Martha. I believe that these two women exist in each of us, vying for attention but needing to be in harmony. That is why we can become so enamored of their story. We contemplate why Christ chides Martha and feel empathy because Martha is a very real part of who we are, who we seemingly *have to be*. She was on the right track because she was, after all, the one who invited Him in, and yet misunderstood what was then expected of her. Mary, on the other hand, while seemingly presenting to us an attitude of peace and centeredness that we all aspire to, sometimes seems a bit, well, lazy. Don't we sometimes think, "Hmmm...realistically, doesn't someone *need* to get these things done?" But these women exist in Scripture for a reason.

'They are meant to show us the balance required to live as a follower of Christ. Prayer and meditation allow us to discern when we should be Martha or Mary. Both women have a lot to teach us in our lives as Catholic women. And now the Martha in me has a party to plan so that the Mary in me will be blessed by time with family and friends!'

*Commentary by Cheryl Dickow, The Integrated Catholic Life, [www.integratedcatholiclife.org/2010/05/mary-and-martha/](http://www.integratedcatholiclife.org/2010/05/mary-and-martha/)*

**A RESPONSE TO CHERYL DICKOW'S COMMENTARY ON THE GOSPEL ABOVE.**

'Thank you for this loving reminder that there is joy and holiness in being both Martha and Mary. I have been spending more time in prayer to discern where God wants me spending my time. It is so easy to allow our 'To Do' lists to be the sole driver of how we spend our time.

'As a working mother, I feel pressured to "be all I can be" at both the office and then at home. Recently, I have been inviting my 5-year-old and 9-year-old to play Monopoly when I get home from work. The dinner dishes can wait. The laundry can wait. I can certainly afford to put my Blackberry down for 90 uninterrupted minutes with my children. It is just a very small step in finding God in my most precious relationships.'

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**email:** sfxbh@celestial.com.au  
**www.scsfx.org.au**

**SFX Primary School** 9890 1108  
[www.sfxboxhill.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sfxboxhill.catholic.edu.au)

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138 Woodhouse Grove  
North Box Hill, 3129  
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This newsletter is also available on our website: [www.scsfx.org.au](http://www.scsfx.org.au)

### **READINGS FOR THIS WEEK 16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Gen 18:1-10**  
*Lord, do not bypass your servant.*  
**Col 1:24-28**  
*The mystery hidden for centuries has now been revealed to his saints.*

**Lk 10:38-42**  
*Martha took up the duties in the house. Mary chose the better part.*

**Monday**  
Micah 6:1-4,6-8; Mt 12:38-42  
**Tuesday**  
Micah 7:14-15,18-20; Mt 12:46-50  
**Wednesday**  
Jer 1:1,4-10; Mt 13:1-9  
**Thursday-St Mary Magdalene**  
Song 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-2,11-18  
**Friday**  
Jer 3:14-17; Mt 13:18-23  
**Saturday**  
Jer 7:1-11; Mt 13:24-30

**NEXT SUNDAY  
17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**Gen 18: 20-32; Col 2:12-14;  
Lk 11:1-13**

**FRIARS OF THE PARISHES**

Fr Anthoni Selvaraj ofm  
Parish Priest  
Fr Benignus Clowes ofm  
Assistant Priest  
Fr Bob Matthews ofm  
Assistant Priest

**Pastoral Associate**—Liz Clark

**SFX Parish Office Hours:**

**9.30 am to 4.30 pm**  
**Monday, Wed, Thurs, Friday**  
**Parish Secretary**— Monique Waring

**St Clare's Parish Office Hours:**

**Wednesday & Friday**  
**9.00 am—10.30 am**  
**Parish Secretary**—Dianna Hardy

**In the event of needing a priest urgently, please telephone 9890 2231 at any time of the day.**

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

*Liz Clark*  
Pat Cleary *Dianna Hardy*  
Breta Cohen *Carmel Purdey*  
Ann-Marie Diggins *Monique Waring*  
Jane D'Souza *(ex-officio)*  
Anthony Kennedy  
Peter Leonard

**Next meeting : 5 August 2010**

**LITURGY TIMES**

**St Clare's**  
**Sunday 9.00am**  
**Weekdays:**  
**Wed, Fri & Sat 9.00 am**  
**Confessions Sat 9.30—10 am**

**St Francis Xavier's**  
**Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm**  
**Sunday 8.00 am**  
**10.00am**  
**(Italian) 11.30 am**  
**5.00 pm**

**Weekdays: Mon—Fri - 12 noon**  
**Confessions:**  
**Saturday 4.00—5 .00 pm**  
**other times by appointment in either Parish**

**MARRIAGES AND BAPTISMS**

Bookings can be made with the St FX Parish Office for each Parish, and celebrated in the church requested. This is to avoid double bookings. Anyone wishing to have a child baptised should give four to six weeks notice, so that the family can be visited & parents can attend a preparation course.

**BAPTISMS**

St Francis Xavier's—  
1st and 3rd Sundays of month only,  
12.30 pm  
St Clare's—2nd Sunday, 11.30 am

<b>SUNDAY 18 JULY</b>	<b>12.30PM</b>	<b>MORNING TEA AFTER 10AM MASS (SFX) FOR LIZ CLARK</b> <b>2 BAPTISMS AT SFX</b>
<b>MONDAY 19 JULY</b>	<b>8.30AM</b>	<b>SENIOR MIXED SOCIAL TENNIS GROUP @ SFX</b> <b>(CALL JUDY REID 9878 4212 OR JUST TURN UP)</b>
	<b>10.30AM</b>	<b>FRANCIS/CLARE CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY—IN ST CLARE'S HALL (OLIVE 9878 4103, THERESE 9878 3706)</b>
	<b>4.00PM</b>	<b>CATECHETIC CLASSES AT ST CLARE'S</b>
<b>TUESDAY 20 JULY</b>	<b>12.45PM</b> <b>3.00-3.30PM</b>	<b>LEGION OF MARY (SFX PHMR)</b> <b>PRAYERS IN SFX CHURCH (SEE BELOW)</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY 21 JULY</b>	<b>8.30AM</b> <b>9AM-11AM</b>	<b>TENNIS GROUP (AS MONDAY)</b> <b>PLAYGROUP AT ST CLARE'S. CONTACT TRUDY</b> <b>FRANKENSTEINER 9899 5252.</b>
	<b>7.30PM</b>	<b>MEDITATION GROUP RECOMMENCES IN SFX PHMR</b> <b>[WILL NOW MEET ON THE 3RD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH]</b>
	<b>7.30PM</b>	<b>FIRST RECONCILIATION</b>
<b>THURSDAY 22 JULY</b>	<b>1.00PM</b> <b>7.30PM</b>	<b>AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP GROUP - BINGO AT ST CLARE'S</b> <b>FIRST RECONCILIATION</b>
<b>FRIDAY 23 JULY</b>	<b>7.30-9.00PM</b>	<b>BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP (SFX PHMR)</b>
<b>SATURDAY 24 JULY</b>	<b>9.00AM</b>	<b>PARISH WALKING GROUP. MEET AT SFX PARISH HOUSE</b>
<b>SUNDAY 25 JULY</b>	<b>10.00AM</b>	<b>PREP FAMILY MASS AT SFX</b>

**AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB**

The Autumn Friendship Club will be at St. Clare's, this week, at 1.00 pm - Simon Clark will bring some music to play for us and discuss. The following week, we will have gentle exercises with Marlene, at St. Clare's. A member has donated a small second hand TV set, which we are raffling for The East Timor appeal; (Tickets \$1.00 or three @\$2.00). The film, on Thursday, August 26, is "Second Hand Wedding", a New Zealand comedy. All parishioners and their friends are welcome at our activities. Information - Judy - 9878 4212.

**FIRST FRIDAY COLLECTION**

Thanks to all who contributed to the July First Friday collection for the Sacred Heart School at Sideia, PNG - \$257.00. It is much appreciated. (Imelda, Judy).

**FRANCIS/CLARE CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY**

**Mass on Monday 26th July**, at St Clare's Hall, Killara St. Fr David Lam will celebrate an Anointing Mass for the Francis/Care Charismatic Prayer Community at 10.30am. Commencing with Praise & Worship at 10.15am. Refreshments to follow. All parishioners are welcome to join us.

**NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL**

I offer a warm welcome back to all school families. I trust that the holiday was a restful time for all. We look forward to the celebration of the sacrament of Reconciliation next week for our Year Three children. This is a great time for the children and their families to reflect in a deeper way on what it means to be a member of the Christian community. Later in the term the Year Four children will celebrate the sacrament of Eucharist. We also look forward to the school concert, which is always a wonderful occasion for the school community. It is one of our extracurricular activities in which all members of the community participate. Our difficulty this year is that we do not have an adequate space for the children to rehearse in (due to the constraints of the building project), but most importantly the children are enjoying the experience. Preparation for the school fair on November 13th will continue. *Carmel Purdey*

**INTERFAITH DIALOGUE**

At an ecumenical service in Rockhampton in May, Fr Frank Brennan SJ quoted a recent statement by Anglican Archbishop Rowan Williams:

'A very significant part of the Christian tradition, especially the Christian mystical tradition, is the conviction that you will never have said enough about God. If God is infinite then you will never run out of things to say. And you'll never come to a place where you can say, 'All that has to be said about God has now been said'. Our speech about God brings us constantly to the edge of a mystery which is at one and the same time dark and even alarming, because it throws out all our preconceptions, and yet is also inviting, because we know it is a mystery of endless love and invitation and welcome.

'So the process of talking about faith, for Christians who've inherited that particular strand of Christian reflection, is always a process of coming to the point where you look into a mystery. Your words, you believe, are true, and yet they are not a truth that allows you to say there's no more to discover. So the Christian is engaged constantly in moving into the endless mystery, moving out from a complacent and self-defensive security in faith, in trust that the mystery that lies ahead is the mystery of welcome and love.

'In that pilgrimage, every single human life has something to contribute to our awareness because in every single human life we see something of how the infinity of God's mystery winds itself into the mystery of a human life and personality. Every human face made in the image of God—so we believe as Christians—reflects something of that mystery. Every human face is worth attending to. Every human voice is worth hearing. How much more so when you see another human face and hear another human voice directed towards God.'

**POINTS TO PONDER**

- ✦ *What causes you to 'worry & fret'? Is this a distraction from God.*
- ✦ *What happens when you do take the time to be still & attentive to the voice of God.*

**A NEW SERIES: 'MARY MACKILLOP - AN AUSTRALIAN LIKE US - NO 15**

On their way to Brisbane, Mary and companions received hospitality from Sisters of the Good Shepherd in Melbourne and the Good Samaritan in Sydney, and kindness from the Marist Fathers at the French Mission in Sydney. 'All these holy Religious (while promising lasting friendship) told me to prepare for great and heavy crosses,' Mary wrote to her mother. (6 June 1870). This was appropriate warning of the 'Brisbane Nightmare.' (Paul Gardiner SJ in *An Extraordinary Australian, Mary MacKillop*).

Provided by Sr Marie White rsj of the Sisters of St Joseph - [www.sosj.org.au](http://www.sosj.org.au). For further information, see [www.marymackillop.org.au](http://www.marymackillop.org.au) and [www.cathnews.com.au](http://www.cathnews.com.au)

**PRAYER GROUP**

Each Tuesday - 3.00-3.30pm during school term in SFX church, you are invited to join a group of school parents & parishioners as we pray for the needs & concerns of our world, our families, our parish & school.

*Parents are encouraged to arrive early for school pick up, & spend a short time in prayer.*

**FAREWELL LIZ! YOU WILL BE MISSED.**

**My corner**

By now, I feel almost fare-welled out—though I'm certainly not complaining. I have had a wonderful couple of weeks, and feel quite humbled by your generosity to me in so very many ways. Last weekend I spoke at Masses at both parishes. Someone commented that my words made them seem like the most wonderful people in the world. I had in mind something more like the Communion of Saints, really. That the people of St Clare's and St Francis Xavier's epitomise to me the faithfulness, hope, trust and joy that are the hallmarks of the Kingdom of God, but that as humans, may be slightly tinged with the odd imperfection or two. Every day is not perfect.

Every situation doesn't have the desired ending. We don't all get on together all the time. What I admire and feel very proud of, is the fact that we all strive to be the best we can be together, and in doing so, become the holy people of God.

My final 'thank you' to everyone has a touch of sadness, a sense of excitement, a dash of uncertainty, and a feeling of rightness about it. I know that God is leading me on my pilgrimage through life. I know that this part of that journey has been a gift, a blessing, an honour, though at times a somewhat steep and occasionally rocky pathway. I know too that the experiences I have had with you have helped me to become more fully who I am called to be.

You will all remain part of me in the future, not just as a happy memory, not just as a passing thought, but as beautiful people who have touched my heart and my soul.

I wish each of you every blessing for the future.

*Liz Clark, Pastoral Associate*

**NEW THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES & RECEIPTS ARE AVAILABLE IN BOTH CHURCHES. IF YOU PAY BY CREDIT CARD OR DIRECT DEBIT, PLEASE COLLECT YOUR RECEIPT TODAY.**

**PROPOSED PILGRIMAGE**

On the weekend encompassing Friday October 29—Tuesday November 2 (Melbourne Cup Weekend), a pilgrimage in honour of Blessed Mary MacKillop is planned for parishioners.

Flight to Adelaide (2 nights) & drive to Penola (2 nights). Those wishing to go should apply to the Parish Office ASAP, no later than July 23.

Early bookings mean cheaper rates!

**DO YOU KNOW OF ANYONE interested in learning more about the Catholic Church?**

- ✦ -a person married to a Catholic who doesn't know what the next step is to become Catholic?
- ✦ -your next door neighbour?
- ✦ -someone you work with?
- ✦ -your husband or wife, mother or child?
- ✦ -someone who is seeking a deeper connection in their life?
- ✦ -someone you know who seems to be just drifting along ?
- ✦ -someone who has loads of questions but can't find answers?

RCIA is the process for adults who wish to learn more about our faith.

It is offered in our parishes by a dedicated and committed team of parishioners who share their faith, their values, their love of Jesus Christ.

The character of the Church is to welcome all people, especially those searching for a deeper connection with God. Often people are not sure whether it is even God they desire to know. It can be a vague yet distinguishable yearning for something beyond one's self. At other times it is a more articulate desire to relate to, know about and to investigate God and the people who believe.

Contact the Parish Office if you would like to know more. We are also very happy to welcome any parishioners who would like to be involved in the RCIA team, planning for the coming year, welcoming inquirers, offering prayer support, making posters or sponsoring newcomers.

**ST FRANCIS XAVIER PRIMARY SCHOOL**

The School Office is open from 8.30am - 4.00pm Monday to Friday during school term. Tours of the School are held on the following dates. The tours are for approx. 1 hour. Please meet at the school office by 9.10am. Mondays @ 9.15am—19 July, 9 August, 6 September, 11 October.

**ROSTERS**

**ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S—July 25**

**Extraordinary Ministers of Communion**

6.00pm M Slevison, G Machado, T D'Andrea, J&S Arcuri  
 8.00am F Neyland, J Reid  
 10.00am A Leonard, F Fitzgerald, K de Lacy, M Blundy, V&G Mooney, G Augustin

5.00pm M T Francisco

**Ministers of the Word**

6.00pm S Hengeveld, M Rossely  
 8.00am C Gately  
 10.00am SCHOOL  
 5.00pm H Dyjak, A Netherway

**Welcomers—VOLUNTEERS PLEASE!**

If you have been rostered as a welcomer in the past, or have indicated your willingness to assist recently, we would appreciate your help with this ministry at any Mass you attend, until such time as we are able to fill a roster.

**Children's Liturgy**

July 18—16th OT—Group A

**Altar Linen**

July 18 I Balchin  
 July 25 L Sanelli

**Counters**

July 18 L&B Cohen  
 July 25 P Eng & H H Yeoh

**Collectors 5pm**

July 18 L Soulsby  
 July 25 P Aldag

**Rosary Statue**

July 18—La family, 4/1095 Whitehorse Rd  
 July 25—B&P Hine, 15 Hegend Rd, Mitcham

**ITALIAN MASS**

**Commentator**

July 18 J Adamo  
 July 25 P Grech

**Lettori**

July 18 R Bidinost, C Gibellini  
 July 25 J Adamo, C Ingresso

**Ministri dell'Eucarista**

July 18 G Massarottti, D Amato  
 July 25 M Casamento, G Tabacchiera

**ST CLARE'S—JULY 25**

**Ministers of the Word**

9.00am-J Sakowski, K McMahan, P Sakowski

**Extraordinary Ministers of Communion**

9.00am—J Murphy, A McGovern, P O'Brien, D Wolbers, I D'Amato, P Cleary, P Ciccotosto

**Piety Stall—July 25**

9.00am—P Green

*From Fr Ben*

Love all God's creation, the whole of it & every grain of sand in it. Love every leaf, every ray of God's light. Love the animals, love the plants, love everything. If you love everything, you will perceive the divine mystery in things.

*Fyodor Dostoyevsky (1821-1881)*

Every creature is a divine word because it proclaims God.

*St Bonaventure (1221-1274)*

If created things are so utterly lovely, how gloriously beautiful must the one be who made them.

*St Anthony of Padua (1195-1231)*

**We welcome all new parishioners. Please complete one of the blue forms at the back of the church, and place on collection plate/in box provided. A parish rep. will contact you to welcome you and advise you of the activities and organisations at St Francis Xavier's and St Clare's.**