



Newsletter for the Parishes of St Clare and St Francis Xavier

In the care of the Franciscan Friars

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time August 10th, 2008—Year A

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

Our responses today are:

Entrance Antiphon

Lord, be true to your covenant, forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Rise up, O God, and defend your cause, do not ignore the shouts of your enemies.

Psalm Response

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Praise the Lord, Jerusalem; he feeds you with the finest wheat.

This week

Nothing in our human experience leads us to expect that we will ever walk on water! But that is not the goal of faith. Worship is.

Try to calm the fears of others this week in your family or workplace.

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.

'Come'

God is always inviting us into a deeper relationship. In today's gospel Jesus' command to Peter "Come," is a two fold command to come to salvation but also an invitation to trust. Children who are receiving Eucharist for the first time today are called to participate in the mystery of redemption by partaking in the Supper of the Lord. Jesus is the bread of life and the cup of salvation and those who partake come to salvation and to fullness of life. God who created us is not only offering us salvation but also calling us to be his disciples. By participating in this sacrament we are posed with the challenge of commitment and faithfulness in living out the mystery of the Eucharist. We are not just saying "Amen", but yes to Jesus the Son of God, and to the teaching of Jesus and to his call of discipleship. We are called to become what we eat and drink.

God's presence and power is not manifested in the might of nature (strong wind, earthquake or fire), we hear that in the first reading from book of Kings, but in a tiny whispering sound! On the same note God's power is manifested in his saving work of his creation. Peter's story reminds us of what God is doing for us. "Lord save me", Peter cried even though he is the one who enthusiastically requested, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." We are living testimonies to the power of God working in our world and in the same way we are invited to participate in the work of salvation.

"Come", an invitation or a command to us by God, is a constant theme in the scriptures. It could be through prayer, celebration of the sacraments, relationships, service to the community or a call to repentance; this is where we truly experience the power of God working in our life. Faith is not a passive one-way relationship, it is mutual. God is always the faithful one and we are called to respond to God's love. How prepared or open are we to participate in the salvation story? Think, reflect and pray! What is God calling you to or commanding you to do, today or this week?

Fr Anthony ofm

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www.scsfx.org.au

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138 Woodhouse Grove
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This newsletter is also available on our website:
www.scsfx.org.au

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK! 19th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1 Kg 19:9, 11-13

Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord God.

Rom 9:1-5

I would willingly be condemned if it could help my people.

Mt 14:22-23

Command me to come to you over the water.

Monday—St Clare

Ezek 1:2-5, 24-28; Mt 17:22-27

Tuesday

Ezek 2:8-3:4; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

Wednesday

Ezek 9:1-7, 10:18-22; Mt 18:15-20

Thursday—St Maximilian Kolbe

Ezek 12:1-12; Mt 18:21—19:1

Friday—ASSUMPTION

Apoc 11:19, 12:1-6, 10;

1 Cor 15:20-26; Lk 1:39-56

Saturday

Ezek 18:1-10, 13, 30-32;

Mt 19:13-15

NEXT SUNDAY

20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Is 56:1, 6-7; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28

Friars of the Parishes

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

Pastoral Associate—Liz Clark

SFX Parish Office Hours are 9.30 am to 4.30 pm

Monday, Wed, Thurs, Friday
Parish Secretary— Monique Waring

St Clare's Parish Office Hours are as follows:

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 Allan *Liz Clark*
Veronika Bellis *Dianna Hardy*
Vince Fazio *Carmel Purdey*
Clare Hangan *Monique Waring*
Anthony Kennedy
Peter Leonard
Trish Nicholson (Chair)

Next meeting : September 4

Liturgy Times

St Clare's

Sunday 8.30 am, 10.30am

Weekdays:

Wed, Fri & Sat 9.05 am

Confessions Sat 9.30—10 am

St Francis Xavier's

Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm

Sunday 7.30 am

9.30am

(Italian) 11.00 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

IN THE PARISHES THIS WEEK:

Sunday 10 August	9.30am	GRADE 4 FIRST EUCHARIST
	6.00pm	MORNING TEA AFTER 9.30AM MASS, IN SFX RESOURCE AREA
		TRANSITUS OF ST CLARE, YTU COMMON ROOM, ALBION RD
Monday 11 August	8.30am	SENIOR MIXED SOCIAL TENNIS GROUP @ SFX
St Clare	10.00am	(CALL JUDY REID 9878 4212 OR JUST TURN UP) ALL WELCOME.
	4.00pm	FRANCIS/CLARE CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY @ ST CLARE'S HALL. CONTACT: THERESE 9878 3706
		CATECHETIC CLASSES AT ST CLARE'S
Tuesday 12 August	12.45pm	LEGION OF MARY @ SFX
Wednesday 13 August	8.30am	TENNIS GROUP (AS MONDAY)
	9.00am	PLAYGROUP AT ST CLARE'S SCHOOL (ENTER VIA HARRISON ST). FURTHER INFORMATION: LYNNE FOGALE 9898 2516
	12.30pm	ST CLARE'S SENIORS @ SC PARISH HOUSE
	12.30pm	FOOD AT THE BARN (ENQUIRIES: JILL KITCH 9898 7092)
	7.30pm	RCIA 2007/2008—SFX PARISH HOUSE MEETING ROOM
	7.30pm	SOCIAL COMMITTEE—SFX PARISH HOUSE DINING ROOM
Thursday 14 August	1.30pm	AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB—TEN PIN BOWLING AT FOREST HILL. BOOKINGS: MARG 9803 4973, PAT 9887 6790
St Maximilian Kolbe		NEXT WEEK: SION CONVENT ORCHESTRA.
Friday 15 August	7.30pm-9pm	BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP @ SFX PARISH HOUSE
		ASSUMPTION OF VIRGIN MARY
Saturday 16 August	9.00am	PARISH WALKING GROUP—MEET AT SFX PARISH HOUSE—
	6.00pm	ALL WELCOME!
		GRADE 4 FIRST EUCHARIST

A WYD STORY

At the end of his shift a Sydney bus driver - on his way back to the bus depot - passed a group of nuns shivering in the cold. He picked them up - then more cold pilgrims - and more again. He went out of his way to drive them all home. To show their appreciation, the pilgrims presented him with a bag of gifts. Back at the depot he found in the bag chocolate bars, scarves, bandannas, an apple, an orange, a banana, Australian souvenirs, a packet of chips, a souvenir key ring, etc. - "but the one thing that really struck me was that I found a McDonald's food voucher."

The driver commented: "Here we have pilgrims who have worked two and three jobs to muster the money to come here to see the Holy Father. They give the shirt off their back by giving their food voucher away as a gift to a bus driver who was concerned for them. What a wonderful group of people these pilgrims are! These sentiments are shared with every other driver I have spoken to over the past couple of days. Each and every one of us have said consistently, what a ray of sunshine, love and warmth descended into Sydney. I wish they could all return soon. We really love them. God bless the pilgrims in Sydney."



AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB—NEXT WEEK
AUGUST 21ST—SION CONVENT GIRLS' ORCHESTRA IN SFX HALL. DON'T MISS IT!

THE TRANSITUS OF ST CLARE will be celebrated at the YTU (Yarra Theological Union, 98 Albion Rd, Box Hill) Common Room on August 10 at 6pm. All welcome!

If anyone has taken home tea towels or aprons from the tuckshop to wash, would they please return them to the tuckshop or the parish office as soon as possible.

CATECHETIC CLASSES

There will be a Parent Meeting on Monday 25th August at 7.30pm at St Clare's.

THERE WILL BE NO CLASS ON THAT MONDAY AFTERNOON.

From Fr Ben

Why did you bring that book that I didn't want to be read to out of up for?
(HL Mencken)

Congratulations to the following children who are receiving the Sacrament of Eucharist for the first time this weekend.

Saturday 9th August	Jasmine Tisdall
Kristy Yu	Anthony Cayless
Tim Guggenheimer	Grace Blasi
Georgia Milosevic	
Andrew Xu	Sunday 10th August
Ruby O'Dea	Natalia Abraham

POINTS TO PONDER

At Mass, when we say the "Gloria", what do we think about when we say "we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory?" How do we worship these days? What do we give thanks for? Do we witness God's glory?

FAIR TRADE COFFEE FROM ETHIOPIA NOW AVAILABLE FROM SFX PARISH HOUSE

Wonderful Ethiopian Gold coffee comes to you directly from its birthplace. Legend has it that one thousand years ago the goatherd Kaldi discovered his goats prancing after eating the cherries from the coffee bush, and that the priests then consumed it to stay awake on 24-hour prayer vigils. Today the regional coffee varieties in Ethiopia are amongst the finest coffees in the world.

ethiopia.com.au brings you the Sidamo and Harar regional types – Sidamo from southern Ethiopia, Harar from the east. **Sidamo is a very smooth pleasant strong coffee. Harar is a very strong coffee, and the original mocha style, and blends superbly with Sidamo.** Fairtrade coffee is Certified Organic and Fairtrade Sidamo. Fairtrade guarantees a just return to the grower, as the grower group exports directly to overseas buyers. An additional Fairtrade Premium levy provides extra funds for socially important programs to the grower cooperatives. Fairtrade is an important way forward to assist with re-aligning trade to bring a just return for poor coffee farmers. The coffee is a mild roast.

**Fairtrade Sidamo or Harar:
250 gram ground \$7 ea**



My corner

Each semester I return to YTU with this strange mixture of dread and excitement at the beginning a new course. The dread is about the study, attending lectures at the end of a day that is long enough already, staying awake and open to new thoughts and ideas. It's about not being able to read a novel for the next 12 weeks or so, as I must concentrate on more serious things. It's about having to write essays, my own uncertainty about my abilities, fears of not measuring up, even the thought of the discipline required to keep up with things each week—setting time aside for the reading, the note taking, even to just thinking about what has happened so far.

The excitement is about new ideas, deeper understanding, the challenges I meet and the strength I find to get through them. It's about the people who will be taking the course with me—their diversity and range of experience, the things they see as important and interesting, different understandings and approaches. It's about coming to the odd "ah ah" moment, when something I've sort of known for a long time makes sense or answers a question I may have had. It's about knowing more and seeking to know more. I dread it all and in many ways, I love it all.

So, back to the books.

Liz Clark, Pastoral Associate

ADULT EDUCATION

In a bid to grow in our understanding about current church issues and teachings, we are running a small discussion group **on the second Thursday of each month** in St Francis Xavier Parish House Meeting Room.

**Next meeting: 14th August
10-11.30am
ALL WELCOME!**

**RCIA CANCELLED THIS WEEK.
RESUMES TUESDAY 19 AUGUST
@ 7.30PM IN SFX PARISH
HOUSE MEETING ROOM**

FOOD AT THE BARN

The Churches of Box Hill combine to provide a hot meal, every Wednesday, for people in the local area who are in need of support.

Ten Churches are involved in the Food at The Barn program, which operates in the Box Hill Baptist Hall in Carrington Rd. St. Francis Xavier's has a group of volunteers who are rostered once every 10 weeks to cook a meal for up to 50 people. The group meet at 9.00a.m. on a Wednesday and prepare and serve the meal and then clean up before leaving at about 3.00 p.m.

If there is anyone who would like to join or help out please contact Jill Kitch on 9898 7092 or kitch5@bigpond.net.au

The State Government (Office of Housing) have 19 Elderly Persons Units situated at No 203 Mahoneys Rd, Forest Hill. These Units are available to people on a Commonwealth Government Benefit (or Part Benefit) & are 54 years of age or older. Other conditions relate to assets & income. St Thomas' Parish, Blackburn has the right to nominate qualified tenants to be placed on a Waiting List. Interested parishioners may forward written applications to:

**The Secretary, St Thomas the Apostle Parish, PO Box 395 Blackburn 3130
Phone 9878 0818 for further information.**

**The Wurundjeri people say:
"Wominjeka Coranderrk murrnanawano"**
Welcome everyone to Coranderrk

Saturday 16 August. 11am-5pm at Coranderrk, 19 Barak Lane, Healesville. Melway 278 A 10. For the second year the public are invited to visit Coranderrk, a sacred Aboriginal site. This was a former Aboriginal reserve 1863-1948.

The day will begin at 11am with an Aboriginal ceremony. Visitors are invited to learn more of the local history, see the specially designed displays and partake in the various activities for all ages. There will be an opportunity for conversation over a cup of tea, coffee or a mug of hot soup and damper. Dress for possible wet and muddy conditions and enjoy a walk around what remains of the reserve.

ROSTERS

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S-AUGUST 17

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

6pm R Meyers, V Bellis, M O'Brien, J Morison, D Williamsz
7.30am F Neyland
9.30am E&E VDW, V&G Mooney, P&R Cussen, G Augustin
5pm L Soulsby

Ministers of the Word

6pm SCHOOL CHILDREN
7.30am J Manshon
9.30am

5pm J O'Brien, K Ooi

Welcomers

6pm SCHOOL CHILDREN
9.30am

Children's Liturgy

August 17—20th Sunday OT—Group A
August 24—21st Sunday OT—Group B

Altar Linen

August 10 Pat Hall
August 17 Faye Neyland

Counters

August 10 B&C Parsons
August 17 P McLaughlin, G Kitch

Collectors 5pm

August 10 A Cutts
August 17 L Soulsby

Rosary Statue

August 10—M&J Dodds, 6 Wellington Rd
August 17—M&B Mahoney, 15 Irvine St

ITALIAN MASS

Commentator

August 10 P Grech
August 17 G Amato

Lettori

August 10 N Pozzobon, A Lanza
August 17 R Bidinost, C Gibillini

Ministri dell'Eucarista

August 10 R Bidinost, M Salamone
August 17 C Chessari, G Massarotti

ST CLARE'S—AUGUST 17

Ministers of the Word

8.30 J Sakowski, P sakowski
10.30 M Hardy, D Hardy

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

8.30am J Murphy, D Wolbers, P Wolbers
10.30am P O'Brien, D Tan, P Ciccotosto

Piety Stall—August 17

8.30 Glass family 10.30 Farry family

Ministers to the Sick call on families during the week. If you or someone in your family is unable to come to Mass, please let us know at the office and we can arrange for a Minister to visit you at home.

Would parishioners please note that it is preferable if Mass intentions are brought to the Parish House and entered into the diary kept for intentions. This will avoid, as much as is possible, any disappointment, when 2 or more intentions are requested for the same Mass.

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.