



Newsletter for the Parishes of St Clare and St Francis Xavier

In the care of the Franciscan Friars

10th Sunday in Ordinary Time June 8th, 2008—Year A

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

**Mass of Freedom—6pm & 9.30am
(Page 197 in *As One Voice*)**

Our responses today are:

Entrance Antiphon

The Lord is my light and my salvation. Who shall frighten me? The Lord is the defender of my life. Who shall make me tremble?

Psalm Response

To the upright I will show the saving power of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

I can rely on the Lord; I can always turn to him for shelter. It was he who gave me my freedom. My God, you are always there to help me!

This week

Who are the 'outcasts' in our community, local area or in our nation today? How does today's gospel challenge your response to them? In what ways can you enter into fellowship, even in small ways, with those who are most in need of God's mercy today?

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.

WHY PRAY?

Communication is so vital for any relationship to develop. We communicate with people in many different ways and living in a modern world we are aided by all these new gadgets which make keeping in touch instant, quick, easy and cheap too. But we know communication is more than just using words, or sending messages and we are aware how important even our body language is in relating to people and being present to people.

Why pray some might ask, but how else can we relate with God? Even the apostles asked Jesus to teach them how to pray. If we desire a good relationship with God then it is important for us to put time and energy into our prayer life. Praying is not easy and requires self discipline and practice. Those who try know how difficult and challenging prayer can be and that it requires patience in waiting.

For the next few weeks I am hoping to write something on prayer for this column and if you think of something that might help others to pray better please do share your thoughts. As exercise and food are important for healthy living, so are sacraments and prayer for us as human beings who always stand in need before God.

If we see prayer as a tool to ask God for favours then the temptation is to move away from God when prayers are not answered. The challenge in a modern world of self sufficiency is to turn towards science and technology instead of prayer. And if we reduce prayer to only human development or emotional and mental well-being than we move away from a biblical understanding of God who is interested in creation and responds to cries of help. So if we believe in a personal God who is actively present to us, prayer becomes our way of addressing and communicating with God. How do you see prayer?

Does praying make a difference in your life?

Do you believe that your prayer makes a difference in our world? Our faith is tested through prayer and the kind of God that we believe in. Take time to reflect on your prayer and be aware of how and what you pray. Prayer is like a barometer that expresses what we believe about God and about our relationship with God!

Fr Anthony ofm

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Facsimile 9898 4392
email: sfxbh@celestial.com.au
www.scsfx.org.au

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www.sfxboxh@melb.catholic.edu.au

Parish of St Clare

138 Woodhouse Grove
North Box Hill, 3129
Telephone/Fax 9898 5080
email: sfxbh@celestial.com.au

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

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK 10th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Hosea 6:3-6

What I want is love, not sacrifice, says the Lord.

Rom 4:18-25

He drew strength from his faith while giving glory to God.

Mt 9:9-13

I did not come to call the just, but sinners.

Monday

1 Kg 17:1-6; Mt 5:1-12

Tuesday

1 Kg 17:7-16; Mt 5:13-16

Wednesday—St Barnabas

Acts 11:21-26, 13:1-3; Mt 10:7-13

Thursday

1 Kg 18:41-46; Mt 5:20-26

Friday—St Anthony of Padua

1 Kg 19:9, 11-16; Mt 5:27-32

Saturday

1 Kg 19:19-21; Mt 5:33-37

NEXT SUNDAY

**11th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
(Mass of the Day)**

Ex 19:2-6

Rom 5:6-11

Mt 9:36-10:8

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 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*
Trish Nicholson (Chair)

Next meeting : July 3

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 8 June	1.00pm	MORNING TEA AFTER 9.30AM MASS, IN SFX RESOURCE AREA WEDDING @ SFX
Monday 9 June	8.30am	SENIOR MIXED SOCIAL TENNIS GROUP @ SFX (CALL JUDY REID 9878 4212 OR JUST TURN UP) ALL WELCOME.
Tuesday 10 June	12.45pm	LEGION OF MARY @ SFX
Wednesday 11 June	8.30am 9.00am 12.30pm 7.30pm	TENNIS GROUP (AS MONDAY) PLAYGROUP AT ST CLARE'S SCHOOL (ENTER VIA HARRISON ST). FURTHER INFORMATION: LYNNE FOGALE 9898 2516 ST CLARE'S SENIORS @ SC PARISH HOUSE YEAR 3 RECONCILIATION PARENT NIGHT @ SFX
Thursday 12 June	10.00am 1.15pm	DISCUSSION GROUP IN SFX PARISH HOUSE MEETING ROOM AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB—PERENNIAL FASHIONS (MONT ALBERT) - WINTER STOCK AT REASONABLE PRICES.
Friday 13 June	5.00-6.30pm 7.30pm-9pm	LADIES DRINKS @ ZANTE (CNR WHITEHORSE & KANGERONG) BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP @ SFX PARISH HOUSE
Saturday 14 June	9.00am	PARISH WALKING GROUP—MEET AT SFX PARISH HOUSE

**CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF ST
ANTHONY AT THE ITALIAN MASS—
11AM ON SUNDAY JUNE 15—ALL
WELCOME!**

THEOLOGY @ THE PUB with TONY ABBOTT MP

Join other young adults for a great evening
of discussion each month Tuesday 10 June
@ 6.30pm. The Pumphouse Hotel, 128
Nicholson St., Fitzroy Cost: FREE!
Website: www.theologyatthepub.com.au
Contact: John, 0430 032 666,
john@theologyatthepub.com.au

**HELP WANTED DURING DAYS IN
THE DIOCESES (10-14 July) WHEN
OUR VISITING PILGRIMS ARE
HERE. PLEASE PHONE THE
PARISH OFFICE IF YOU CAN
HELP.**

TO ALL PARISHIONERS WHO HAVE OFFERED BILLETS RE DID08

Host families will be allocated shortly. You
should have received a package in the mail
from the DID08 office. If you have not re-
ceived anything by Friday June 13, please
ring Di at the Parish Office.

DIARY DATE: PARISH DINNER FRIDAY 10th OCTOBER AT BOX HILL GOLF CLUB

If you requested a receipt for your Project
Compassion donation, it is available for
collection from SFX Parish Office.

SUNDAY MISSALS

Do you have a spare or unused recent
Sunday Missal? We need a number of them
in the Parish Office, for the use of new RCIA
enquirers.

LIVING THE GOSPEL IN WHITEHORSE RD

*A week of presentations, conversations &
dialogue concluding with a shared meal
together. St John's Parish—Coghlan Centre,
494 Whitehorse Rd, Mitcham (Ph: 9873 1341)*

Mon 09 Jun.—(7.30pm - 9.00pm)
Speaker: **Anne Boyd** - 'Earth Song & Care for
the Environment'

Tue 10 Jun—(7.30pm - 9.00pm)
Speaker: **Fr Andy Hamilton** - Writer for Eureka
Street & Australian Catholics Magazine (who
has written widely on refugee issues).

Wed 11 Jun—(7.30pm - 9.00pm)
Speaker: **Marg Hayes** - 'Catholic HIV AIDS &
Prison Ministry'.

Thu 12 Jun—(7.30pm - 9.00pm)
Speaker: **Les Twentyman** - Social Worker &
Open Family Foundation (work with homeless &
drug affected young people).

Fri 13 Jun—(7pm)
Speaker: **Fr Bob Maguire** - outspoken South
Melbourne Parish Priest and commentator on
social issues. (Parish Buffet Meal)

DAYS IN THE DIOCESE AT SFX & SC

Thurs 10th - Billets arrive.
Fri 11th - 10.30am Morning prayer, welcome @
SC in basement followed by morning tea.
Commissioning Mass to be held at Telstra
Dome in evening.
Sat 12th - 9am Mass at St Clare's, followed by a
cooked breakfast. Followed by walk through
local area – perhaps watch a local football
game.
Sun 13th - 9.30am Family Mass @ SFX then
bring a plate in resource room.
Mon 14th - Departure.
**We have been allocated pilgrims from France,
Mexico & Venezuela—If there are any parishioners
who speak French or Spanish & who are available
on the above 3 days—your assistance would be
greatly appreciated. All parishioners are invited to
support these events & make our pilgrims feel
welcome.**

RCIA 2008-2009

Already we have a number of new enquiries from people interested in learning about the Catholic faith. We urgently need the support of all parishioners in prayer, welcoming, education and faith sharing. I would particularly appreciate hearing from any parishioners who have expertise as teachers or who have confidence and a willingness to share their faith with our new enquirers.

Liz Clark 9890 2231

ADULT EDUCATION

In a bid to grow in our understanding about current church issues and teachings, we will be commencing a small discussion group **on Thursday June 12 from 10-11.30 am** in St Francis Xavier Parish Meeting Room.

The first topic is Mission: we are called to mission through Baptism. What does this mean?

Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th or 60th wedding anniversary this year? If so, and you would like to attend this year's Annual Marriage and Family Mass, which includes receiving a commemorative certificate, please contact the Council for Marriage and Family. You can registrar with the Council on 94123342 or cmf@melbourne.catholic.org.au or P O Box 146 East Melbourne 8002 by Friday 25th of July. The Mass will be held at St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday 3rd August at 11.00 am. All couples will be invited to have group photographs after the Mass in the Cathedral grounds.

My corner

Last Thursday was World Environment Day.

I wondered whether this was a day of celebration or of mourning, given the state of our world today. I had to go to a meeting at Spotswood during the week. The view from the Westgate Bridge was entirely shrouded in fog and pollution. I was in the supermarket yesterday, and was stunned to see the number of people still using plastic bags. I heard on the news today that the people of Kiribis will have to leave their land as it is being flooded and destroyed as a result of climate changes. As I sit in my office, there is no noticeable change in the number of cars using Whitehorse Road—increased petrol costs seem to be making little difference. It's cold at night, and I give little—really no—thought to revving up the heater or popping clothes in the dryer as they haven't quite dried out during the day. And I drive to work; I see a nice shirt in a shop and 'need' to have it; I photocopy far too many articles; I certainly don't walk or bike-it when I go out visiting in the parish. As a consumer, I seem to be learning little about saving our environment. This day was no celebration but at least gave me the opportunity to reflect on what I can do to make a difference.

*Liz Clark,
Pastoral Associate*

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

I arrived with my family some 8 years ago after leaving South Africa to provide a safer future for my children in Australia.

After enrolling my children in St Clare's primary School, the family became regular attendees of Mass at St Clare's. When approached to become involved at St Clare's as a reader during Mass, I felt a greater sense of involvement as a member of the community. I was invited to become a member of the Parish Pastoral Council, and although my time is limited due to working full time, trying to complete a PhD, supporting two teenagers (Jessica is completing year 12), I have enjoyed the opportunity of developing a greater understanding and appreciation of the Parish communities at St Clare's and St Francis Xavier.

Trish Nicholson



ORDINARY TIME

After the excitement and intensity of Christmas and Easter, the Church settles into "ordinary time" before it gears up for the celebration of Advent as a preparation for the next Christmas season. Ordinary time is a time for settling into a routine of attentive and constant listening to God's word in the day to day reality of our lives, a time when, through our fidelity to the daily demands of life, we can give expression to our commitment to God. Such fidelity is mirrored in our commitment to our families, to our work and study, to our finding time for God in our daily routine, and to our readiness to keep responding to the demands of daily living.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL

The Winter Appeal takes place from May to August and raises invaluable money for those who find Winter a particularly stressful time. We are appealing for clothing, blankets & doonas from our parishioners on the above weekend. As we are now in the winter season there is always a huge demand for warm items for the poor. If you do not have any items there are envelopes located at the entrances to the church for a donation to the society. The envelopes are self explanatory & if you can assist, any donation would be greatly appreciated. Any clothing, blankets, doonas, etc, may be left at the back of the church for collection.

AN UPDATE FROM CARITAS AUSTRALIA

As of 31 May Caritas Australia has received \$6,279,020 nationally and \$993,898 from parishes & schools in the Archdiocese of Melbourne for Project Compassion. The target set for this year is \$9.7 million that will enable Caritas Australia to meet commitments towards the eradication of poverty & to further community development in the regions of Africa, Latin America, the Pacific, Asia & indigenous communities in Australia.

From Fr Ben I'm an environmentalist: most of my jokes are recycled. (David Letterman) For example, loves flies out the door when money come innuendo. (Groucho Marx)

ROSTERS

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S-JUNE 15

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

6pm M Rossely, S&J Arcuri, V Bellis, M O'Brien
7.30am S Carney
9.30am J Ting, M Sinclair, M Chan, M Mackay, I Abraham, K Fazio, M Blundy

5pm M Slevison

Ministers of the Word

6pm P Tierney, R Meyers
7.30am C Gately
9.30am K Kirwan, M Nitz
5pm L Mayne, E Umashankar

Welcomers

6pm M Rossely, S&J Arcuri
9.30am Fazio family

Children's Liturgy

June 22—12th Sunday OT—Group A
July 20—16th Sunday OT—Group B

Altar Linen

June 8 P Turner
June 15 E Vogel

Counters

June 8 B&C Parsons
June 15 P McLaughlin, G Kitch

Collectors 5pm

June 8 P Aldag
June 15 A Cutts

Rosary Statue

June 8—C Mirabella, 159 Woodhouse Gve
June 15—J Malcontenti, 127 Woodhouse Gve

ITALIAN MASS

Commentator

June 8 P Grech
June 15 G Amato

Lettori

June 8 C Chessari, A Lanza
June 15 N Amato, R Bidinost

Ministri dell'Eucarista

June 8 D Amato, G Tabbachiera
June 15 M Salamone, M Casamento

ST CLARE'S—JUNE 15

Ministers of the Word

8.30 T Nicholson, A McGovern
10.30 K McMahon, A Kenna

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

8.30am E Lim, P Wolbers, D Wolbers
10.30am P Ciccotosto, T Shallvey, D Hardy

Piety Stall—June 15

8.30 E Boyle 10.30 D Tan

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.