



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

In the care of the  
Franciscan Friars

**21st Sunday in Ordinary Time  
August 22nd, 2010—Year C**

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

Our responses today are:

Entrance Antiphon

Listen, Lord, and answer me. Save your servant who trusts in you. I call to you all day long, have mercy on me, O Lord.

Psalm Response

Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Lord, the earth is filled with your gift from heaven; man grows bread from earth, and wine to cheer his heart.



**This week**

*Make  
choices for  
the 'narrow  
door' this  
week. Don't  
take the easy  
option if you  
can be of  
service to  
others.*

**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.

**'Will there only be a few saved?'**

The response of Jesus to this question has often been interpreted in a pessimistic sense – the very opposite of the message of hope he brought to the world. Fortunately, today's biblical scholarship shows this interpretation to be mistaken. Jesus had no intention of entering into this discussion; in fact his whole purpose was to lead them beyond the exclusiveness they took for granted. He called them to identify with the generous ways of God.

The 'narrow door' does not imply that salvation is available to only a few; it refers to the conversion called for if his hearers are to accept his teaching, and thus become the people God wants them to be.

Similarly, the point of the parable of the 'locked door' is not exclusion, but the need to hurry in – the opportunity brought by Jesus is coming to an end. Only conversion from the constricted ways the nation has come to take for granted will give entrance to 'the master's house'.

*Excerpt from a homily by Fr John Thornhill SM*

**'Gates' in the Gospels**

In today's Gospel Jesus invites us to 'strive to enter through the narrow gate'!

Later on (Luke 18:25) Jesus makes a similar point when he observes that it is 'easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God' – Palestine's largest animal trying to get through the then smallest known opening.

Then in John 10:7-9 Jesus describes himself as the 'gate': 'I am the gate to the sheepfold. ... I am the gate – whoever enters through me will be saved.' It recalls his statement that 'I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.' (John 14:6)

*Erratum: Last week's front page article was written by Andrew Stringfellow in 'The Pastoral Review' (July/August 2010), © The Tablet Publishing Company Limited, not by Fr Anthoni.*

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available on our website:  
[www.scsfx.org.au](http://www.scsfx.org.au)

**READINGS FOR  
THIS WEEK  
21ST SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME**

**Is 66:18-21**

*They will gather all of your  
people from all nations.*

**Heb 12:5-7, 11-13**

*The Lord disciplines those he  
loves.*

**Lk 13:22-30**

*From East and West they will  
come to take their place in the  
kingdom of God.*

**Monday**

2Thess1:1-5, 11-12; Mt23:13-22

**Tuesday—St Bartholomew**

Apoc 21:9-14; Jn 1:45-51

**Wednesday**

2 Thess 3:6-10, 16-18; Mt 23:27-32

**Thursday**

1 Cor 1:1-9; Mt 24:42-51

**Friday—St Monica**

1 Cor 1:17-25; Mt 25:1-13

**Saturday—St Augustine**

1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 25:14-30

**NEXT SUNDAY**

**22nd SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME**

**Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29**

**Heb 12:18-19, 22-24**

**Lk 14:1, 7-14**



**A NEW SERIES: 'MARY MACKILLOP - AN AUSTRALIAN LIKE US - NO 20**

Many volumes have been written to describe and analyse the events concerning the Josephites in Adelaide, Bathurst and Brisbane. Mary knew that each Bishop desired the best for his diocese, but she insisted on central government (according to the Rule rewritten in Rome). She wanted her Sisters to be free to move across dioceses to 'do all the good they can, and never see an evil without trying how they might remedy it.'

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)

**HISTORIC DAY FOR MELBOURNE. HISTORIC MOMENT IN FITZROY.**

History will be made on 17 October 2010 when Mary MacKillop will become Australia's first canonised saint.

Mary MacKillop is a saint for all Australians, a remarkable woman who embodied heroic goodness and saintliness in an Australian way. To celebrate this historic occasion, the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne and the Sisters of St Joseph are hosting a celebration, Celebrating Australia's First Saint – Mary MacKillop, in Fitzroy on that day. All are welcome.

There is going to be a colourful and exuberant street procession, commencing mid afternoon at 2:55pm from the city end of Brunswick Street Fitzroy to the Royal Exhibition Building.

The celebrations will continue with a festival at the Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens. There will be a prayer service later in the afternoon followed by a live broadcast on big screens of Mary's canonisation in Rome.

There are more details on the website [www.cam.org.au/mackillop](http://www.cam.org.au/mackillop)

**A COMPASSIONATE HEART**

Mary MacKillop had a compassionate heart, big enough to embrace all humanity. No-one was excluded. It was one of her foundational beliefs that the compassionate love of God was available to all whom she met. As we prepare to celebrate Mary's canonisation on October 17, can we look to her example and ask ourselves if our compassionate heart is big enough to embrace all those we meet – friends, family, parishioners, colleagues and strangers? In her own words, she exhorts us: "Be kind to the poor foreigners. Remember that I was a foreigner once, and as such was never laughed at nor unkindly criticized." (1875) For more information on the canonisation of Mary MacKillop, on her life and spirituality, go to [www.marymackillop.org.au](http://www.marymackillop.org.au) and subscribe to the free fortnightly Canonisation E-News.

**CONGRATULATIONS to MARY ROSSELLY who was awarded a 'Caroline Chisholm Award' last Saturday for her contribution to the community by her many voluntary roles over many years in different organisations. Mary was nominated by a parishioner. The awards were established eight years ago by MP Anna Burke and commemorate Caroline Chisholm, (1808-1877) who is famous for her work with migrants and helped thousands find homes and jobs.**

**FEAST OF ST AUGUSTINE (354-430) SATURDAY 29 AUG**

Augustine is the most significant theologian of the Patristic era and one of the most important theologians in church history. After a time of moral laxity, he was converted at the age of 33 when hearing a child's voice singing "Tolle lege!" (Take up and read!), he began to read Scripture. He made major contributions in theology in relation to God, free will, salvation, the church, and the end times.

Two of his well known reflections are:

- ✦ 'Our hearts were made for you, O Lord, and they shall not rest until they rest in you.'
- ✦ 'Too late have I loved you, O Beauty of ancient days, yet ever new! Too late have I loved you. And behold, you were within, and I abroad, and there I searched for you. I was deformed, plunging amid those fair forms, which you have made. You were with me, but I was not with you. Things held me far from you – things which, if they were not you, were not at all. You called and shouted, and burst my deafness. You flashed and shone, and scattered my blindness. I tasted, and I hunger and thirst for you. You touched me, and I burned for your peace.'

**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'S—August 29**

**Extraordinary Ministers of Communion**

6.00pm T D'Andrea, A Leonard, J Morison, M O'Brien, E Kimmet  
 8.00am M Rossely  
 10.00am E&I Abraham, M Ferdinando, M Soulsby, M Blundy, J D'Souza, G Augustin

5.00pm P Aldag, A Netherway

**Ministers of the Word**

6.00pm R Meyers, M Rossely  
 8.00am B Reid  
 10.00am H Miller, J Tan  
 5.00pm J O'Brien, M Waring

**Welcomers**

6.00pm E Castelletti, D Paes  
 8.00am M&B Walker  
 10.00am G Augustin, J Dominic  
 5.00pm B Cohen

**Children's Liturgy**

August 29—22 Ordinary Time—Group C  
 September 5—23 Ordinary Time—Group A

**Altar Linen**

August 22 MT Francisco  
 August 29 E O'Brien

**Counters**

August 22 B&C Parsons  
 August 29 H Kerwin, M O'Connor

**Collectors 5pm**

August 22—A Cutts  
 August 29—V Mudenda

**Rosary Statue**

August 22—L&D Mayne  
 August 29—A Massarotti, 2 Linsley St, BH

**ITALIAN MASS**

**Commentator**

August 22 G Amato  
 August 29 G Tabacchiera

**Lettori**

August 22 J Adamo, C Ingrosso  
 August 29 L Ferola, S Faulisi

**Ministri dell'Eucarista**

August 22 D Amato, G Tabacchiera  
 August 29 R Bidinost, M Casamento

**ST CLARE'S—August 29**

**Ministers of the Word**

9.00am-K McMahon, P Fitzgerald, D Hardy

**Extraordinary Ministers of Communion**

9.00am—I D'Amato, J Murphy, T Shallvey, P Wolbers, D Wolbers, P Ciccotosto, +1 please

**Welcomers**

9.00am—A Kennedy, M Trentini

**Piety Stall—August 29**

9.00am—Farry family

**POINTS TO PONDER**

- ✦ *What does it mean to 'enter by the narrow door'?*
- ✦ *Do you make the most of the opportunities you have to be close to Jesus through prayer, service & living simply?*

**From Fr Ben**

Teacher discussing obstreperous child with principal: "He's from a trouble-free home, is accepted by his peer group, has a good I.Q., and no emotional disturbances. I think he's just a nasty little boy."

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.