



Newsletter for the Parishes of St Clare and St Francis Xavier

In the care of the Franciscan Friars

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time August 29th, 2010—Year C

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

Our responses today are:

Entrance Antiphon

I call to you all day long, have mercy on me, O Lord. You are good and forgiving, full of love for all who call to you.

Psalm Response

God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Take my yoke upon you; learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

O Lord, how great is the depth of the kindness which you have shown to those who love you.



This week

Offer table fellowship & share a meal with someone who would appreciate your company this week.

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.

God in your goodness you have prepared a home for the poor

Time away is always a time of conversion and growth for me. In my busy life and schedule it is a luxury to have time off, but it is so necessary to reflect and make meaning of my journey. God provided my first opportunity when I was sent to India for six months before my Solemn Profession. Through moving and living with the friars and the poor, God taught me great lessons on life, about humility, gratitude, forgiveness, generosity and salvation. In India I experienced death as part of life; we are insignificant individuals in a populated world but when in relationship and part of a community, we matter and we become someone. This constant dying and rising in Christ transforms us into a new creation, perfecting us to become more like Christ.

The material poverty of the people did not stop them from sharing the little they had with those around them. And when kindness is shown, it is remembered forever. The materially poor, most of the time, are more generous than us; they trust in the providence of God. Apart from trying to survive there is not much distraction and for them their spiritual life is so important, for it is precisely that which defines who they are.

There is something mysterious about humility. We like humble people who are non-threatening, they put us at ease and make us at home in our own skin without wearing any mask. We encounter God in them; for they can disarm us, make us honest, teach us to be open to the grace of God, help us to see our own poverty and to recognise the generosity and the gentleness of God.

I feel that to be humble we have to learn to be grateful. St Francis is a great exemplar and model for humility. In Francis we see a man who knows he is poor without God and he sees the goodness of God in creation and in all people. For St Francis all these are God's gift to us and the greatest of all the gifts we have received is God himself in Jesus Christ.

Fr Anthony ofm

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This newsletter is also available on our website:
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READINGS FOR THIS WEEK
22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29
Humble yourself and you will find favour with the Lord.
Heb 12:18-19, 22-24
You have to come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God.
Lk 14:1, 7-14
All who exalt themselves shall be humbled and all who humble themselves shall be exalted.

Monday
1 Cor 2:1-5; Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday
1 Cor 2:10-16; Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday
1 Cor 3:1-9; Lk 4:38-44
Thursday
1 Cor 3:18-23; Lk 5:1-11
Friday—St Gergory
1 Cor 4:1-5; Lk 5:33-39
Saturday
1 Cor 4:6-15; Lk 6:1-5

NEXT SUNDAY
23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Wis 9:13-18
Philemon 9-10, 12-17
Lk 14:25-33

A NEW SERIES: 'MARY MACKILLOP - AN AUSTRALIAN LIKE US - NO 21

In 1876, a Diocesan Congregation came into being in Bathurst. Having no faith in Mary MacKillop, 'a woman who had never spent one hour in religious training,' the Bishop appointed as Sister Guardian one who had been with Mary since 1868. From Brisbane, Mary ('young, sentimental, female, obstinate, colonial – and not Irish') and her authority were dismissed. From 1880 all Sisters of St Joseph left Queensland (returning under central government in 1900).

Provided by Sr Marie White rsj of the Sisters of St Joseph - www.sosj.org.au. For further information, see www.marymackillop.org.au and www.cathnews.com.au

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

"the largest ecumenical movement organised & Led by laywomen"

The World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement which brings Christians of many traditions together to observe a common day of prayer each year. Through preparation and participation in the worship service, we can come to know how our sisters of other countries, languages and cultures understand the Biblical passages in their context. The women of the World Day of Prayer Committee of Chile invite you to enter into a process that draws us into the Bible, into the context of Chile & into the real situations of our lives & communities. An 'Inspiration Day' has been arranged for Tuesday 7 September, 10am-12.30pm, at the Uniting Church Centre, 130 Collins St, Melbourne. BYO lunch to share after the gathering.

The Spring 2010 edition of **AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS** is available at the back of the Church. The edition explores the impact of new technologies on how we connect with each other, and how we can use these technologies to make a difference in the world. The article on Mia Northrop and the Vindaloo Against Violence campaign shows how today, one person's actions can have a global impact.

SFX SCHOOL FAIR—13 NOVEMBER

Our biannual fair is a major fundraising event for our school and community and a fabulous way to come together as a school community in a fun and engaging way. We also have a number of projects we are working hard to raise money for, including:

- Upgrade of fencing for the safety of our children.
- Upgrade of play equipment in an effort to encourage and support our children in the benefits of outdoor play with particular focus on developing healthy attitudes to exercise and healthy living.
- Provision for others. Over the past 3 years our parish and school has provided support to rebuild a community in East Timor, in particular a small primary school in Weberek. The P&F will be continuing this support by contributing 10% of profits from the fair to their worthwhile projects.

The Parish Pastoral Council are planning to run a raffle on Fair Day, and are calling on parishioners to donate suitable prizes. If you would like to help & think you have a suitable donation please call: Breta Cohen 9877 4693, Peter Leonard 9898 3584 or Anthony Kennedy 9658 4830.

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.

WHY WE RESIST PRAYING

'Praying is no easy matter. It demands a relationship in which you allow someone other than yourself to enter into the very center of your person, to see there what you would rather leave in darkness, and to touch there what you would rather leave untouched.

'Why would you really want to do that? Perhaps you would let the other cross your inner threshold to see something or to touch something, but to allow the other into that place where your most intimate life is shaped—that is dangerous and calls for defense.

'The resistance to praying is like the resistance of tightly clenched fists. This image shows a tension, a desire to cling tightly to yourself, a greediness which betrays fear. The hardest part of praying is letting go of our resentments, bitterness, and anger—and that means not holding back from God.' Henri Nouwen

PRAYER AS A SOURCE OF INEXHAUSTIBLE JOY

'Prayer should be the means by which I, at all times, receive all that I need, and, for this reason, be my daily refuge, my daily consolation, my daily joy, my source of rich and inexhaustible joy in life.' Saint John Chrysostom

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S—September 5

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion
6.00pm E&A Fabian, M&A O'Connor, E Colafella,
8.00am M Rossely, J Reid
10.00am K de Lacy, C Hangan, M Sinclair, V&G Mooney, M Hughes, +1
5.00pm T Parker, M T Francisco

Ministers of the Word

6.00pm M Williamsz, L Norton
8.00am B Reid
10.00am J Tan, A M Diggins
5.00pm T Parker, J Gunanayagam

Welcomers

6.00pm M&A O'Connor
8.00am M Rossely
10.00am L Lampard, S Liew
5.00pm M PLain

Children's Liturgy

September 5—23 Ordinary Time—Group A

Altar Linen

August 29 E O'Brien
September 5 J Reid

Counters

August 29 H Kerwin, M O'Connor
September 5 J Reid, M Rossely

Collectors 5pm

August 29 V Mudenda
September 5 L Soulsby

Rosary Statue

August 29—A Massarotti, 2 Linsley St, BH
September 5—S Massarotti, 1A Tyne St, BHN

ITALIAN MASS

Commentator

August 29 G Tabacchiera
September 5 D Amato

Lettori

August 29 L Ferola, S Faulisi
September 5 G Amato, C Gibellini

Ministri dell'Eucarista

August 29 R Bidinost, M Casamento
September 5 M Salamone, G Massarotti

ST CLARE'S—September 5

Ministers of the Word

9.00am-M Hardy, M Clark, D Hardy

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

9.00am—D Hardy, D Tan, P Wolbers, D Wolbers, P O'Brien, I D'Amato, H Keown

Welcomers

9.00am—H Keown, A La Scala

Piety Stall—September 5

9.00am—B Murphy

POINTS TO PONDER

✦ Do you appreciate all things while expecting nothing?

✦ What does honour mean to you?

From Fr Ben

A young married couple were having a difference. The husband explained that they had agreed to start saving, and he had to give up beer, but then he had found a receipt for \$65 that she had spent on beauty products. She said they were to make her look pretty for him. He said he thought that was what the beer was for.

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.