



Newsletter for the Parishes of St Clare and St Francis Xavier

*In the care of the
Franciscan Friars*

**23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 7th, 2008—Year A**

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

Our responses today are:

Entrance Antiphon

Lord, you are just, and the judgments
you make are right. Show mercy when
you judge me, your servant.

Psalm Response

O that today you would listen to his
voice! Harden not your hearts.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to
reconcile the world to himself; and the
Good News of reconciliation he has
entrusted to us. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Like a deer that longs for running
streams, my soul longs for you, my
God. My soul is thirsting for the living
God.

This week

When difficulties arose this week,
try the approach of the gospel:
listen, talk things through, try
gentle persuasion & aim for
reconciliation not accusation.

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.

Conflict Resolution

Many bad decisions have been made in the
name of God, religion or the Church and the
consequences of those are still being felt in
certain circumstances or by some individuals.

Today's gospel passage reminds us that
repentance, reconciliation and healing are a
reflection of the kingdom of God. Harmony
and perfection come with the kingdom of God
and, as a Christian community, we have the
gospels as our guiding values in life, but they
are also able to help us when conflicts arise.

As the body of Christ we are meant to rise
from pain and struggle caused by others.
The challenging bit in this gospel is not about
conflict resolution, but the motivation that lies
with fraternal correction. Here it is quiet
explicit that it comes from the idea that Christ
is in our midst and as the body of Christ we
are called to act with justice, charity, honesty
and integrity.

We are aware of many grievance processes
and procedures, conflict management
courses and facilitation, but not all of these
are successful. Today we hear from Jesus
himself how to go about resolving conflict and
it is clear that the responsibility is on both
sides to try to work out things for the sake of
the kingdom, and that this should be our
motivation. Not for the sake of "losing face",
or because people annoy us, or to get back at
them for hurting us. The starting point is al-
ways a personal approach, which many find
hard to deal with and so take the soft
approach of writing or sending an email rather
than confronting the person, which generally
is not a very good idea because written words
don't usually convey everything we are feeling
or thinking and this doesn't give the
opportunity for clarification or explanation.

I shudder to think that one of these days I
might read about someone close to me in the
newspapers. Consider the poor politicians,
sports people and celebrities who have lost
their personal space and come under public
scrutiny. We do hear of honour killing in
some cultures, but in our modern world we kill
people by shaming those involved. Jesus
recommends to us to take two or three others
before going to the community. How do you
resolve conflict in your family and work
environment? What is your motivation in
confronting others?

Fr Anthony ofm

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www.scsfx.org.au

St FX Primary School 9890 1108
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 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Ezek 33:7-9

*If you have not warned the
wicked man, then I will hold you
responsible for his death.*

Rom 13:8-10

Love is the fulfilment of the Law.

Mt 18:15-20

*If your brother or sister listens to
you, you will have won that
person back.*

Monday-Birth of the Virgin Mary

Micah 5:1-4 or Rom 8:28-30;
Mt 1:1-16, 18-23

Tuesday

1 Cor 6:1-11; Lk 6:12-19

Wed

1 Cor 7:25-31; Lk 6:20-26

Thursday

1 Cor 8:1-7, 11-13; Lk 6:27-28

Friday

1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-27; Lk 6:39-42

Saturday-St John Chrysostom

1 Cor 10:14-22; Lk 6:43-49

NEXT SUNDAY

TRIUMPH OF THE CROSS

Num 21:4-9; Phil 2:6-11;

Jn 3:13-17

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*
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 9.00 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 7 September	10.30am	SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR PRIESTS RETIREMENT FOUNDATION MORNING TEA AFTER 9.30AM MASS, IN SFX RESOURCE AREA FIRST EUCHARIST AT ST CLARE'S
Monday 8 September	8.30am 10.15am 4.00pm	SENIOR MIXED SOCIAL TENNIS GROUP @ SFX (CALL JUDY REID 9878 4212 OR JUST TURN UP) ALL WELCOME. MASS FOR FRANCIS/CLARE CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY IN ST CLARE'S PARISH HALL (PRAISE & WORSHIP AT 10AM) CATECHETIC CLASSES AT ST CLARE'S
Tuesday 9 September	12.45pm 7.30pm	LEGION OF MARY @ SFX RCIA ENQUIRY AT SFX PARISH HOUSE MEETING ROOM
Wednesday 10 September	8.30am 9.00am 12.30pm	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
Thursday 11 September	10-11.30am 1.30pm	ADULT EDUCATION DISCUSSION GROUP—SFX PHMR AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB—BINGO
Friday 12 September	5-6.30pm 7.30pm-9pm	LADIES DRINKS @ THE BLACKBURN HOTEL BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP @ SFX PARISH HOUSE
Saturday 13 September	9.00am	PARISH WALKING GROUP—MEET AT SFX PARISH HOUSE— ALL WELCOME!

PRIESTS RETIREMENT FOUNDATION

THE FOUNDATION CURRENTLY SUPPORTS ABOUT 100 SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE, REQUIRING FUNDING OF \$2 MILLION ANNUALLY. THE FOUNDATION WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1990 BY THE LATE ARCHBISHOP LITTLE TO PROVIDE SOCIAL WELFARE, MAINTENANCE, NECESSITIES OF LIFE & RELIEF FROM POVERTY BY MEANS OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, OR BY ANY OTHER MEANS. DIOCESAN PRIESTS CAPACITY TO PROVIDE A FINANCIALLY INDEPENDENT RETIREMENT IS LIMITED SO THE FOUNDATION'S MISSION IS THEREFORE THE MAINTENANCE OF THEIR HEALTH CARE & SECURITY IN THEIR LATER YEARS.

EAST TIMOR FUNDRAISER ECO PASTORAL PROJECT FRIENDSHIP/ FOOD/ FUN

PLEASE CONSIDER GATHERING A GROUP OF FRIENDS TOGETHER TO SHARE A MEAL AND DONATE TOWARDS OUR PARTNER PARISH'S ECO PASTORAL PROJECT. OUR AIM IS TO RAISE MONEY WHILE DEVELOPING COMMUNITY. PICK UP YOUR KIT FROM THE PARISH OFFICE OR IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES PLEASE CONTACT **VAL MOONEY ON 9898 2602.**



From Fr Ben

The concept behind the mobile phone is that you have absolutely nothing to say & you've got to talk to someone about it right now. (Jerry Seinfeld)

Please reflect on the refurbishment of the church using these simple principles before we gather as a community to reflect.

- ✦ *The Church Gathers-The body of Christ*
The environment for worship begins from outside, in the car park and the entrance. Everyone should feel welcomed; it should be a pleasant and safe experience. Even the pathways are a reminder of our pilgrimage towards God. The piazza and parish centre is to foster gatherings for the preparation for rituals; weddings, baptisms, funerals and the blessing of palms, fire and candles etc and celebrations for building community. There should be a flow between the place of worship and where the community gathers for social functions.
- ✦ *The Church Baptises*
The setting of the font and the Easter candle for baptisms of infants and adults, but also for funeral liturgies.
- ✦ *The Church Celebrates the Eucharist*
To encourage greater participation at Mass and an environment that helps to achieve this; lighting, furniture, ministry of music, audio/visual system, position of the altar and ambo etc
- ✦ *Chapels and Communion of Saints*
A reconciliation chapel for the celebration of the sacrament. Shrines/Chapels provide an opportunity and an invitation to parishioners and visitors to places for private devotional practice and common prayer.

Fr Anthoni ofm

Pease remember in your prayers the children making their First Communion today at St Clare's.

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 PHMR.

Next meeting: 11th September 10-11.30am. ALL WELCOME!

St Francis Xavier School News

The school concert was a great success. The songs were chosen by the residents of 40 Dorking Road. All the children performed beautifully. There were also a number of "super heroes" to be seen later in the evening, and an appearance by a "Bengal Lancer"! Can you guess who?

TO CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF THE VIRGIN MARY

A Morning of Rosaries

Monday 8th September
Each ¼ hour from 9.00 am
until Mass at 12 midday.

Please add your name to the list on the clip-board at the back of the Church.

My corner

Today's gospel says that if there is something wrong between two people, they should confront one another and try to work it all out. There is a little something wrong that I would like to bring to your attention. It doesn't involve everyone all the time, but probably applies to most of us at some time or other. Each of the friars have commented to me at one stage or another how off-putting it is for them to look up during the homily and find people reading the parish bulletin. They are used to seeing people yawning, looking around, playing with their children, dozing off. It seems to be just part of the way people are. But when they see they are being deliberately ignored, I imagine that it makes their blood boil. I know they find it offensive. I am well aware of the amount of time each of them spends preparing their homily—reading, discussing, praying, writing and re-writing, trying to find a modern slant, an interesting story, as well as something deeper— theological or ethical or moral - to wake up our slumbering minds. We may think we have heard it all before. We may struggle with new ideas, or old ones. We may make judgments about the friars' abilities as homilists. We probably would have no desire to be standing in their shoes. So, I ask you, please pay them the courtesy of listening—not reading—when they stand to share God's word with you.

Liz Clark, Pastoral Associate

ABORTION REFORM UPDATE

Thank you for supporting the letter-writing exercise last week. 72 letters were completed after the Masses & many more taken home. It's a great start.

Initial indications do not look good for the unborn in the Lower House. Debate begins on September 9th. But, **the potential votes appear very tight in the Upper House. We can still make a difference to help see this Bill defeated.** Details of your Upper House members are listed at the back of the newsletter (Atkinson, Dalla-Riva, Kronberg, Leane & Tee).

Some of the **crucial undecided votes** are in other regions. Please write to them as well. If you know constituents of those areas, please strongly encourage them to write. Details are on the noticeboards.

Let's keep writing & praying! For any queries, please contact Majella on 9890 3857.

The Sisters of Our Lady of Sion invite you to a day of study & exchange on the Word of God.

ISAIAH'S MESSAGE TO A PEOPLE IN EXILE - Text & Content

Sunday 19th October from 9.30am—4pm
Our Lady of Sion College, 1065 Whitehorse Rd, Box Hill. Presenters include: Paul Forgasz, Dept of Jewish Civilization, Monash University. \$20 includes Lunch. RSVP: Sr Patricia Watson pwatson@netspace.net.au or Sr Mary Lotton lotton@netspace.net.au

ECUMENICAL AND INTERFAITH COMMISSION (EIC) & AUSTRALIAN INTERCULTURAL SOCIETY (AIS) DINNER : Tuesday, 9th September, Cardinal Knox Centre (5.45 for 6pm start).
Guest speakers: Bishop Michael Putney, Chair, ACBC Bishop's Committee on Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations and Professor Ismail Albayrak of ACU.
RSVP by 1st September to David Schutz 9926 5708 orcum@melbourne.catholic.org.au

The 2008 *Rerum Novarum* lecture will be delivered by Ms Claudette Werleigh at **7.30pm on Tuesday 23rd September 2008** at the Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street East Melbourne.

Claudette Werleigh is the current Secretary General of PAX CHRISTI International. Claudette is a former Prime Minister of the Republic of Haiti. During a career that includes a period as Diplomat, extensive periods in Latin America, Asia and Africa, and Head of Caritas Haiti, Claudette has worked tirelessly for social justice. She helped found the women's league for women's empowerment. She is fluent in French, and Haitian, Creole, English and Spanish and has a good understanding of Portuguese. She is inspired by Christian values and spirituality. Claudette will speak on the topic of **"Peacebuilding Initiatives in Africa"**

BREAKFAST AT THE TUDOR

Bill Muehlenberg (www.billmuehlenberg.com) speaking on 'A New Day in Australia'.
Thursday 18th September, 7am-8.30am.
1101 Whitehorse Rd, Box Hill. Cost \$27.
RSVP Tuesday 16th September 9877 1971.

ROSTERS

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S-SEPTEMBER 14

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

6pm J Morison, M Slevison,
D Williamsz, E&A Fabian
7.30am S Carney
9.30am P&R Cussen, G Augustin, W Tan,
K Fazio, A Leonard, M Chan
5pm L Soulsby

Ministers of the Word

6pm M Jeffares, M Williamsz
7.30am J Manshon
9.30am M Nitz, E Abraham
5pm J O'Brien, E Umashankar

Welcomers

6pm M Buhler, G&J Metral
9.30am V&B Burns

Children's Liturgy

September 14—Triumph of the Cross—Gp B
October 12—28th Sunday in OT—Group C

Altar Linen

September 7 Carole Pollocks
September 14 Judy Reid

Counters

September 7 B&M Walker
September 14 R&Y Roy

Collectors 5pm

September 7 A Cutts
September 14 L Soulsby

Rosary Statue

Sept 7—S Massarotti, 1A Tyne St
Sept 14/21—Mrs M La, 4/1095 Whitehorse Rd

ITALIAN MASS

Commentator

September 7 R Bidinost
September 14 J Adamo

Lettori

September 7 L Ferola, S Faulisi
September 14 G Amato, C Gibillini

Ministri dell'Eucarista

September 7 C Chessari, M Salamone
September 14 G Tabbachiera, D Amato

ST CLARE'S—SEPTEMBER 14

Ministers of the Word

8.30 T Nicholson, A McGovern
10.30 A Kenna, M Hardy

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

8.30am J Murphy, D Wolbers, P Wolbers
10.30am D Tan T Shallvey, I D'Amato

Piety Stall—September 14

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.