

St Francis Xavier and St Clare

In the care of the Franciscans since 1975 and 1998.

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Year A ~ 4 September 2011

From the prophet Ezechiel

Ez 33:7-9

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.' The word of the Lord.

Responsory (All)

Ps 94:1-2.6-9

O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.
Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord.

Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.'

From the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Rom 13:8-10

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments. The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation (All)

2 Cor 5:19

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

From the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Mt 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector. 'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven. 'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.' The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Acclamation Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross
and Resurrection you have set us free.

Communion I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
the one who follows me will have the light of life.

PARISH OF ST FRANCIS XAVIER

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PARISH OF ST CLARE

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FRIARS OF THE PARISHES

PARISH PRIEST
FR PETER McGRATH OFM

ASSISTANT PRIESTS
FR BOB MATTHEWS OFM
FR PETER TRAN OFM

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE
SR MOIRA BRODERICK CSB

SFX Parish Office Hours:
9.30 am to 4.30 pm
Monday, Wed, Thurs, Friday
Parish Secretary— Monique Waring

St Clare's Parish Office Hours:
Wednesday & Friday
9.00 am—10.30 am
Parish Secretary—Dianna Hardy

LITURGY TIMES

St Clare's
Sunday 9.00 am
Wed, Fri & Sat 9.00 am
Confessions: Sat 9.30—10 am

St Francis Xavier's
Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm
Sunday 8.00 am
10.00am
(Italian) 11.30 am
5.00 pm
Mon—Fri 12 noon
Confessions: Sat 4.00—5.00 pm

MARRIAGES

Bookings can be made with SFX Parish Office for each Parish, and celebrated in the church requested. This is to avoid double bookings.

BAPTISMS

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.

St Francis Xavier's—
1st and 3rd Sundays of month only,
12.30 pm
St Clare's—2nd Sunday, 10.30 am

LITURGY SPOT SPECIAL!

The Liturgy of the Word—Part One

"The Church has always venerated the Divine Scriptures just as she venerates the Body of the Lord" - Vatican II DV 21.
The church today continues to remind us that when the Scriptures are proclaimed in the assembly, Christ is present in the word since it is he himself, with in and through, the Holy Spirit who speaks through them.
We, the church as a parish community are nourished at the "table of God's word and at the table of the eucharist" - from one we grow in wisdom and from the other in graced holiness—we become ONE in Christ through Word and Sacrament.
In our scriptures of our Lectionary we receive, in the word of God, the divine covenant announced. Our Old Testament first reading each week is always interconnected with our Gospel reading and in this way we hear the story of God's covenant journey with the people of Israel, the Chosen people and then Jesus of the Gospel who brings the new and everlasting covenant to us through Matthew, Mark, Luke and John's gospels. In between these two scriptures we have the Letters of St Paul, and other apostles, to keep us in the mind of our early church communities; each of these is like a "cameo" that constantly gives us reminders and directives for our faith-life in Christ, Jesus as a community, witnessing in our everyday lives.
The Scripture readings each week also have the whole community joining in, not just the lectors (readers) proclaiming the word for us—we too respond as a whole assembly with the Responsorial Psalm—we have a refrain, then verses of the psalm and conclude with the refrain repeated. If we have Cantors the verses are sung, if not we all speak the verses, and all sing the refrains.....to be continued next week Part Two.

Sr Moira, Liturgy Coordinator

SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP—Next Meeting Sunday 11th September at 11.15am—12.30pm in SFX Parish Meeting Room. Preparing for Social Justice Sunday.

PREPARATION DAY—in SFX.

The refurbishment of the church—yes it is happening. We will hold a **WORKING BEE** on Saturday 17th September from 9am. Cupboards, storage rooms etc to be sorted and cleaned out. "Many hands make light work". Please keep date free to help.

RCIA GATHERING SAT 10TH SEPTEMBER

Our RCIA is growing.....we have had some further "enquirers" to join our team and we invite parishioners also to join us on these Saturday afternoons. Sometimes as "long-time" Catholics these session of RCIA bring us new enrichment of our faith and give us new insights as we are refreshed and renewed in the company of those preparing to join with us. All Welcome. **Our next gathering is on Saturday 10th September from 4pm—5.30pm in St Francis Xavier Parish House.**

We pray for those recently deceased:

Maurice Ferns, Carmelo Aliotta, Giordano De Filippi
those whose anniversaries occur at this time: *Lester Watt; Natalie Mifsud;*
and the sick of our Parish: *Elizabeth Dwyer; Satish Suri;*

EMBER DAYS kept in the Roman Church since the 11th century, mark the beginning of each of the four seasons. Vatican Council II retained ember days in principle, but left it to bishops conferences to determine the extent and form of their observance. (The name 'ember' is similar in derivation to the Germanic 'quarter', 'quarter day'). The Australian Church observes the first Fridays of Autumn and Spring (March and September) as special days of prayer and penance, focussing on the environment, the seasons and God's providence.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK -

MON: COL 1:24-2:3; LK 6:6-11
TUES: COL2:6-15; LK 6:12-19
WED: COL 3:1-11; LK 6:20-26
THURS: BIRTHDAY OF BLESSED VIRGIN MARY MICAH 5:1-4; MT 1:1-16, 18-23
FRI: 1 TIM 1:1-2, 12-14; LK 6:39-42
SAT: 1 TIM 1:15-17; LK 6:43-49
24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SIRACH 27:30-28:7; ROM 14:7-9; MT 18:21-35

SUNDAY 4 SEPT	12.30AM	3 X BAPTISMS AT SFX FATHER'S DAY SPECIAL COLLECTION—PRIESTS RETIREMENT FOUNDATION
MONDAY 5 SEPT	8.30AM	SENIOR MIXED SOCIAL TENNIS GROUP @ SFX (CALL JUDY REID 9878 4212 OR JUST TURN UP)
	10.30AM	FRANCIS/CLARE CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP / ST CLARE'S TALKS ON THE EUCHARIST LAST SESSION
	4.00PM	CATECHETIC CLASSES AT ST CLARE'S
TUESDAY 6 SEPT	12.30PM 3.00-3.30PM	LEGION OF MARY (SFX PHMR) PARISH PRAYER GROUP IN SFX CHURCH
WEDNESDAY 7 SEPT	8.30AM	TENNIS GROUP (As MONDAY)
THURSDAY 8 SEPT	11AM	HOUR OF ROSARY - BIRTH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
	1.00PM	AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB—VAL MOONEY –SFX HALL
FRIDAY 9 SEPT	9.00-11.00AM 4PM 5-6.30PM 7.30PM	PLAYGROUP AT SFX (CLASSROOM NEXT TO OLD LI- BRARY) CHOIR PRACTICE IN SFX CHURCH LADIES DRINKS AT BOX HILL RSL BIBLE STUDY GROUP IN SFX PARISH HOUSE MEETING ROOM
SATURDAY 10 SEPT	9.00AM 4-5.30 PM	PARISH WALKING GROUP MEET AT <u>SFX PARISH HOUSE.</u> RCIA GATHERING AT SFX PARISH HOUSE
SUNDAY 11 SEPTEMBER	10AM	MORNING TEA AFTER MASS @ ST CLARES

SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP

You are invited to drop toiletries to the Parish House to be taken to the Brigidine Sisters for their asylum seeker and refugee programs.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S EAST AFRICA CRISIS APPEAL

Caritas Australia is engaged in Kenya and Somalia. Through the East Africa Crisis Appeal, you can help provide food relief, clean water and basic necessities in this time of crisis. For more information or to donate please visit www.caritas.org.au/eastafricacrisis call 1800 024 413; or post donations to GPO Box 9830 MELBOURNE VIC 3001.

EXHIBITION OF ICONS

There will be an exhibition of icons after Masses at SFX from the 9th -11th September, in the "Friars Room" adjacent to the church.



PRAYER CHAIR

The need for regular prayer, both private and liturgical, in our day to day lives was a major emphasis of Pope

Benedict's words at Randwick WYD08. To carry this forward, you might like to take home one of the yellow sheets at the back of the church, choose a favourite chair at home as your prayer-chair and place the sheet within easy reach of it. Slide into it from time to time during the coming week, take up this sheet and aided by the reflections think over again the words of the Gospel this week.

The Autumn Friendship Club has heard from Whitehorse council that our application for a grant has been successful – we will be receiving \$330.00 to help our activities. We are most grateful to the council for this. This week, in the SFX Hall, at 1 pm, Val Mooney, a parishioner, will tell us about the latest developments in the parish in Timor Leste, which our parish is involved with. We will be asking for contributions to help in this work. Next week, we will have Bingo. All parishioners, members of the Whitehorse community, and their friends, are welcome to attend our activities. Information from Judy - 9878 4212.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL

St Francis Xavier School is taking part in both the Woolworths competition and the Coles Sport for your schools competition.

From now until September 18th 2011, you can earn one point for our school for every \$10 you spend at either Woolworths or Coles (excluding the purchase of cigarettes, alcohol and gift cards).

WOOLWORTHS Points automatically appear on your shopping docket, so you have a couple of options:

1. bring those dockets to Mass and drop in the collection box at the back of the church
2. cut the number off the bottom of the docket and just drop that in the box
3. email the number to asildlawso@gmail.com to be entered in the system.

COLES

Like last year, **Coles** will be giving out vouchers to be brought to Mass and dropped in the box. **Woolworths** points can be used for educational resources including library books, classroom equipment, art & crafts materials and much, much more. **Coles** points can again be used to purchase sports equipment. Put receipts in the box at the back of the church.

ROSTERS

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S—September 11

Ministers of Communion

6.00pm G Machado, J Hickey,
D Williamsz, T D'Andrea, M Slevison
8.00am M Rossely
10.00am C Chin, V&G Mooney, K de Lacy,
M Ferdinando, M Sinclair, A Leonard

5.00pm H Dyjak, MT Francisco

Ministers of the Word

6.00pm R Meyers, S Hengeveld
8.00am C Gately
10.00am K Kirwan, M Kirwan
5.00pm T Parker, M Waring

Welcomers

6.00pm D&M Williamsz
8.00am M&B Walker
10.00am A Galli, M Lampard

Altar Linen

September 4 J Reid

Counters

September 4 B&M Walker
September 11 P Eng & H H Yeoh

Rosary Statue

September 4—S Massarotti, 1A Tyne St
September 11—La Family 4/1095
Whitehorse Road

ITALIAN MASS

Commentator

September 4 G Amato
September 11 G Tabbachiera

Lettori

September 4 G Tabacchiera, G Amato
September 11 A Lanza, L Ferola

Ministri dell'Eucarista

September 4 G Massarotti, D Amato
September 11 G Tabacchiera, R Bidinost

ST CLARE'S—September 11

Ministers of the Word

M Hardy, M Clark, C Hardy
Ministers of Communion
D Hardy, P Cleary, A Kennedy, E Lim,
J Murphy, H Keown, D Tan

Welcomers—September 11

P Cleary & A Kennedy

Piety Stall—September 11

Pauline Green

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Pat Cleary	Peter Leonard
Breta Cohen	John O'Brien
Ann-Marie Diggins	Annie Setiawan
Jane D'Souza	Dianna Hardy
Maurice Ferdinando	Carmel Purdey
Anthony Kennedy	Monique Waring
Sr Moira Broderick	(ex-officio)

This newsletter is also available on our website:

www.scsfx.org.au

Many thanks to all who contributed \$203.40 to the August First Friday collection for the Sacred Heart Mission School in Sideia, PNG. The total collected during the 2010-2011 financial year was \$2247.05. This money goes to a fund, which enables children from villages on outlying islands to attend school, where they might otherwise miss out, as the families are very poor and work is difficult to find. Imelda, Ivan, Judy.