



Newsletter for the Parishes of St Clare and St Francis Xavier

In the care of the Franciscan Friars

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time October 3rd, 2010—Year C

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

Our responses today are:

Entrance Antiphon

O Lord, you have given everything its place in the world, and no one can make it otherwise. For it is your creation, the heavens and the earth and the stars: you are the Lord of all.

Psalm Response

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! The word of the Lord stands for ever; it is the word given to you, the Good News. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to those who are searching for his love.



This week

Perform as many small acts of service as you can 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.

FEAST OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

A fanatic is defined in the Oxford Dictionary as "a person filled with excessive and mistaken enthusiasm, esp in religion".

St Francis of Assisi (1182-1226) satisfies that definition almost completely: his "enthusiasm" was not "mistaken".

Some of the reasons for his long-standing and widespread fame and attraction are well set in history.

1. St Francis was the first person in Christian history to choose to embrace the Gospel in the total way that Christ presented it in his life on earth, and he lived it that way till his death. Two years before his death, he received the stigmata.
2. St Francis introduced and formalised, with Papal approval, a special kind of vowed religious life, which the world had never seen before, an alternative to the life of a monk or nun in a monastery. Francis wanted the friars minor to observe the Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ: devoted to deep prayer, working among the people, pilgrims on the move, having nothing, meeting the needs of others as the needs arose. The subsequent growth of various religious orders and congregations in the Catholic Church dates back to St Francis and his contemporary St Dominic (1170-1221).
3. The world of St Francis' day had inherited a spirituality greatly influenced by ancient Greek philosophy. For instance, it had come to be assumed that some kind of despising of the world was an essential Christian attitude, especially for people who had professed the vows of religious life. St Francis turned this obviously-ambiguous view all around the other way. Perhaps his fame is most popularly related to his love of the world and of all God's creation. "All creatures of Our God and King" is a version of St Francis' "Canticle of the Creatures".
4. The other half of the Franciscan phenomenon in the world was provided by St Clare (1193-1253) – the Poor Clares.

Fr Ben OFM



Most High, glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my heart and give me true faith, certain hope, and perfect charity, sense and knowledge, Lord, that I may carry out Your holy and true command. Amen.

St Francis of Assisi

Parish of St Francis Xavier
1087 Whitehorse Road
Box Hill 3128
Telephone 9890 2231
Facsimile 9898 4392
email: sfxbh@celestial.com.au
www.scsfx.org.au

SFX Primary School 9890 1108
www.sfxboxhill.catholic.edu.au

Parish of St Clare
138 Woodhouse Grove
North Box Hill, 3129
Telephone 9898 5080
email: sfxbh@celestial.com.au

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

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK 27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Hab 1:2-3, 2:2-4

The just will live by faithfulness.

2 Tim 1:6-8, 13-14

Never be ashamed of witnessing the Lord.

Lk 17:5-10

If you had faith!

Monday—St Francis of Assisi

Gal 1:6-12; Lk 10:25-37

Tuesday

Gal 1:13-24; Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday

Gal 2:1-2, 7-14; Lk 11:1-4

Thursday -

Our Lady of the Rosary

Gal 3:1-5; Lk 11:5-13

Friday

Gal 3:7-14; Lk 11:15-26

Saturday

Gal 3:22-29; Lk 11:27-28

NEXT SUNDAY 28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2kG 5:14-17;

2 Tim 2:8-13;

Lk 17:11-19

FRIARS OF THE PARISHES

Fr Anthoni Selvaraj ofm
Parish Priest
Fr Benignus Clowes ofm
Assistant Priest
Fr Bob Matthews ofm
Assistant Priest

Pastoral Assistant—

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

In the event of needing a priest urgently, please telephone 9890 2231 at any time of the day.

SUNDAY 3 OCTOBER	12.30PM 7.30PM	BAPTISM AT SFX TRANSITUS OF ST FRANCIS AT YTU (STUDY CENTRE)
MONDAY 4 OCTOBER	8.30AM 10.30AM	SENIOR MIXED SOCIAL TENNIS GROUP @ SFX (CALL JUDY REID 9878 4212 OR JUST TURN UP) SCHOOL TERM 4 BEGINS FRANCIS/CLARE CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY—AT ST CLARE'S HALL (OLIVE 9878 4103, THERESE 9878 3706)
TUESDAY 5 OCTOBER	12.45PM 3.00-3.30PM	LEGION OF MARY (SFX PHMR) PRAYERS IN SFX CHURCH
WEDNESDAY 6 OCTOBER	8.30AM 9-11AM 12.30PM	TENNIS GROUP (AS MONDAY) PLAYGROUP AT ST CLARE'S. CONTACT TRUDY FRANKENSTEINER 9899 5252 FOOD AT THE BARN
THURSDAY 7 OCTOBER	1.00PM 7.30PM	AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP GROUP—BINGO IN SFX HALL PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
FRIDAY 8 OCTOBER	5.00-6.30PM 7.30-9.00PM	LADIES DRINKS AT BOX HILL RSL BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP (SFX PHMR)
SATURDAY 9 OCTOBER	9.00AM	PARISH WALKING GROUP. MEET AT SFX PARISH HOUSE
SUNDAY 10 OCTOBER	AFTER 9AM MASS 11.30AM	SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR LORD MAYOR'S APPEAL MORNING TEA AT ST CLARE'S 2 BAPTISMS AT ST CLARE'S

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Pat Cleary *Dianna Hardy*
Breta Cohen *Carmel Purdey*
Ann-Marie Diggins
Jane D'Souza *Monique Waring*
Anthony Kennedy *(ex-officio)*
Peter Leonard

Next meeting : 7 October 2010

LITURGY TIMES

St Clare's

Sunday 9.00am
Weekdays:
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

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



TRANSITUS OF ST FRANCIS

All welcome to the Transitus of St Francis at Yarra Theological Union (Study Centre), 98 Albion Rd, at 7.30pm **TODAY Sunday 3rd October.**

SUNDAY MORNING TEA AT SFX

As the parish/school hall is now ready for use, Father Anthoni would like to revive the tradition of morning tea after the 10am Mass on Sunday mornings. Father would like some more volunteers to help make up a new roster. Perhaps there are some families who would like to become involved in this way? Please let the Parish Office know as soon as possible if you would like to be part of this Ministry of Hospitality.

AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Resumes this Thursday 7th October with BINGO in SFX Hall. All welcome. Inquiries: Judy 9878 4212

Many thanks to all who contributed \$199.75 to the **SEPTEMBER FIRST FRIDAY** collection for the Sacred Heart School in Sideia, PNG. This money helps the school to educate the local children. (Imelda, Ivan, Judy).

THE PPC NEEDS YOU!

Due to the positive feed back and as part of the Strategic Plan to improve communication between the Parish Pastoral Council and St Francis Xavier and St Clare's it is proposed that the Box Hill Buzz will be continued for the next few years. To ensure this communication continues to occur, parishioners with reasonable computer/publishing skills are asked to consider helping with the quarterly production of the Box Hill Buzz. For further information please contact Anthony Kennedy on 0411 121 509.

BOX HILL BUZZ

The September edition of the Box Hill Buzz is now available in the churches. In this edition you will see some photographs from the AGM held on 30 May 2010 at St Clare's. At the meeting the Parish Pastoral Council reported back on the previous year but also presented the Parishes with its plan to see the Parishes moving forward in the future with a comprehensive strategic plan focussing particularly on the areas of Parish life the Council considered would most enrich and enhance the life of our Parishes. You can also read about the enthusiastic Walking Group that meets every Saturday. There is a report on the life of Bob Lane who had a very long association with St Clare's and a report on how the Berengarra School is giving the facilities at St Clare's a new lease of life.

MARCH FOR THE BABIES

October 10 is the second anniversary of the passing of the horrendous bill to make abortion legal in Victoria, from conception to full term. It is very important to remind the community that many people still believe that abortion at any time is quite wrong and that there are alternatives. Many people worrying about a "problem" pregnancy or distressed following an abortion, have no idea that there is help available. Pro Life groups in Victoria are organising a March, to raise community awareness of the whole issue. Please, consider whether you can spare a few hours to show your support:- Saturday, October 9, at 2.00 pm, commencing at the Treasury Gardens, cnr Spring St. and Wellington Pde (Melway 1F R12) and finishing at Parliament House. marchforthebabies.org.au
FOR LIFE, HOPE AND FREEDOM, WE SHALL OVERCOME

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

Once again the Helpers of God's Precious Infants are holding a prayer vigil over 40 days – see details on back of bulletin.



A NEW SERIES: 'MARY MACKILLOP - AN AUSTRALIAN LIKE US - NO 26

Julian Tenison Woods was Mary's friend and Spiritual Director from Penola times, but she was prepared to challenge him who, influenced by pietistic mysticism, believed it was acceptable for a Sister to spend more time in prayer even at the expense of her work. Mary prayed earnestly and long, but believed that prayer was a support for work. As a practical mystic she wrote, 'There where you are, you will find God.' (1871).

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

MACKILLOP! Australia's newest musical *MacKillop* will play in Melbourne from 23-24 October. With a cast & orchestra of over 100 people this will be a truly spectacular celebration of Australia's first saint. Full performance dates are 23rd Oct (3pm), 23rd Oct (7.30pm), 24th Oct (1pm), BESEN CENTRE (87-89 Station St, Burwood). Tickets are available from \$35 (for groups of 7+) www.mackillloptickets.org or Ph. 0424 648 034.

UPDATE. CELEBRATING AUSTRALIA'S FIRST SAINT MARY MACKILLOP
ON LINE RESERVATION OF TICKETS FOR THE PRAYER SERVICE AT ROYAL EXHIBITION BUILDING
It is now possible to request reservation of tickets for the prayer service on line at www.cam.org.au/mackillop

From Around the Corner

Fr Anthoni has succumbed to pressure and generously invited me to continue my column from afar, until Christmas.

I've missed you all, and can hardly believe I have been gone for eleven weeks already.

What on earth have I been doing?

We sold our house, eventually began the renovations at Anglesea, and started to pack and sort - a never-ending task it seems. I am now the favourite visitor at the Op shops in Mont Albert and in Anglesea. *Where did all that stuff come from?* My plans for retirement included more time for thinking and praying and being, but the reality seems to be all about doing. Our house will not be ready for us to move our furniture into, so most things will go into storage, and we will be living in the one habitable room for a while.

I think this will be an important time for me, as I will have to look at living simply, managing with the bare basics, and working out what is necessary and what is not, while I watch our house slowly being transformed into all we had been hoping for. I feel that we have done little but spend money as we complete a new kitchen and bathroom, new wiring, new plumbing etc, and am concerned that I am losing the Franciscan spirit. It is timely that we settle the house on the feast of St Francis—if I can concentrate on simplicity, respect for life, God's place in each day, I will be able to make this a positive experience. Happy feast day to all the Franciscans.

- Liz Clark

STAGES OF SPIRITUALITY - STAGE 1

'Our spiritual struggles change as we age and go through life. The struggles of youth are not necessarily the struggles of mid-life and beyond. Maturity is developmental. Different things are asked of us as we move through life. This is also true for spirituality and discipleship.

'Drawing upon the insights of John of the Cross, I would submit that there are three fundamental stages to our spiritual lives, three levels of discipleship.

'The first level, which John of the Cross calls the dark night of the senses, might aptly be called Essential Discipleship. In essence, this is the struggle to get our lives together. This struggle begins really at birth but becomes more our own individual struggle when we reach puberty and begin to be driven by powerful inner forces to separate ourselves from our families so as to create a life and a home of our own. During this time we struggle to find ourselves, to get our lives together, to create a new home for ourselves. This can take years and might never be achieved.

'But, for most people, there comes a time when this is essentially achieved, when there is a sense of being at home again, when the major questions of life are no longer: Who am I? What will I do with my life? Who loves me? Who will marry me? Where should I live? What should I do? At some point, most of us find a place beyond these questions.'

- Excerpts from an article by Fr Ronald Rolheiser - Stage 2 next week.

GOOD SHEPHERD TRADING CIRCLE AT SFX Goods for sale after 6pm Mass on

Saturday 30th & on Sunday 31st October.
The Good Shepherd Trading Circle supports women's micro-enterprises in Africa, Asian & Latin American countries by marketing their products. The women work in 'women-friendly' environments & receive a fair price for their work. A wide range of quality products is available for sale including bags, cards, soft toys & many other gift items. In addition, a large selection of Christmas items is also available. Come along & do some early Christmas shopping, while at the same time showing solidarity with women struggling against poverty & oppression.
Volunteers required to help set up on Saturday & to man the stall on both Saturday & Sunday. Please call the Parish Office if you can help.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL

Official Opening of Buildings

The Blessing and Opening will be on Friday October 15 at 2.00pm in the hall. Bishop Les Tomlinson will bless the buildings and Ms Anna Burke MP will open them. On Sunday October 17 the 10.00am Mass will be a mass of celebration for the parish. It will be followed by an inspection of new classrooms for parishioners & a barbecue lunch.

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S—October 10

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

6.00pm M Slevison, G Machado, T D'Andrea, J Hickey, J Wells
8.00am M Rossely
10.00am A Leonard, K de Lacy, M Blundy, V&G Mooney, G Augustin, D Stephens

5.00pm A Large

Ministers of the Word

6.00pm L Norton, S Hengeveld
8.00am C Gately
10.00am P Fitzgerald, L Hughes
5.00pm H Dyjak, T Parker

Welcomers

6.00pm G Machado, D Paes
8.00am M&B Walker
10.00am E&E VDW, A Galli
5.00pm J Dominic

Children's Liturgy

October 10—28 Ordinary Time—Group B
October 24—30 Ordinary Time—Group C

Altar Linen

October 3 W Tan
October 10 E Vogel

Counters

October 3 P Eng & H H Yeoh
October 10 R&Y Roy

Collectors 5pm

October 3 P Aldag
October 10 A Cutts

Rosary Statue

October 3—M Curmi, 19 William St
October 10—P&M Poropat, 10 William St

ITALIAN MASS

Commentator

October 3 G Amato
October 10 G Tabacchiera

Lettori

October 3 C Gibellini, P Grech
October 10 N Pozzobon, J Amato

Ministri dell'Eucarista

October 3 R Bidinost, G Tabacchiera
October 10 M Casamento, M Salamone

ST CLARE'S—October 10

Ministers of the Word

9.00am—J Sakowski, M Clark, A McGovern
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

9.00am—P O'Brien, T Shallvey, T Nicholson, H Keown, P Cleary, J Murphy, P Ciccotosto

Welcomers

9.00am—M Boulton, E Sakowski

Piety Stall—October 10

9.00am—Glass family

POINTS TO PONDER

- ✦ 'Lord, increase my faith'. What more can you do to nurture your faith?
- ✦ 'We are merely servants'. How is God calling you to serve?
- ✦ What do you see as your duty?

From Fr Ben -

St Francis of Assisi (1182-1226) told his friars that they had to preach the Gospel, sometimes using words.

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.