



Newsletter for the Parishes of St Clare and St Francis Xavier

*In the care of the
Franciscan Friars*

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time October 12th, 2008—Year A

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

Our responses today are:

Entrance Antiphon

If you, O Lord, laid bare our guilt, who could endure it? But you are forgiving, God of Israel.

Psalm Response

I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

The rich suffer want and go hungry, but nothing shall be lacking to those who fear the Lord.

This week

Be aware this week of how you respond to invitations. Issue an invitation to others and share hospitality with them.

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Social Justice Sunday Statement 2008 is available at www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/

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.

"FRANCIS REBUILD MY CHURCH"

You waited for a few months before my arrival in Box Hill; by the time I arrived there was no official welcome but parishioners and different groups in the parish did warmly welcome me and made me feel at home, and that was a six and half years ago.

On Thursday I celebrated my ninth ordination anniversary. Eight of these years have been spent in Australia. Box Hill and Box Hill North will have a special place in my life because these were my formative years in ministry. You embraced me and together we did some good things in our parishes. Some of them went really well and others still need some fine tuning and there have been a few failures too which became learning for me.

I am grateful to you for the way you accepted me and helped me to be part of this community. Some of you were very protective of me, others care for me and shower me with kindness, and many continue to affirm me. Some offer helpful gentle reminders, a few advice and enough challenges to keep me alert. I am also grateful to the school and parish staff for their commitment to this environment and their generosity; I enjoy working here in a team with all of you. I am actually looking forward to next year celebrating my fortieth birthday and tenth anniversary of ordination, not because of their significance but more as a statement reminding me of the next stage in my life as a Franciscan. I have received so much and I am seeking and asking God where to from here.

Why am I telling you this? In the hope that we will not be complacent but continue to seek God's way in building his kingdom. There are a few areas in which I think as a community we need to grow and I invite you to join me in this journey. I arrived late, but I hope I wouldn't overstay my welcome... instead of building God's kingdom we might all be carving a comfortable niche for ourselves. This is not a warning but an encouragement to you to join in more. *Of Francis himself, Thomas of Celano, his first biographer remarked that he was always new, always fresh and always eager to begin again. That freshness of Spirit he has passed on to us as a precious heritage to be shared and imitated.* *Fr Anthony ofm*

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.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

Newsletter also available at:
www.scsfx.org.au

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK 28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Is 25: 6-10

The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.

Phil 4: 12-14, 19-20

I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.

Mt 22: 1-14

Whomsoever you find incite to the wedding.

Monday

Gal 4: 22-24, 26-27, 31-5:1;
Lk 11: 29-32

Tuesday

Gal 5:1-6; Lk 11: 37-41

Wednesday—St Teresa of Jesus

Gal 5:18-25; Lk 11: 42-46

Thursday

Eph 1:1-10; Lk 11: 47-54

Friday—St Ignatius of Antioch

Eph 1: 11-14; Lk 12: 1-7

Saturday—St Luke

2 Tim 4: 10-17; Lk 10: 1-9

NEXT SUNDAY

29th SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

Is 45: 1, 4-6;

1 Thess 1: 1-5;

Mt 22: 15-21

28th SUNDAY

Friars of the Parishes

Fr Anthony 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 : November 6

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 12 October | | LORD MAYOR'S APPEAL SECULAR FRANCISCAN PROMOTION AFTER 9.30 MASS MORNING TEA AFTER 9.30AM MASS, IN SFX RESOURCE AREA |
| Monday 13 October | 8.30am 10.00am | SENIOR MIXED SOCIAL TENNIS GROUP @ SFX (CALL JUDY REID 9878 4212 OR JUST TURN UP) ALL WELCOME. FRANCIS/CLARE CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY @ ST CLARE'S PARISH HALL (ENQUIRIES: OLIVE 9878 4103, THERESE 9878 3706) |
| Tuesday 14 October | 12.45pm 7.30pm | LEGION OF MARY @ SFX RCIA ENQUIRY—SFX PARISH HOUSE MEETING ROOM |
| Wednesday 15 October | 8.30am 9.00am 12.30pm | TENNIS GROUP (AS MONDAY) PLAYGROUP AT ST CLARE'S SCHOOL. (ENTER VIA HARRISON ST) FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: LYNNE FOGALE 9898 2516 ST CLARE'S SENIORS @ SC PARISH HOUSE |
| Thursday 16 October | 1.30pm 7.30pm | AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB—CHAT & CHEW—GAMES-CRAFT CHILDREN'S LITURGY MEETING (SFX PHMR) |
| Friday 17 October | 7.30pm-9pm | BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP @ SFX PARISH HOUSE |
| Saturday 18 October | 9.00am | PARISH WALKING GROUP—MEET AT SFX PARISH HOUSE— ALL WELCOME! |

REFURBISHMENT & MAINTENANCE OF SFX CHURCH

FR ANTHONI WOULD LIKE TO THANK THOSE PARISHIONERS WHO ATTENDED THE MEETING ON SUNDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER. THANK YOU ALSO TO THOSE WHO WROTE TO HIM WITH SUGGESTIONS & CONCERNS. FATHER HAS MET WITH THE FINANCE COMMITTEE THIS WEEK, AND PLANS TO MEET WITH THE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE IN THE COMING WEEK. A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO PAUL DALZIEL FOR SEEING TO THE REPAIR OF THE SFX CHURCH BELL. A STONEMASON HAS BEEN ENGAGED & WILL BEGIN WORK SHORTLY.

FATHER ATTENDED THE FIRST SITE MEETING FOR THE SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT. SO FAR ALL IS GOING ACCORDING TO PLAN. THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN 130 WORKING DAYS.

EAST TIMOR FUNDRAISER ECO PASTORAL PROJECT FRIENDSHIP/ FOOD/ FUN

IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY BEEN INVOLVED, WOULD YOU PLEASE CONSIDER HOSTING A GROUP TO SHARE A MEAL & RAISE SOME MONEY?

PICK UP YOUR KIT FROM THE PARISH OFFICE OR IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES PLEASE CONTACT **VAL MOONEY ON 9898 2602.**

If your marriage has ended, you may find **Centacare's Tabor™ Journey** helpful. This program is designed for those who are grieving the end of their marriage or who are still feeling the hurt, anger or sadness. Participants may still be feeling restless or perhaps just feeling lost, or they may not have quite found themselves again. For further information phone 03 5221 7055. The last program for 2008 begins on 31 October with a live-in-weekend at Templestowe. Bookings are essential and places are limited so please book early.

JOIN US FOR THE "GAAYIP (COME TOGETHER) WALK AND PICNIC"

Blackburn Lake Sunday Nov 9th 12noon-4pm. (Mel 48 B 11) Feb 13th marked a turning point for our nation. Whitehorse Friends for Reconciliation are providing a rich opportunity for us at the local level to help take the necessary further steps forward. Come and enjoy a brief walk around the lake, have a chat with members of the stolen generations and enjoy an Indigenous BBQ or BYO picnic. Enquires Howard 98982514

howardtankey@iprimus.com.au

After the Apology many steps by many people.

VIITH INTERNATIONAL ABRAHAM CONFERENCE

"After sorrow: reconciliation, responsibility & Abrahamic traditions"

Sunday October 19 - 7.00-9.00pm

Australian Catholic University Central Hall, 22-24 Brunswick St Fitzroy . Cost: Free
Keynote speaker Pat Dodson; responders Mark Leibler AC and Zuleyha Keskin.
Further information: Osman Orka 9326 2177

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

From Fr Ben

I always side with the underdog. He (she) has my sympathy. For 9 times out of 10 I find The underdog is me.

(thanks to Margaret Curmi)

RCIA RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

For the past few weeks, the RCIA team has gathered with our new inquirers to begin the process of introducing them to our faith. It is exciting once again to have two people interested in finding out who we are as a Church, what we do, what we believe. They are enthusiastically moving towards the first stage of this process—the Rite of Acceptance. If you can cast your mind back to Easter this year, you may remember how exciting it was to have our new Catholics baptised and welcomed into the Church. If you would like to be part of our team, you would be most welcome to attend any Tuesday evening at 7.30 in the Parish House. In the meantime, please keep our inquirers in your prayers.

OUR LADY OF SION COLLEGE OPEN DAY
October 29th, 2.30pm to 6.30pm

The Principal, staff and students invite you to Our Lady of Sion College Open Day 2008. Come and experience first hand our diverse curriculum opportunities by seeing classes in action!

www.sion.melb.catholic.edu.au
03 9890 9097
1065 Whitehorse Road Box Hill Vic 3128

Enrolment closing date for Year 7 2010 is Friday 27th February 2009

My corner

When I was a little girl I read a story I really liked about a family who had planned a picnic day but when they woke in the morning, it was raining. They were so disappointed. They had a wonderful supply of food ready (food I only dreamed about) and all the plans were in place. Now what would they do? Then the maid suggested that they should watch out the window, and if a patch of blue sky big enough to cut out a pair of sailor's trousers appeared, it meant the day would fine up and the picnic could still go ahead. For years afterwards, I used this amazingly reliable weather forecasting system to gauge if a day was to be OK or not. I often cut out an amazingly small pair of trousers to fit in with my plans. In today's climate, the constant and frightening financial situation seems to leave little prospect for hope. The abortion debate is struggling. People are still dying in cars and planes. I worry about my children's jobs and financial commitments. Some family members and parishioners have lost their jobs. And we still don't have nearly enough rain. To find hope, this week I have been savouring every bit of spring. The trees bursting forth in leaf, the sunshine, the birds chirping. And above all, I try to remember that God is in charge—all will be well.

*Liz Clark,
Pastoral Associate*

JPICM JUSTICE, PEACE AND THE INTEGRITY OF CREATION INTERNATIONAL DAY

FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY

In the opening message of the 2008 Social Justice Sunday Statement, Bishop Christopher Saunders asks: "What values characterise our daily lives? Have we become obsessed with economic success and material acquisition? Do we recognise those in need and our obligation to do something about it? The statement continues to challenge each of us "to hear the voice of the poor and to act with generous hearts".

The observance of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty can be traced back to 17 October 1987. On that day, over a hundred thousand people gathered at the Trocadéro in Paris, where the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was signed in 1948, to honour the victims of extreme poverty, violence and hunger. They proclaimed that poverty is a violation of human rights and affirmed the need to come together to ensure that these rights are respected.

This day presents an opportunity to acknowledge the effort and struggle of people living in poverty, a chance for them to make their concerns heard, and a moment to recognize that poor people are the first ones to fight against poverty. Participation of the poor themselves has been at the center of the Day's celebration since its very beginning. The commemoration of 17 October also reflects the willingness of people living in poverty to use their expertise to contribute to the eradication of poverty.

*God of grace, you call us to serve.
Help us to be faithful.
Where there is hunger, may we bring food;
Where there is thirst, may we bring water;
Where there is despair,
may we bring your hope:
in your name, in your strength and in your Spirit, as signs of your love in the world.
Amen*

Important dates:
Anti-Poverty Week Australia, October 12-18
International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, October 17
Stand Up and Take Action on October 17-19
Source: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/social/intldays/IntlDay/index.html>
Prayer from the National Council of Churches in Australia Social Justice Sunday Statement 2008
Sarah Menassa, Promoter of Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation, Franciscan Provincial Office

MICAH CHALLENGE & THE UN MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS: WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED, AND WHAT MORE CAN WE DO?

Speaker Rev Joel Edwards
Incoming Director of Micah Challenge International Micah Challenge International is the international campaign by churches to mobilise public support to lift millions out of hunger and acute poverty.
Venue: Study Centre of Yarra Theological Union, 98 Albion Rd, Box Hill (also accessible via 34 Bedford St)
Date: Thursday 16 October 2008
Time: 3.00pm - 4.30pm
Donation appreciated to help offset the cost

ROSTERS
ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S-OCTOBER 19
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion
6pm J Morison, D Williamsz, E Kimmet, R Meyers, V Bellis
7.30am J Reid
9.30am L Lampard, M Blundy, C Chessari, C Chin, K de Lacy, F Fitzgerald, C Hangan
5pm P McLaughlin
Ministers of the Word
6pm M Williamsz, L Sanelli
7.30am F Neyland
9.30am P Fitzgerald, C Gately
5pm R Paul, L Mayne
Welcomers
6pm B&M O'Shaughnessy
9.30am P&F Fitzgerald
Children's Liturgy
October 19—29th Sunday OT—Group A
November 9—Lateran Basilica—Group B
Altar Linen
October 12 Marie Cahill
October 19 Wendy Tan
Counters
October 12 R&Y Roy
October 19 P McLaughlin, G Kitch
Collectors 5pm
October 12 L Soulsby
October 19 I Mahlstedt
Rosary Statue
October 12—J&P Crummy, 15 William St
October 19—P Tierney, 1/105 Albion Rd

ITALIAN MASS
Commentator
October 12 D Amato
October 19 R Bidinost
Lettori
October 12 C Gibellini, P Grech
October 19 N Pozzobon, J Amato
Ministri dell'Eucarista
October 12 M Casamento, M Salamone
October 19 D Amato, G Massarotti

ST CLARE'S—OCTOBER 19
Ministers of the Word
8.30 A McGovern, M Clark
10.30 K McMahon, A Kenna
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion
8.30am J Murphy, J Easdown, F Fitzgerald
10.30am D Hardy, P O'Brien, D Tan
Piety Stall—October 19
8.30 B Murphy 10.30 C Mirabella

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.