



Newsletter for the Parishes of St Clare and St Francis Xavier

In the care of the Franciscan Friars

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time October 10th, 2010—Year C

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

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! For all things give thanks to God, because this is what he expects of you in Christ Jesus. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

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



This week

Be inclusive of people who are sometimes treated as 'outcasts' in our society. Say thank you to someone who has done something for you.

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.

Healing and a sense of belonging

The stories of the ten lepers and Naaman are great sources for reflection on healing, faith and gratitude. We are aware of how people who are hurting feel rejected and alienated. They carry the burden of hurts from their past into their present lives. As with those with leprosy in the ancient world, we know that there are "lepers" in our modern world who feel they are cast aside, unaccepted and feel a sense of rejection. In a world that communicates all the time through the internet and mobile phones, we do find people who feel disconnected and lonely. On top of hurts and rejections, let-downs too can cause a deep separation and sever relationships. These can also block the journey to faith and human development.

Naaman the Syrian and the leper from Samaria are foreigners, but who both experienced the saving mercy of God, left the "Holy land" not just healed but also with a strong sense of belonging to God. They both leave their state of alienation and experience through healing a sense of belonging to God. Naaman gives thanks by taking some of the Holy Ground back with him. The cured-leper returns to Jesus as the "Holy Land" and gives thanks for giving him a belonging, and restoring him back.

The "nine" could sometime represent us, failing to return to give thanks. We are free and are able to enjoy being restored, but we fail to show gratitude. When we are healed we can sometimes forget how it feels to be alienated or rejected. In belonging to the "in" group we forget the One who healed us.

When we are able to see how depressed, angry, violent and lonely we once were, and how by immersing ourselves in the mercy and healing power of God we have been transformed, we come to our senses. Then we are able to respond in gratitude to the One who redeemed us. Then truly we will experience the redeeming power of Jesus and enjoy the freedom of the healing gifts of Jesus. It seems to me in this gospel passage that God freely dispenses his mercy and faith is not a criterion for receiving God's healing. The question would be, 'do we return to give thanks?'

Fr Anthony ofm

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

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK 28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2Kg 5:14-17

Naaman returned to Elisha, the prophet, and acknowledged the Lord.

2 Tim 2:8-13

If we hold firm, we shall reign with Christ.

Lk 17:11-19

It seems that no one has returned to give thanks to God except this foreigner.

Monday

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

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

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

Thursday

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

Friday—St Teresa of Avila

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

Saturday

Eph 1:15-23; Lk 12:8-12

NEXT SUNDAY

BLESSED MARY MACKILLOP

Judith 8:11-17, 28-31;

(or Gen12:1-4)

Col 3:12-17; Mt 6:24-34

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 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
MONDAY 11 OCTOBER	8.30AM 10.30AM	SENIOR MIXED SOCIAL TENNIS GROUP @ SFX (CALL JUDY REID 9878 4212 OR JUST TURN UP) FRANCIS/CLARE CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY—AT ST CLARE'S HALL (OLIVE 9878 4103, THERESE 9878 3706)
TUESDAY 12 OCTOBER	12.45PM 3.00-3.30PM 7.30PM	LEGION OF MARY (SFX PHMR) PRAYERS IN SFX CHURCH RCIA (PHMR)
WEDNESDAY 13 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 14 OCTOBER	1.00PM	AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP GROUP-GENTLE EXERCISES / SFX HALL
FRIDAY 15 OCTOBER	2.00PM 7.30-9.00PM	OPENING & BLESSING OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP (SFX PHMR)
SATURDAY 16 OCTOBER	9.00AM	PARISH WALKING GROUP. MEET AT SFX PARISH HOUSE
SUNDAY 17 OCTOBER	10.00AM	GRADE 1 FAMILY MASS/MASS OF THANKSGIVING, FOLLOWED BY SCHOOL OPEN FOR INSPECTION / BBQ LUNCH

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 : 4 November

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

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

The Autumn Friendship Club this week will have gentle exercises, with Marlene, at 1.00 pm, in the SFX hall. These are VERY gentle and always a lot of fun. No special clothing is required, though flat shoes may be an advantage. The following week, we will have an afternoon of music and singing, with John and Therese Parker. All parishioners and their friends are welcome at our activities. Information - Judy - 9878 4212.

CALL FOR MUSICIANS

We are starting to think about music for the Christmas masses and would love to hear from anyone who would like to be involved as a singer or instrumentalist, whether you started playing this year or have a lot of experience. Please contact Lucy Pfeifer on 9890 0828 or lucy_pfeifer@yahoo.com.au or Colin Bellis on 9898 8639 or vcdeb@optusnet.com.au

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.

FRANCISCAN CALENDARS 2011

The 2011 calendar attempts to capture a little of the life & spirit as pilgrims experience it in the world of St Francis: from the place of his baptism, his call to conversion, his presence & service among the poor, his desire to seek the approval of the Church, his dependence on God in prayer & fasting, to the example of those early followers of his way of life: Clare of Assisi, Bonaventure of Bagnoregio & Anthony of Padua.

Some images show the actual place as it was in Francis' era, some show a later representation of the locations that felt Francis' footsteps, yet all remind us of the presence, spirit & charism of St Francis. Most images identify a moment in Francis' life or in the history of the Order during the particular month. As you walk with Francis throughout this year across 'Franciscan Italy' & with his spirit in your heart, may you feel his presence in your life & God's blessing on all that you do.

Available at the Parish Office for \$6 each.

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 27

Increasingly, Sisters were called to developing areas in South Australia, to Sydney foundations, and to new openings in New Zealand, Western Australia and Melbourne. Knowing their mostly unspeakable hardships, Mary lovingly encouraged her Sisters: 'Have courage, no matter what your crosses are.' (1890). Illness notwithstanding, Mary was an inveterate traveller. Even a cursory glance at her letters shows the extent and frequency of visits to her Sisters throughout Australia and New Zealand. *Provided by Sr Marie White rsj of the Sisters of St Joseph - www.sosi.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.mackilloptickets.org or Ph. 0424 648 034.

It is with sadness and much prayer and consideration that I resign as Pastoral Assistant at St Francis and St Clare's Parish Box Hill.

Unfortunately, as some of you are aware, my elderly mother in Brisbane has been sick for many months. Since being appointed I have visited her twice, had to support my siblings and organize a place for her in a Nursing Home. I will need to visit her several more times in the next few months to finalize the sale of her home. The stress of completing these tasks, being so far away, combined with family pressures and my other teaching role, has made it impossible to complete my role.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to work with Father Anthoni and have learnt the importance of listening, waiting for the Spirit to lead you and trusting that God will direct you in the journey of life. I am particularly thankful for the fantastic opportunity and support given to me to attend the inspirational Conference Pray 2010.

Over these short months I have been touched by the warm welcome by Parishioners at St Clare's and St Francis. I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting with many parishioners, working with Catechist teachers and the office staff. I have met and been inspired by so many unsung heroes who work tirelessly in so many areas of Parish life. Working with Monique, Mary and Di has been a delight, and I have loved sharing stories with and appreciated the support of Father Ben and Father Bob. Each of these individuals have amazing spiritual gifts that they readily share, and I am very grateful for their friendship and support.

I feel that even though I was with you all for such a short time that my life has been enriched. I leave St Francis and St Clare's Parish with a strong feeling of the Franciscan Spirit. Thanks again for your welcome and support. May God continue to bless you all and I hope our paths cross in the Journey of life.

Christina Sorbello

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL

Official Opening of Buildings

The Official Opening and Blessing of the new buildings will take place on Friday 15 October in the hall at 2.00pm. Bishop Les Tomlinson will bless and name the buildings and Anna Burke MP will officially open them. The purpose of the ceremony is to ask God's blessing on these and to officially recognise the Australian Government's funding of \$2.65 million for the refurbishment. An official plaque will be unveiled. All are welcome to attend. On Sunday 17 October I hope all SFX families will join the parish community at the 10.00 Mass of Thanksgiving. We will celebrate Mary Mackillop, the Year 1 Family Mass and thanksgiving for the parish school buildings. The buildings will be open for inspection by all. We will then share a sausage sizzle lunch (BYO drinks).

SPECIAL INVITATION TO ALL PARISHIONERS!

STAGES OF SPIRITUALITY - STAGE 2

'Our spiritual struggles change as we age and go through life. The first level is the struggle to get our lives together: 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? 'We then enter the second level of discipleship which John of the Cross calls Proficiency and which we might call Generative Discipleship. In essence, this is the struggle to give our lives away. Our main concern now is not so much about what to do with our lives but how to give them away so as to make the world a better place. These are our generative years and they are meant to stretch from the time we land in a vocation, a career, and a home, until our retirement years. And our major questions during these years need to be altruistic ones: How do I give myself over more generously and more purely? How do I remain faithful? How do I sustain myself in my commitments? How do I give my life away?'

- Excerpts from an article by Fr Ronald Rolheiser (Stage 3 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.**

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S—October 17

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion
6.00pm V Bellis, J Morison, E Kimmet, E&I Abraham
8.00am J Reid
10.00am E&E VDW, G Augustin, M Sinclair, L Lampard, J D'Souza, W Tan
5.00pm P Adag, MT Francisco

Ministers of the Word

6.00pm M Jeffares, M Dodds
8.00am B Reid
10.00am SCHOOL
5.00pm J O'Brien, M Slevison

Welcomers

6.00pm J Morison, E Castelletti
8.00am J Reid
10.00am E&E VDW, G Augustin
5.00pm B Cohen

Children's Liturgy

October 24—30 Ordinary Time—Group C
October 31—31 Ordinary Time—Group A

Altar Linen

October 10 E Vogel
October 17 O Rewega

Counters

October 10 B&C Parsons
October 17 P McLaughlin, G Kitch

Collectors 5pm

October 10 A Cutts
October 17 L Soulsby

Rosary Statue

October 10 & 17—P&M Poropat, 10 William St

ITALIAN MASS

Commentator

October 10 G Tabacchiera
October 17 D Amato

Lettori

October 10 N Pozzobon, J Amato
October 17 A Lanza, S Faulisi

Ministri dell'Eucarista

October 10 M Casamento, M Salamone
October 17 D Amato, G Massarotti

ST CLARE'S—October 17

Ministers of the Word

9.00am—A McGovern, J Sakowski, C Abiad
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

9.00am—J Murphy, H Keown, P O'Brien, I D'Amato, P Ciccotosto, D Wolbers, P Wolbers

Welcomers

9.00am—P Ciccotosto, P Cleary

Piety Stall—October 17

9.00am—Farry family

POINTS TO PONDER.

- ★ *Have you ever had the experience of being an 'outcast' through no fault of your own?*
- ★ *What reasons do you have to give thanks to God?*

From Fr Ben -

From Ogden Nash (1902-1971)

*I think that I shall never see
A billboard lovely as a tree.
Indeed, unless the billboards fall
I'll never see a tree at all.
Sure, deck your lower limbs in pants;
Yours are the limbs, my sweeting.
You look divine as you advance—
Have you seen yourself retreating?*

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.