



Newsletter for the Parishes of St Clare and St Francis Xavier

In the care of the Franciscan Friars

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time January 16th, 2011—Year A

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

Our responses today are:

Entrance Antiphon

May all the earth give you worship and praise, and break into song to your name, O God, Most High.

Psalm Response

Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. He enabled those who accepted him to become the children of God. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

The Lord has prepared a feast for me: given wine in plenty for me to drink.



This week

Like John, give witness to Christ this week. Share something of your faith with another.

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.

Thoughts on the Gospel

'John's gospel does not mention the actual baptism of Jesus, though its reference to it is unmistakable. 'Behold the lamb of God' – this title of the Saviour is so familiar to us that it come as a surprise to learn that it is only found in the New Testament writings associated with the community for which John's gospel was written. It is a title rich in implications. It calls to mind the Servant Song of Isaiah 53, in which God's Servant – the one who will bring healing to God's people by bearing their burdens – is compared to 'a lamb led to the slaughter house'. In telling the story of the Passion, John's gospel associates the death of Jesus with the slaughtering of the paschal lambs – a theme already anticipated by Paul: 'Christ our paschal lamb has been sacrificed'

(1 Cor 5:7). It is through the Paschal Mystery that will end his life's journey that the Saviour will 'take away our sins', and lead creation into the eternal embrace of God.'

Excerpt from a commentary by Fr John Thornhill SM
<http://www.theemmausseries.com>

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'When did John know? When, he says, he "saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself [at first] did not know him but the one who sent me to baptise with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptises with the Holy Spirit'."

'And then he makes his declaration of faith: "I myself have seen and have given witness that this is the Son of God." Jesus is Lord and God. (In this first chapter of his gospel, John gives all of Jesus' titles: Word, Son of the Father, Lamb of God, Son of God, Messiah [the Christ], Jesus of Nazareth, Son of Joseph, King of Israel, Son of Man.)

'And yet, this Jesus Lord is standing in the river water, together with many sinners. He is God but he has come to serve us, to love us, to liberate us, to mingle with us, to be one of us. And he asks us to work with him in the same way – to be in the world and to serve the world, to serve all as brothers and sisters.'

*Excerpt from a commentary by Fr Frank Doyle SJ*

### Catholics and Cappuccino

The ubiquitous creamy cup of coffee, the *cappuccino*, gets its name from the colour of the Capuchin friars' habit. The word comes from the Italian word for hood, "*appuccino*". The Capuchins are a branch of the Franciscan friars, the religious order that grew around St Francis of Assisi in the early 13<sup>th</sup> Century.

<http://www.catholicenquiry.com>

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

**SFX Primary School** 9890 1108  
[www.sfxboxhill.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sfxboxhill.catholic.edu.au)

**Parish of St Clare**  
138 Woodhouse Grove  
North Box Hill, 3129  
Telephone 9898 5080  
**email:** [sfxbh@celestial.com.au](mailto:sfxbh@celestial.com.au)

This newsletter is also available on our website:  
[www.scsfx.org.au](http://www.scsfx.org.au)

### READINGS FOR THIS WEEK 2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**Is 49: 3, 5-6**

*I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.*

**1 Cor 1: 1-3**

*The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.*

**Jn 1: 29-34**

*This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.*

**Monday**

Heb 5:1-10; Mk 2:18-22

**Tuesday**

Heb 6: 10-20; Mk 2:23-28

**Wednesday**

Heb 7: 1-3, 15-17; Mk 3:1-6

**Thursday**

Heb 7: 25 - 8:6; Mk 3:7-12

**Friday—St Agnes**

Heb 8:6-13; Mk 3:13-19

**Saturday**

Heb 9:2-3, 11-14; Mk 3:20-21

### NEXT SUNDAY 3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**Is 8:23 - 9:3; 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17;**  
**Mt 4:12-23**

**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.**

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

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

**Next meeting : 10 February 2011**

**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

**SFX Parish Office is closed for the Christmas break & will reopen on Wednesday January 19th at 9.30am.**

**Urgent messages only may be left on the answering machine & one of the friars will respond as soon as possible.**

**DONATIONS OF TOYS AND CHILDREN'S CLOTHING**

needed for Samata Sarana, Kindigoda, Sri Lanka. Samata Sarana feeds over 500 people a day, runs a day care centre for single parents, a school for over 300 plus children who also receive breakfast and lunch, a day centre for the elderly who are also fed and sent home with dinner packets. **Please contact: Michelle on 9898 7021.**

**AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB**

We have a function planned for 13th January - no details as yet. If you are interested in attending. Please ring Judy 9878 4212 by 10 January.

**ST CLARE'S PIETY STALL**

St Mary MacKillop medals are available for \$1 each.

**WALKING GROUP & MEDITATION GROUP**

Are both now in recess & will resume in 2011.

**DIARY DATE**

Saturday 5th February 2011—Celebration of Chinese Lunar New Year. Details soon.



**ROSTERS**

**DURING THE DECEMBER/JANUARY BREAK, EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION & MINISTERS OF THE WORD ARE REQUESTED TO VOLUNTEER AT MASSES AS REQUIRED.**

**ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S**

**Altar Linen**

January 16 C Pollocks  
January 23 MT Francisco

**Counters**

January 16 P McGin, P Madzarevic  
January 23 B&C Parsons

**Collectors 5pm**

January 16  
January 23

**Rosary Statue**

Month of January—N Guinane, 63 Mersey St, BHN

**ITALIAN MASS**

**Commentator**

January 16 G Amato  
January 23 G Tabacchiera

**Lettori**

January 16 J Adamo, C Ingrosso  
January 23 L Ferola, S Faulisi

**Ministri dell'Eucarista**

January 16 D Amato, G Tabacchiera  
January 23 R Bidinost, M Casamento

**ST CLARE'S**

**Piety Stall—January 23**

9.00am—B Murphy

**COMMENT ON THE READINGS**

'This week's scriptures are meant to be a link between the Baptism of Jesus and the rest of the Church year. They provide sort of a follow-up and meditation on Christ's ritual washing by John. Last week we read part of the Servant Songs from Isaiah. These describe a mysterious person who serves God through his pain. Today's selection adds the concept that the Servant's mission is not just to the Jewish people, but for all nations. As much as God loves his Chosen People, this love is only complete when it reaches all people.'

*Excerpt from a commentary by Fr Richard Lonsdale*

**POINTS TO PONDER**

- ✦ *How do you witness to the chosen one of God?*
- ✦ *Twice John says that he did not know Jesus himself, but that Jesus was revealed to him by God. What was it that first revealed Jesus to you?*

**Farewell to Fr Anthoni & Fr Ben**

**To honour this special occasion, Parishioners, Friends & Family are all invited to join in the celebration to say a big**

**THANK YOU!**

**When: Sunday January 30th**

**Combined Mass at 10.30am**

**At: St Francis Xavier's**

**After: BBQ Provided**

**BYO: Drinks & Glasses**

To help with catering arrangements Please RSVP by Sunday January 23 .

Drop this slip into the letter box or the collection plate or send the office an email [sfxbh@celestial.com.au](mailto:sfxbh@celestial.com.au) (& put FAREWELL in the subject line)

Name/s.....

Number attending.....

