



# Newsletter for the Parishes of St Clare and St Francis Xavier

*In the care of the  
Franciscan Friars*

## 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time January 17th, 2010—Year C

**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

Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all  
the nations.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! God has called us  
with the gospel to share in the glory of  
our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

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



**This week**

*Offer hospitality in abundance to  
someone in need 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.

## 'There was a wedding'

*Just as a wedding is a sign of who we are  
and what we hope for in life—love,  
security, abundance of good things—  
so Cana is a sign of what God offers us—  
not simply the gifts of the Spirit  
Paul mentions in the first reading,  
but the very fullness of life and love.*

*What he asks of us is that we believe,  
as the disciples did, in Jesus' power to  
change our lives and to lead us to God.  
It is through faith in God that the  
water of our daily life can be  
transformed into something far superior.  
Our lives gain a new depth and  
meaning, a new quality, if we enter into  
this covenant, this marriage with God,  
which Jesus makes possible.*

*Mary, as the first disciple, shows us how to  
do this: by doing whatever he tells us.*

*And in John's Gospel, that simply boils  
down to believing in Jesus and in loving as  
he has loved us. Faith and love—  
all that is needed for a good marriage; all  
that God requires of us  
to have the fullness of life.*



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[www.sfxboxhill.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sfxboxhill.catholic.edu.au)

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**This newsletter also available  
at: [www.scsfx.org.au](http://www.scsfx.org.au)**

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

**Is 62:1-5**

*As the bridegroom rejoices in his  
bride, so will your God rejoice in  
you.*

**1 Cor 12:4-11**

*One and the same spirit  
distributes different gifts as he  
chooses.*

**Jn 2:1-11**

*The first of the signs given by  
Jesus was at Cana in Galilee.*

**Monday**

1 Sam 15: 16-23; Mk 2:18-22

**Tuesday**

1 Sam 16: 1-13; Mk 2:23-28

**Wednesday**

1 Sam 17:32-33,37,40-51; Mk 3:1-6

**Thursday—St Agnes**

1 Sam 18:6-9,19:1-7; Mk 3:7-12

**Friday**

1 Sam 24:3-21; Mk 3:13-19

**Saturday—Ss Timothy & Titus**

2 Tim 1:1-8; (Tit 1:1-5)Lk 10:1-9

### NEXT SUNDAY

**3rd SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME**

**Neh 8:2-16, 8-10**

**1 Cor 12:12-30**

**Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21**

**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:**

**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**

Veronika Bellis	<i>Liz Clark</i>
Pat Cleary	<i>Dianna Hardy</i>
Breta Cohen	<i>Carmel Purdey</i>
Ann-Marie Diggins	<i>Monique Waring</i>
Jane D'Souza	<i>(ex-officio)</i>
Anthony Kennedy	
Peter Leonard	

**Next meeting : 4 February 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

**Thoughts on the Gospel**

“Woman, what is that to me?” At the Cana wedding reception Jesus seems to speak rudely to his mother. He calls her "woman" when she suggests that the bridal couple needs help. Actually, the translation is poor. Jesus calls his mother, "My Lady" which is a title for a noble-woman and hence a courtesy. Jesus may not be refusing to come to their assistance. His remark, "My hour has not come" may also be translated as a question, "Has my hour come?" In other words he is asking Mary's advice about the time for his ministry to begin. This public sign of power will propel him along the course that will lead to his death and resurrection.'

*A commentary by Fr Richard Lonsdale*

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'The miracle at Cana was almost a secret one; at the time the only people who knew it to be a miracle were the servants who drew the water out. But what did strike home was the sheer abundance of new wine. That was the sign that confirmed the disciples in their new following. Their eyes were opened to the absolute newness and abundance of life in Christ. "This was the first of the signs given by Jesus. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him."

*Excerpt from a homily by Fr Columba Ryan OP*

**My corner**

All the readings since Christmas have been about celebrations—the Holy Family, the wise men, the Baptism of our Lord, and now a wedding. It seems that everyone gets excited about a wedding. The preparations involve family, discussions and arguments, decisions having to be made, the hope for fulfillment of dreams.....there's a never ending list of things to do. One of my happiest memories about wedding preparations was the way it drew our family together. Everyone seemed to want to make the day perfect for the bride or groom. Nothing was too much trouble. If something wasn't working, someone would always be prepared to do whatever was needed to fix it. But, I'm not too sure how we would have managed if we'd run out of wine! It would have been embarrassing, and I'd certainly have felt ineffective. In such a scenario, Mary steps in, with tact and great kindness and a certain high expectation of her son. And with a newly found authority and the echo of his Father's words "my favour rests on you", he performs his first miracle, enabling this important wedding celebration to give due honour to the family involved. The generosity and humanity of both Mary and Jesus remind me that I need to be observant, to watch for those in need, and to do all I can to ease the troubles and difficulties in their lives.

*Liz Clark, Pastoral Associate*

SFX Parish Office is closed until Wednesday January 20. *Urgent messages only may be left on the answering machine & one of the friars will respond as soon as possible.*

**ROSTERS**

**ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S**  
**DURING THE DECEMBER/JANUARY BREAK,**  
**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF**  
**COMMUNION & MINISTERS OF THE WORD**  
**ARE REQUESTED TO VOLUNTEER AT MASSES**

**AS REQUIRED.**  
January 17 O Rewega  
January 24 P Turner  
**Counters**  
January 17 J Reid, M Rossely  
January 24 B&M Walker  
**Collectors 5pm**  
January 17 A Cutts  
January 24 L Soulsby  
**Rosary Statue**  
Month of January—N Guinane, 65 Mersey St  
**ITALIAN MASS**  
**Commentator**  
January 17 P Grech  
January 24 G Amato  
**Lettori**  
January 17 J Adamo, C Ingresso  
January 24 G Tabacchiera, G Amato  
**Ministri dell'Eucarista**  
January 17 D Amato, M Salamone  
January 24 G Massarotti, D Amato  
**ST CLARE'S—Piety Stall—January 24**  
9.00am E Boyle

**PARISH WALKING GROUP**  
Walks will resume for 2010 on Saturday 30 January. Meet at SFX Parish House at 9.00am.



**POINTS TO PONDER**

- ✦ **What makes you believe?**
- ✦ **Where or how do you experience God's glory?**

**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.**