



Newsletter for the Parishes of St Clare and St Francis Xavier

In the care of the Franciscan Friars

2nd Sunday of Easter May 1st, 2011—Year A

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

Our responses today are:

Entrance Antiphon

Like newborn children you should thirst for milk, on which your spirit can grow to strength, alleluia.

Psalm Response

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Jesus spoke to Thomas: Put your hand here, and see the place of the nails. Doubt no longer, but believe, alleluia.

This week

Look for ways in which a simple gesture of touch can convey friendship, compassion or support 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.

Thoughts on the Gospel

'The period from Easter to Pentecost celebrates the presence of the risen Christ in the church. The gift of the Spirit to the fearful disciples and the appearance to "doubting Thomas" complete the Easter octave, when early Christians doffed the white robes of baptism and entered a period of exploration of the deeper mysteries of the faith.

'Until Pentecost, the first reading is always from the Acts of the Apostles, which might be better called the "Acts of the Holy Spirit," since every important event in the early church is stimulated by the Spirit. The second reading is always from 1 Peter. For prayer and reflection during this period one could do no better than read and meditate on Acts and 1 Peter, which is an eloquent exhortation for Christians to realize their dignity as "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people" (1 Pt. 2:9).'

Excerpt from a commentary by Fr John Donahue SJ

'To create faith, the Spirit works in a mind that is searching for truth, and is willing to accept it and submit to it. But the Spirit also uses the witness of the believing community to create faith. The faith of the disciples had a powerful influence on Thomas, inclining him to believe. His coming to faith, therefore, was not just a singular experience but something that took place within the new-born Church. 'The Spirit, working through the disciples' witness to the resurrection, and through Thomas's desire for truth, created a living faith in that once-doubting Apostle. 'In confessing Jesus as "My Lord and my God", Thomas made the most profound declaration about the person of Christ -- that he is truly God. He accepted Jesus as Lord and submitted his life to Christ's lordship. As we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus we can use Thomas's words to declare our faith and submit our lives to him more deeply.'

Excerpt from a homily by Fr Michael Platts OP

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

2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 2:42-47

1 Pet 1:3-9

Jn 20:19-31



Monday—St Athanasius
Acts 4:23-31; Jn 3:1-8
Tuesday—Ss Philip & James
I Cor 15:1-8; Jn 14:6-14
Wednesday
Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21
Thursday
Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36
Friday
Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15
Saturday
Acts 6:1-7; Jn 6:16-21
NEXT SUNDAY
3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER
Acts 2:14, 22-33
1 Pet 1:17-21
Lk 24:13-35

FRIARS OF THE PARISHES

FR PETER McGRATH OFM
PARISH PRIEST
FR BOB MATTHEWS OFM
ASSISTANT PRIEST
FR PETER TRAN OFM
ASSISTANT PRIEST

Pastoral Associate/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 : 5 May 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

Bookings can be made with SFX Parish Office for each Parish, and celebrated in the church requested. This is to avoid double bookings.

BAPTISMS

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.

St Francis Xavier's—
1st and 3rd Sundays of month only,
12.30 pm
St Clare's—2nd Sunday, 10.30 am

SUNDAY 1 MAY	2.30PM	CONFIRMATION AT SFX
MONDAY 2 MAY	8.30AM	SENIOR MIXED SOCIAL TENNIS GROUP @ SFX (CALL JUDY REID 9878 4212 OR JUST TURN UP)
	10.00AM	FRANCIS/CLARE CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP— ST CLARE'S
TUESDAY 3 MAY	12.30PM	LEGION OF MARY (SFX PHMR)
WEDNESDAY 4 MAY	8.30AM	TENNIS GROUP (As MONDAY)
THURSDAY 5 MAY	7.30PM	PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
FRIDAY 6 MAY	7.30PM	BIBLE DISCUSSION IN SFX PARISH HOUSE MEETING ROOM
SATURDAY 7 MAY	9.00AM	PARISH WALKING GROUP MEET AT SFX PARISH HOUSE.
SUNDAY 8 MAY	10.30AM	BAPTISM AT ST CLARE'S

ST FRANCIS XAVIER PLAYGROUP

For all children 0 to school age
NOW EVERY FRIDAY MORNING

9AM – 11AM



In the building next to the church.
(Old School Library)
Contact Bridget on 0408 549 392

AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Autumn Friendship Club will have Gentle Exercises this week, with Marlene, at 1 pm, in the SFX Hall. These really are gentle exercises and Marlene makes sure they are also a lot of fun. Our programme for this term is not yet finalised; during May we will have a shared luncheon to raise funds for the Cancer Council, on Thursday, 19th; and on May 26 we will have a film luncheon – the film is "Water For Elephants", with Reese Witherspoon. All parishioners and their friends are welcome at our activities. Information - Judy - 9878 4212.

THANKS FROM SRI LANKA

My dear Michelle,
My sincere thanks to you for organizing the collection and dispatch of these gifts for the children and our very special thanks to the numerous generous donors. Not only are we appreciative of the quantity but the quality of the gifts. They are of the quality that can be distributed to the poor without hurting their dignity as human beings. Respecting the dignity of the poor is one of our main aims in carrying out the services of Samata Sarana. For this the beneficiaries must feel that we are sharing goods that we would use ourselves, not things that we throw into the garbage dump. The clothes and toys etc that your donors have sent bring a smile to the faces and a measure of joy to the hearts of those who receive them. The donors therefore become our partners in carrying out the humanitarian operations of Samata Sarana. Please convey to them our very sincere thanks and prayers for every blessing. God has inspired them to be generous and God will bless their generosity.



CONFIRMATION

The Grade 6 children from the school, along with the children who have been prepared by our parish catechist will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation today. Please pray for them.

CLASSES FOR THE SACRAMENTS OF RECONCILIATION & EUCHARIST

commence for 2011 on Monday 2 May at St Clare's from 4-5pm.
Enquiries: Parish Office 9890 2231.

PARISH PRAYER GROUP

Each Tuesday - 3.00-3.30pm during school term in SFX church, you are invited to join a group of school parents & parishioners as we pray for the needs & concerns of our world, our families, our parish & school. Parents are encouraged to arrive early for school pick up, & spend a short time in prayer.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARISHES—SUNDAY MAY 29 @ 11.30AM IN SFX HALL

WOULD ALL PARISH GROUPS PLEASE SUBMIT THEIR REPORTS TO THE PARISH OFFICE BY WEDNESDAY MAY 11, SO THAT THE ANNUAL REPORT CAN BE COMPILED & MADE AVAILABLE TO PARISHIONERS PRIOR TO THE MEETING. It would be appreciated if reports could be submitted by email or on disk.

There are a number of Parish Pastoral Councillors due to retire at the AGM. If you or someone you know would like to assist in providing leadership to our Parish Community, please let Fr Peter or the Parish Office know.

Thank You

Caritas Australia would like to THANKYOU for supporting Project Compassion. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit www.caritas.org.au to make your donation online. Together, we are making a real difference in the struggle against poverty.



MARY OF THE CROSS RAFFLE RESULTS

Thank you for your support of the St. Mary of the Cross Fundraising Raffle. I advise that the raffle was drawn on Friday, 15th April at the MOC Centre, 23 Brunswick St., Fitzroy. All winners were from parishes where we had sold tickets and we were very pleased with the overall result - \$10,117.70 - our best result yet.
1st Ticket No. 1262
Joe Kane (St. John's, Mitcham)
2nd Ticket No. 2655
Veronica Amsing (St. Damian's, Bundoora)
3rd Ticket No. 1931
Mary Kavanagh (St. Dominic's, E.Camberwell)
Thank you all for your support.

REVISED ROMAN MISSAL

Have you had a chance to look at the Archdiocese's 'Revised Roman Missal' website? It's well worth a look. Everything you need to know about the new Mass texts and new musical settings is there, plus lots more. It's featured on the front page of the Archdiocese's website www.cam.org.au where you just hit the red logo: or go to www.evangelisation.org/missal

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES FOR THE REVISED ROMAN MISSAL

Information, answers to questions, and details re text and music for the Revised Roman Missal can be found in addition to the diocesan website at that of the National Liturgical Council: romanmissalaustralia.org.au then click on the icons at the left hand side to find further detail.

ANIMA EDUCATION LECTURE SERIES: "THE NEW MASS"

This course is to help you find out the facts and to understand the new translation of the Ordinary Form of the Roman Rite. As we study the new translation, we will uncover the riches of our Western Liturgy. We will learn: the text of the new translations; the reasons for the changes; what the words mean; the Scriptural sources of the liturgy; the history of the prayers we use in the Mass; the function of the parts of the Mass; how to sing the chants in the new missal.
Mondays in Second Term, commencing 2 May and ending 27 June (excluding 13 June), 6.30-8.30pm, Mary Glowrey House, 132 Nicholson Street, Fitzroy. Total cost : \$15 per night, (\$120 per term). Details: David Schütz on 0400 978 938 or email david.schutz@cam.org.au

THANK YOU TO ALL

The Easter Triduum celebrations in both parishes were truly uplifting and inspiring, conducted with great solemnity and reverence, as well as with joy and keen involvement. So many people contributed to the successful organization of these ceremonies—too many to list individually. We would like to thank:
The Friars, our sacristans and altar servers, readers/commentators and communion ministers, musicians and choir members, the Youth for Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, those who prepared and decorated the churches, the office staff and volunteers, church and linen cleaners, those who prepared palms and fires, and all who helped in other ways with our liturgies. The active participation of our congregation added great depth to the solemnity of each celebration.

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Fr. Peter McGrath has informed the Parish Pastoral Council that an interview panel interviewed five applicants for the Pastoral Associate position. Sr. Moira Broderick, a Brigidine Sister was the successful applicant and she will commence on the 1st July 2011.

CATHOLICARE'S FAMILY WEEK 2 - 8 MAY

During Family Week, CatholicCare (formerly Centacare Catholic Family Services) hopes schools and parishes will explore the theme of Families on a Journey - encouraging them to appreciate their own life story and those of others who have different cultures, lifestyles and family situations. By participating in Family Week, we can "dare to care" for those children and families who are socially isolated and disadvantaged and those who need help as they travel on their own personal journey.

For over 75 years, CatholicCare has supported families in all their diversity and from all cultural and socio-economic backgrounds. Vulnerable families within our communities across Melbourne and Geelong urgently need your support. For more information or if you wish to contribute, go to www.ccam.org.au or contact John McCarthy on 9287 5507 Donor Relations and Family Week Manager or john.mccarthy@ccam.org.au

ROSTERS

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S—May 8

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

6.00pm tba
8.00am tba
10.00am tba
5.00pm tba

Ministers of the Word

6.00pm tba
8.00am tba
10.00am tba
5.00pm tba

Welcomers

6.00pm tba
8.00am tba
10.00am tba
5.00pm tba

Children's Liturgy

Altar Linen

May 1 E O'Brien
May 8 J Reid

Counters

May 1 P Eng & HH Yeoh
May 8 R&Y Roy

Rosary Statue

May 1—in SFX Church for residents of SVPD Nursing homes in Albion Rd & Strabane Ave

May 8—N Guinane, 65 Mersey St, BH

ITALIAN MASS

Commentator

May 1 R Bidinost
May 8 J Adamo

Lettori

May 1 N Pozzobon, A Lanza
May 8 R Bidinost, C Gibellini

Ministri dell'Eucarista

May 1 M Casamento, R Bidinost
May 8 G Massarotti, D Amato

ST CLARE'S—May 8

Ministers of the Word

T Nicholson, M Clark, C Abiad

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

J Murphy, T Shallvey, P Cleary, H Keown, D Tan, P Ciccotosto, A Kennedy

Welcomers

M Boulton, I Abiad

Piety Stall—May 8

P Green

Second Sunday of Easter

POINTS TO PONDER

- ✦ *'The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord.' What have been your feeling since the events of last week?*
- ✦ *Reflect on Thomas and the doubt he experienced. What have been your own experiences of doubt? Have these doubts been laid to rest?*

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 & St Clare's.