



Newsletter for the Parishes of St Clare and St Francis Xavier

In the care of the Franciscan Friars

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time October 31st, 2010—Year C

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

Our responses today are:

Entrance Antiphon

Do not abandon me, Lord. My God, do not go away from me! Hurry to help me, Lord, my Saviour.

Psalm Response

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Lord, you will show me the path of life and fill me with joy in your presence.

This week

Identify someone with whom you are acquainted but don't know really well. Try to move beyond superficial appearances & find out what sort of person they really are. Change your relationship with them.



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.

To seek out and to save what was lost

Life is full of surprises, some encounters with people or events in life can change the course of our lives. Sometimes they can have a deep impact on us that makes us turn 180 degrees and do some crazy things or take risks. We hear in today's gospel passage of such an encounter by a tax collector named Zacchaeus. All Zacchaeus wanted was to catch a glimpse of this man called Jesus. Challenged by his height and in a crowd, he decided to climb a Sycamore tree only to be spotted by Jesus. His creativity and initiative might have given Jesus a hint that the time was right for Zacchaeus to be touched.

We hear how the conversation ensues between them, and how Jesus invited himself to Zacchaeus' place. Zacchaeus welcomed him joyfully and stood his ground when others commented about Jesus going to a sinner's house. This visit also prompted Zacchaeus to give away half of his property to the poor and to make amendments for cheating. It is a great story of conversion, but it also shows us how God's presence changed the tax collector's life. All it took was Jesus to approach him.

It is easier to condemn people rather than to help, support and encourage them. Godliness can and does effect change in people's life. The presence of God can move people to have a deep and lasting change. Unless people experience unconditional love and forgiveness, change will be only at a superficial level based on fear and emotion. True conversion leads to lasting change, but also leads to fullness of life.

There is something about Zacchaeus which I admire, his willingness to change and how he responded to his encounter with Jesus by making things right, and not only that, he was willing to give away half of his property. All our God moments in life initiate change, growth and maturing. Our encounters with God naturally lead us to a deeper relationship and union with God. There is also an element of justice or of right relationships with others. This is achieved by doing something penitential which either involves service to others or making amendments to one's failures. Our encounter with the OTHER (God) will shift our focus to others in life.

Fr Anthoni ofm

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

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK 31st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Wis 11:22-12:2

You have mercy on all things because you love everything that exists.

2 Thess 1:11 - 2:2

The name of our Lord Jesus Christ will be glorified in you and you in him.

Lk 19:1-10

The Son of Man came to seek and to find that which was lost.

Monday

Eph 4:32—5:8; Lk 13:10-17

Tuesday

Eph 5:21-33; Lk 13:18-21

Wednesday

Eph 6:1-9; Lk 13:22-30

Thursday—Ss Simon & Jude

Eph 2:19-22; Lk 6:12-19

Friday

Phil 1:1-11; Lk 14:1-6

Saturday

Phil 1:18-26; Lk 14:7-11

NEXT SUNDAY

32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2 Macc 7:1-2, 9-14

2 Thess 2:16-3:5

Lk 20:27-38

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 31 OCTOBER		TRADING CIRCLE AFTER MASSES
MONDAY 1 NOVEMBER	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 2 NOVEMBER ALL SOULS DAY	9.00AM 12.00PM	MASS AT ST CLARE'S MASS AT SFX
WEDNESDAY 3 NOVEMBER	8.30AM 9-11AM	TENNIS GROUP (AS MONDAY) PLAYGROUP AT ST CLARE'S. CONTACT TRUDY FRANKENSTEINER 9899 5252
THURSDAY 4 NOVEMBER	1.00PM 7.30PM	AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP GROUP - ANOINTING MASS, FOLLOWED BY OAKS DAY CELEBRATION PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
FRIDAY 5 NOVEMBER	11.00AM 7.30-9.00PM	HOLY HOUR AT SFX BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP (SFX PHMR)
SATURDAY 6 NOVEMBER	9.00AM 2.00PM	PARISH WALKING GROUP. MEET AT SFX PARISH HOUSE TRADING CIRCLE AFTER 6PM MASS MASS AT BOX HILL CEMETERY
SUNDAY 7 NOVEMBER	12.30PM	4 BAPTISMS AT SFX

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

ALL SOULS DAY MASSES
Tuesday 2 November
9am—ST CLARE'S
12 noon—SFX
MASS AT BOX HILL CEMETERY
SATURDAY 6 NOVEMBER at 2pm

AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Autumn Friendship Club this week will celebrate Oaks Day – first attending midday mass, with anointing, followed by lunch in SFX Hall – please bring some food to share – and wear your fancy hat! The following week we will have a jewellery display and sale. The jewellery is silver with semi-precious stones and will be sold at wholesale prices; earrings and chains start at \$5.00. All parishioners and their friends are welcome at our activities. Information - Judy - 9878 4212.

GREENS' EUTHANASIA BILL

'If you are opposed to the Greens' Euthanasia Bill, write, email or phone—the senators in your state expressing your opposition to the bill. **The Bill is to be debated next Thursday, so it is urgent to write immediately.** Please send all mail to c/o Parliament House Canberra 2600. The names of our State Senators are; Hon Kim Carr, Hon Jacinta Collins, Hon Stephen Conroy, Hon David Feeney, Steve Fielding, Mitch Fifield, Helen Kroger, Julian McGauran, Gavin Marshall Hon Michael Ronaldson, Scott Ryan, Hon Judith Troeth.

VIGIL FOR NASCENT HUMAN LIFE

Immediately before the First Sunday of Advent, the Holy Father is celebrating an evening vigil honour of prayer for human life, and he has invited dioceses and communities to hold a similar vigil. In Melbourne, the Hour of Prayer for Human life will take place on Saturday 13th November 2010 at 5 p.m. in St Patrick's Cathedral, followed by Mass at 6pm celebrated by the archbishop. Parishioners, life groups and friends are most welcome to join this important moment of prayer.

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 in photographs. 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.

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

Thanks to all who contributed to the October **FIRST FRIDAY COLLECTION** (\$151.90) for the Sacred Heart School in Sideia, PNG.
Imelda, Ivan Judy.

GENERAL HOME HELP

Person required for 1 to 1½ hours a day, Monday to Friday from 9am. Kitchen duties, no vacuuming. Box Hill area. Please call 9890 3204.

YOUR VOTE YOUR VALUES

Archbishop Denis Hart and Bishops Connors, Grech and Prowse of Ballarat, Sandhurst and Sales Dioceses have prepared some questions for parishioners to put to their parliamentary candidates prior to the Victorian State Elections on 27 November.

Their suggested questions, contained in a brief document **your vote your values** is available in the church today.

You can also read or download **your vote your values** from www.cam.org.au/stateelection.

your vote your values may help inform your decision on whom to vote for.

EAST TIMOR GIFT CARDS

Christmas Gift Cards in support of East Timor will be available soon from the Parish Office. They make a thoughtful Christmas gift for that person who already has "everything"!

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.

POINTS TO PONDER

- ★ *Are you anxious to discover Jesus?*
- ★ *How do you welcome Jesus joyfully?*

From Around the Corner

You probably remember that I am not a person of great stature, - I am what is now known as 'vertically challenged'; in fact the older I get, the taller my grandchildren become, the shorter I feel. It is a distinct disadvantage in a crowd, when I need something from the top cupboard, or when I try to buy new clothes which inevitably need to be taken up. So I have much sympathy for Zaccheus who had to climb a tree to see what was going when Jesus walked by. (I fear my tree climbing days may be over). The thing with Zaccheus is that he actually *did* something. He didn't just get frustrated, he didn't give up. In fact, he did something that most people around him would have thought quite odd—a grown man climbing up a tree just to look at a dusty, radical speaker walking through the town. It probably took courage to do this, it certainly would have meant physical effort. And look at the result. He heard Jesus' word, and his heart was changed. The challenge for us with this gospel is to see what our shortcomings (no pun) might be, and see what ways we can work through them in order to see Jesus better, to hear his message, to change our hearts and our lives and follow the gospel full-heartedly.

-Liz Clark

GOOD SHEPHERD TRADING CIRCLE TODAY IN SFX HALL

www.thetradingcircle.com.au

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL RAFFLE AT SFX SCHOOL FAIR— SATURDAY 13 NOVEMBER

Raffle tickets will be sold before / after Masses NEXT WEEK. There are 12 prizes with a total value of over \$1000. Tickets are \$1 each or 7 for \$5. Tickets are also available at the Parish House.

The Parish Pastoral Council would like to acknowledge the following generous donors to the raffle: E&S Trading, Bunnings, Purvis Cellars, Surrey Hills, Woolworth's, Donvale Gallery, Palace Cinema, Balwyn & a number of parishioners who donated gifts towards the raffle.

SFX SCHOOL FAIR SATURDAY 13 NOVEMBER

11AM—5PM

PARISHIONERS PLEASE NOTE:

**NO PARKING AVAILABLE IN
SCHOOL GROUNDS FOR 6PM MASS,
RESTRICTED PARKING ON SUNDAY
14 NOVEMBER.**

MARY MACKILLOP THANKSGIVING MASS

On Saturday 6 November 2010, when pilgrims have returned from Rome, Archbishop Denis Hart will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at St Patrick's Cathedral East Melbourne commencing at 10.00am.

- * 10.00am 'Welcome to Country' and reflection on Mary MacKillop's life and legacy (Please be seated by 9:55am)
 - * 10.30am Mass of Thanksgiving celebrated by Archbishop Denis Hart
- Refreshments will follow at Dallas Brooks Hall, 300 Albert Street, East Melbourne

A WORD OF CAUTION

'It was precisely the self-sacrificial devotion of Mary MacKillop to the needs of "the friendless of all ages" that stood, for John Paul II, as an embodiment of "the gospel of life" in Australia, and hence as a powerful protest to our baser tendencies. It would then seem utterly perverse simply to hand Mary over to the grasp of Australian culture, to allow her to take a place among the rest of our inoffensive national luminaries, who invariably reflect back to us only what we wish to see in ourselves.

'Simply to allow St Mary of the Cross to be our "vernacular saint," to be but an expression of the Australian spirit, would effectively be to baptise our national way of life, or, as Bonhoeffer would have put it, to make us feel better about our godless lives. 'I would suggest that one of the vital tasks of the Catholic Church in Australia is to resist the temptation to bask in the glow of Mary MacKillop's canonisation - much less embrace it as welcome diversion from the struggle with its institutional demons - and instead retrieve St Mary of the Cross as an example of penitence, humility, and above all, the fierce independence of the "gospel of life."

Excerpts, blog by Scott Stephens, Religion & Ethics Editor, ABC Online.

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S—November 7

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

6.00pm M&L Soulsby, G Machado, M O'Brien, J Hickey
8.00am J Reid
10.00am E&E VDW, W Tan, A Leonard, M Sinclair, L Lampard, C Chin

5.00pm M T Francisco, A Large

Ministers of the Word

6.00pm E Colafella, M Dodds
8.00am M Rossely
10.00am J Tan, M Hughes
5.00pm H Dyjak, T Parker

Welcomers

6.00pm M&A O'Connor
8.00am M&B Walker
10.00am E&E VDW, A Galli
5.00pm M Plain

Children's Liturgy

November 7—32 Ordinary Time—Group B
November 14—33 Ordinary Time—Group C

Altar Linen

October 31 M Rossely
November 7 J Morison

Counters

October 31 R&Y Roy
November 7 T&E O'Brien

Collectors 5pm

October 31 A Cutts
November 7 V Mudenda

Rosary Statue

October 31—M O'Meara, 14 Sweetland Rd, BH
November 7—S Faulisi, 21 Bedford St, BH

ITALIAN MASS

Commentator

October 31 J Adamo
November 7 P Grech

Lettori

October 31 N Pozzobon, A D'Alessandro
November 7 J Adamo, C Ingrosso

Ministri dell'Eucarista

October 31 M Salamone, M Casamento
November 7 D Amato, M Salamone

ST CLARE'S—November 7

Ministers of the Word

9.00am—M Hardy, M Clark, C Hardy

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

9.00am—D Hardy, P O'Brien, D Tan, T Nicholson, T Shallvey, I D'Amato, H Keown

Welcomers

9.00am—I Abiad, M Boulton

Piety Stall—November 7

9.00am—A Lindsey

From Fr Ben -

Rev Dr W.A. Spooner (1844-1930) provided the tame for the nerm we use for a funny tip of the slung. He toasted Her Majesty Queen Victoria: "Three cheers for our queer old Dean." He welcomed soldiers home from war: "We will have the hags flung out"; and lauded British farmers as "noble tons of soil". In chapel, he was heard to say: "Our Lord is a shoving leopard", and to a stranger seated in the wrong place: "I believe you're occupewing my pie. May I sew you to another sheet?" At a naval review, he marvelled at "this vast display of cattle ships and bruisers." Visiting a friend's cottage, he said, "You have a nose little crook here."

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.