



Newsletter for the Parishes of St Clare and St Francis Xavier

*In the care of the
Franciscan Friars*

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time November 16th, 2008—Year A

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

Our responses today are:

Entrance Antiphon

The Lord says: my plans for you are peace and not disaster; when you call to me, I will listen to you, and I will bring you back to the place from which I exiled you.

Psalm Response

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

It is good for me to be with the Lord and to put my hope in him.

This week

This week, use your talents explicitly for the good of others.

POINTS TO PONDER

At Mass, when we say "Holy, holy Lord", what does it mean to us? Do we give thought to God as filling heaven and earth with glory? Do we honour God in praise at any other time during the 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.

COMMENCING THE WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER 29/30, MASSES WILL BE CELEBRATED AT ST CLARE'S AND ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S AS FOLLOWS:

SATURDAY

**9.00am St Clare's
6.00pm Vigil SFX**

SUNDAY

**8.00am SFX
9.00am St Clare's
10.00am SFX
5.00pm SFX**

These changes have been made after consultation with parishioners via a survey, discussion with Parish Pastoral Council, and the airing of concerns by those who are struggling with the changes.

Reasons for the changes include:

- ✦ the increased demands on our aging friars and the probability of having fewer friars serving in the parish
- ✦ small attendances at some Masses
- ✦ continuing requests from parishioners for more active participation especially in regard to music

We are anticipating that these changes will provide opportunities for a stronger sense of community and more meaningful liturgies, and are hopeful that you will adapt gracefully to any changes you will need to make.

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.sfxboxh.melb.catholic.edu.au

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138 Woodhouse Grove
North Box Hill, 3129
Telephone/Fax 9898 5080
email: sfxbh@celestial.com.au

This newsletter also available
at: www.scsfx.org.au

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK 33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Prov 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31
Give her a share in what she has worked for.

1 Thess 5:1-6
The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night.

Mt 25:14-30
Because you have been faithful over a few things, enter into the joy of the Lord.

Monday -St Elizabeth of Hungary
Apoc 1:1-4, 2:1-5; Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday
Apoc 3:1-6, 14-22; Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday
Apoc 4:1-11; Lk 19:11-28

Thursday
Apoc 5:1-10; Lk 19:41-44

Friday-Presentation of the Virgin Mary
Apoc 10:8-11; Lk 19:45-48

Saturday—St Cecilia
Apoc 11:4-12; Lk 20:27-40

NEXT SUNDAY

CHRIST THE KING
Ezek 34:11-12, 15-17

1 Cor 15:20-26, 28
Mt 25:31-46

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 are 9.30 am to 4.30 pm

Monday, Wed, Thurs, Friday
Parish Secretary— Monique Waring

St Clare's Parish Office Hours are as follows:
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
Liz Allan *Liz Clark*
Veronika Bellis *Dianna Hardy*
Vince Fazio *Carmel Purdey*
Anthony Kennedy *Monique Waring*
Peter Leonard
Trish Nicholson (Chair)

Next meeting : 5 February 2009

Liturgy Times

St Clare's
Sunday 8.30 am, 10.30am
Weekdays:
Wed, Fri & Sat 9.00 am
Confessions Sat 9.30—10 am

St Francis Xavier's
Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm
Sunday 7.30 am
9.30am
(Italian) 11.00 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 16 NOVEMBER	12.30PM	MORNING TEA AFTER 9.30AM MASS, IN SFX RESOURCE AREA 7 BAPTISMS @ SFX
MONDAY 17 NOVEMBER	8.30AM	SENIOR MIXED SOCIAL TENNIS GROUP @ SFX (CALL JUDY REID 9878 4212 OR JUST TURN UP) ALL WELCOME. FRANCIS/CLARE CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY @ ST CLARE'S PARISH HALL (ENQUIRIES: OLIVE 9878 4103, THERESE 9878 3706)
ST ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY	10.00AM	
TUESDAY 18 NOVEMBER	12.45PM 7.30PM	LEGION OF MARY @ SFX RCIA ENQUIRY —SFX PARISH HOUSE MEETING ROOM
WEDNESDAY 19 NOVEMBER	8.30AM 9.00AM	TENNIS GROUP (AS MONDAY) PLAYGROUP AT ST CLARE'S SCHOOL. (ENTER VIA HARRISON ST) FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: LYNNE FOGALE 9898 2516 ST CLARE'S SENIORS @ SC PARISH HOUSE RCIA (07/08) - ST CLARE'S PARISH HOUSE BAPTISM PROGRAM AT SFX PHMR
	12.30PM 7.30PM 7.30PM	
THURSDAY 20 NOVEMBER	1.30PM 1.30PM	
		AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB—HAHNDORF CHOCOLATE DEMONSTRATION. SAMPLES PLUS CHOCOLATES FOR SALE. ANOINTING MASS AT ST CLARE'S
FRIDAY 21 NOVEMBER	7.30-9PM	BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP @ SFX PARISH HOUSE PRESENTATION OF THE VIRGIN MARY
SATURDAY 22 NOVEMBER	9.00AM	PARISH WALKING GROUP —MEET AT SFX PARISH HOUSE.
SUNDAY 23 NOVEMBER	12.30PM	5 BAPTISMS @ SFX CHRIST THE KING

ANOINTING MASS will be celebrated at St Clare's Church on Thursday 27th November at 1.30pm, followed by refreshments in the Parish House. During the afternoon, donations will be accepted for our Partner Parish at Dotik in East Timor to aid in their Eco-Pastoral Project. Should you require transport on the day, please phone the Parish House or Denise 9898 5877 or Angela 9849 1492.

AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB—
NOVEMBER 27—9.15AM—FILM/LUNCHEON
WAVERLEY. 'AUSTRALIA' -NICOLE KIDMAN,
HUGH JACKMAN. \$16. BOOKINGS: MARG
9803 4973, PAT 9887 6790.

DECEMBER 4—9.30AM—COACH TRIP TO
BLUE LOTUS WATER GARDENS AT YARRA
JUNCTION. \$44. 2 COURSE LUNCH AT UPPER
YARRA RSL. DEPOSIT \$10 AT TIME OF
BOOKING, BALANCE BY 20/11. BOOKINGS:
MARG 9803 4973, JODY 9842 9409.

SENIORS CHRISTMAS

Our Thank You Christmas Lunch to the Seniors (60+) will be held on Sunday December 7th in SFX Parish Hall @ 12.15. Bookings to the Parish Offices—\$15 pp, by Nov 27th.



Help wanted on Sat Dec 6th @ 1pm to help set up.

Help wanted on Sunday Dec 7th from 12pm on to help with serving & washing dishes. We would also like **Young Parishioners in Yrs 9 or 10 to help wait on the tables.** Please advise the Parish Office if you are able to help.

From Fr Ben

At an RSL testimonial dinner, the MC announced, "We are gathered to honour a man whp doesn't know the meaning of surrender. So we have all chipped in & bought him a dictionary."

Because of the current changes to Mass times, Ministers of the Word and of the Eucharist will need to make a new commitment in regard to the times of Mass they wish to attend. I am **urgently** requesting that you contact either Monique or myself to advise of your availability until Christmas, or that you return the form below during the coming week. New rosters will be drawn up for the next 6 weeks or so, and then again in February. Welcomers are encouraged to make themselves available at any Mass they attend. Many thanks.

Liz Clark

NAME _____

MINISTRY _____

I would like to offer my services as a minister at

6 pm **10 am** **8 am** **5 pm** **9 am**

My corner

I am fairly certain that when some parishioners see me coming, they turn away or try to hide, as they think I may be about to ask them to do something. I recently heard of a Pastoral Associate who was told that her job was to be 'Recruitment Officer for the Parish'. So, at times, that's what I do. I am the one who encourages, cajoles or persuades people to take on various tasks in the parish. Always before I approach someone about taking on a new ministry or special task, I will have thought about it, prayed about it, sometimes discussed it further with Fr Anthoni. I only ask people I believe are capable of a task. Yet, so often I hear "But I couldn't do that." Well, if that's the case, why would I have asked you? Don't you know that you are a like treasure chest full of gifts and talents? That's what today's gospel is about. Firstly, it's about acknowledging the gifts and talents we have been given by God, and then it's about making the best use of them, developing them, challenging ourselves to be everything that God expects us to become. For some of us though, it's about hiding our gifts and talents, about being afraid to confront our feelings of inadequacy. It's about settling for the mediocre rather than reaching for the stars. I'd encourage you to read the reflection below and think about the profound message you hear. Ponder it in your heart, pray about it. Then when you come to consider your Christmas gift to the parish in Advent, you will be truly confident to accept the invitation to fuller involvement in our community.

Fiz Clark, Pastoral Associate

OUR DEEPEST FEAR

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, 'Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous?' Actually, who are you *not* to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others.

Marianne Williamson

For last Saturday's **Parish Pastoral Council's reflection day** we took the Parish Mission Statement and subjected it to intense scrutiny as we worked together to see what meaning it has in our lives, not just when we verbalise it at Mass, but as we take it out into the world, owning it as our mission for the week. It was fascinating to analyse each phrase, and hear each person's perspective on its meaning. After much discussion, we were heartened to know that in many ways our mission **is** being fulfilled in the ways we worship, reach out to others, serve one another, offer hospitality and work for justice in our world, keeping Christ as the centre of all we do. Our mission statement is not merely words, but living action. Fr Greg Bennet spoke to us about PPC and our role, and lead us through an interesting discussion about what logo we might put on the welcome mat of our church (if we had one). There is food for much thought here. PPC members were grateful for an opportunity to reflect, pray together, and come to understand each one's perspective parish life. We have decided to use the mission statement for further reflection for the whole parish during Advent this year.

EAST TIMOR ECO PASTORAL PROJECT CHRISTMAS CARDS

We have a limited number of lovely gift cards to purchase for presents this Christmas and in so doing to support the people of Dotik in East Timor. They are of the same design as our previous Christmas gift cards from our fundraising effort in 2006 and would make a thoughtful gift for that person who already has "everything"! Cards may be purchased through: Val Mooney 9898 2602, Helen Miller 9877 5760 or through Monique at the Parish House 9890 2231.

FRANCISCAN CALENDARS ARE ON SALE AT SFX PARISH HOUSE—\$6 ea— A GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT. St Vincent de Paul Christmas Cards \$3 for a pack of 5 cards.

R.C.I.A.

Last Sunday, our 3 candidates from the RCIA program took part in the Rite of Acceptance. During this rite, they committed themselves to continuing to seek Christ, supported by their sponsors and the community. This was only a short ceremony, but the candidates reported that they were deeply touched by being signed with the cross of Christ, by the sense of belonging they experienced, and by the promises of prayer and support from parishioners who spoke to them after Mass. On Tuesday night, there was a lively discussion about this Sunday's gospel, and the gifts and talents we all share. We were lead through a very stimulating session about prayer by one of our newer parishioners who willingly and enthusiastically shared her experience of prayer, of ways to pray, and who answered the many questions that arose with gentleness and grace. Thank you Lucy. Please continue to pray for all those involved in this important process.

ROSTERS

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S-NOVEMBER 23

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

6pm M Slevison, E&A Fabian, M Rossely, J Morison
7.30am F Neyland
9.30am P&R Cussen, W Tan, M Chan, A Leonard, M Sinclair, M Blundy
5pm P Aldag

Ministers of the Word

6pm M Jeffares, M Dodds
7.30am F Neyland
9.30am H Miller, M Robotham
5pm J O'Brien, R Paul

Welcomers

6pm B&M O'Shaughnessy
9.30am W&L Norton

Children's Liturgy

November 23—Christ the King—Group A
December 7—2nd Sunday Advent—Group B

Altar Linen

November 16 E Vogel
November 23 Olga Rewega

Counters

November 16 R&Y Roy
November 23 P McGlin, P Madzarevic

Collectors 5pm

November 16 I Mahlstedt
November 23 P Aldag

Rosary Statue

November 16—M Cahill, 167 Dorking Rd
November 23—P Stagg, 116 Dorking Rd

ITALIAN MASS

Commentator

November 16 G Tabacchiera
November 23 G Amato

Lettori

November 16 N Pozzobon, A Dinardo
November 23 J Adamo, C Ingresso

Ministri dell'Eucarista

November 16 C Chessari, M Salamone
November 23 G Massarotti, D Amato

ST CLARE'S—NOVEMBER 23

Ministers of the Word

8.30 M Clark, D Hayes
10.30 K McMahan, M Hardy

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

8.30am E Lim, D Wobers, P Wolbers
10.30am D Tan, D Hardy, T Shallvey

Piety Stall—November 23

8.30 A Lindsey 10.30 E Boyle

Ministers to the Sick call on families during the week. If you or someone in your family is unable to come to Mass, please let us know at the office and we can arrange for a Minister to visit you at home.

Would parishioners please note that it is preferable if Mass intentions are brought to the Parish House and entered into the diary kept for intentions. This will avoid, as much as is possible, any disappointment, when 2 or more intentions are requested for the same Mass.

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.