



**FRIARS OF THE PARISHES**

Fr Anthoni 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 *Liz Clark*  
Pat Cleary *Dianna Hardy*  
Breta Cohen *Carmel Purdey*  
Ann-Marie Diggins *Monique Waring*  
Jane D'Souza *(ex-officio)*  
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

**RCIA**

First day back at work, the thought of an evening meeting wasn't a highlight of the day. By 7.32pm, the meeting room was full of chat and laughter, eager faces delighted to share what a different Christmas this had been, with the new light of faith changing ideas on commercialism and receiving, to thoughts (and practical action) of peace and joy and sharing with others. We had a wonderful open discussion about prayer, about Mass attendance, about the homilies and the gospels. I truly wish each parishioner could be at one of these meetings to be part of the amazing gift that has been so warmly embraced by our 4 candidates. It would be a wonderful start to the year for each of us to catch the enthusiasm and joy and excitement that is drawing these women closer to their Baptism at Easter. I left the meeting when I could finally get everyone to go home, full of enthusiasm for all that is to be in the coming year.

*Liz Clark*

**My corner**

Pope Benedict has declared July 2009—June 2010 the Year of the Priest He said: *"It is my hope that*

*this Year for Priests will help all priests to appreciate the immense grace of their vocation, consecration and mission. During this Year may the whole Church pray and work more fervently for the sanctification of priests, an increase of priestly vocations, and a greater appreciation of the role of the priest in the life of the ecclesial community.* One aspect of the priesthood is presented in today's gospel: *'He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him.'* Here we see Jesus ready to begin his homily, breaking open God's word. On any given Sunday, the gospel is proclaimed, and the members of the congregation sit down to hear what the priest has to say about the day's readings. Some choose to read the newsletter, some doze off, some let their thoughts ramble around. Others know that the priest has put a lot of thought and care into his preparation of the homily and listen attentively to the words of wisdom he utters. We have a wonderful gift in our parish, with 3 friars who have such a wide ranging outlook on life, different approaches and life lessons, and who always provide something precious to take away to mull over during the week. I challenge everyone to imagine what it must be like to have to stand up and present something thought provoking to each person present in the congregation on any given Sunday. I can assure you that all our priests spend intense and precious hours in their efforts to give you new insights and suggestions for living the gospel each day. Please show them the courtesy of listening well, and remember to say 'thanks' if you are presented with a real gem.

*Liz Clark, Pastoral Associate*

**LENTEN STUDY/DISCUSSION GROUP**

As a preparation for Easter, you are offered an opportunity to reflect on and discuss the Sunday gospels in Lent with a group of other parishioners. Please fill in the form below, nominating a day and time that would suit you ↓↓↓

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**LENTEN STUDY/DISCUSSION GROUP**  
I would like to participate in a discussion group.  
**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone No:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Preferred day:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Preferred time: am/pm** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PLEASE LEAVE IN COLLECTION PLATE OR RETURN TO PARISH OFFICE**

**ROSTERS—EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

**OF COMMUNION & MINISTERS OF THE WORD ARE REQUESTED TO VOLUNTEER AT**

**MASSES AS REQUIRED.**

**ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S—January 31**

**Altar Linen**

January 24 P Turner  
January 31 J Morison

**Counters**

January 24 B&M Walker  
January 31 P McGlin, P Madzarevic

**Collectors 5pm**

January 24 L Soulsby  
January 31 P Aldag

**Rosary Statue**

Month of January—N Guinane, 65 Mersey St

**ITALIAN MASS**

**Commentator**

January 24 G Amato  
January 31 G Tabacchiera

**Lettori**

January 24 G Tabacchiera, G Amato  
January 31 A Lanza, L Ferola

**Ministri dell'Eucarista**

January 24 G Massarotti, D Amato  
January 31 G Tabacchiera, R Bidinost

**ST CLARE'S—Piety Stall—January 31**

9.00am D Tan

**MINISTRY IN THE PARISH**

Sincere thanks to the many generous parishioners who share their talents and their time in assisting with the smooth running of liturgies and various services within the parish. As we begin the new year, we need to know if anyone wishes to withdraw from their current ministry, or if any parishioners would like to put their name forward to be involved as new Minister of the Word, of Communion, to the Sick, or as Welcomers. New rosters will be drawn up next week. Please advise the parish office if you wish to make changes. As a parish, we pray with gratitude for the many people and the many gifts that build up the Body of Christ in Box Hill.

*I am pleased to inform parishioners that the former kindergarten site in Harrison St, Box Hill North has been leased to Berengarra School. The contract is in the final stages of preparation and work has begun to prepare the site for the beginning of the school year. Fr Anthoni*

**PARISH WALKING GROUP**

Resumes Saturday 30 January, 9.00am.

**MEDITATION GROUP**

Resumes Wednesday 3 Feb, 7.30pm.