



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

*In the care of the  
Franciscan Friars*

**3rd Sunday of Easter  
April 26th, 2009—Year B**

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

Our responses today are:

Entrance Antiphon

Let all the earth cry out to God with  
joy; praise the glory of his name;  
proclaim his glorious praise, alleluia.

Psalm Response

Lord, let your face shine on us.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord Jesus, make  
your word plain to us: make our hearts  
burn with love when you speak.  
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Christ had to suffer and to rise from  
the dead on the third day. In his name  
penance for the remission of sin is to  
be preached to all nations, alleluia.

**This week**

*'You are witnesses to all this.'  
How will you witness to Christ in  
your life 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.

**They had recognised Jesus at  
the breaking of the bread.**

For many God remains as a higher being who is  
policing the world and keeping a tab on our sins. It  
took the disciples the death and resurrection of Jesus  
to understand God better; this experience  
transformed them. In today's gospel reading we  
hear how the risen Christ continues to appear among  
the disciples announcing peace, reassuring them and  
lifting up all doubts and fears from their hearts.

Why is attending mass so important?  
Is it just to fulfil our Sunday obligation, or is there  
something more to it?

The longer I live and minister among our parishioners  
the better I come to understand the presence of the  
Risen Lord in our world. Knowledge is important, but  
our experience of God is what grounds us and  
enlightens us and helps us to know God.  
Transformation for me takes place in the ordinariness  
of our lives, not in the extraordinary events which  
only serve as a wakeup call, like a "big bang".

All the accounts of the resurrection remind me of a  
God who loves us and wants to share with us. The  
Scriptures are human stories of discovering God who  
is present in people's lives. For me the more we  
become aware of the presence of the living God in  
our lives, the Eucharist becomes all that we long for  
in our lives; love, forgiveness, reconciliation, justice,  
peace, friendship, acceptance, meaning, hope,  
purpose and all that is important for living. We too  
will recognise Jesus in the breaking of the bread and  
in our lives.

Where, how or when do you experience God  
in your life?

Our lives are sacred and the more we allow God into  
our lives, the more we begin to blossom. Even the  
difficult or painful chapters can be transformed with  
the healing power of the risen Lord. The scars might  
remain as a reminder of what we went through, but  
peace will reign and move us forward.

For me temptations are times when I lose focus on  
the Crucified Christ, darkness prevails and I am  
thrown of balance. Sin is all about us moving away  
from God, losing sight of God or replacing the  
presence of God with other things in life.  
Repentance is all about turning towards a loving  
God, who delights in us.

*Fr Anthony ofm*

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**www.scsfx.org.au**

**SFX Primary School** 9890 1108  
www.sfxboxh.melb.catholic.edu.au

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

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

**READINGS FOR  
THIS WEEK**

**3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Acts 3:13-15, 17-19**  
*You have killed the prince of life;  
God, however, raised him from  
the dead.*

**1 Jn 2:1-5**  
*Jesus Christ is the sacrifice that  
takes away our sins and those of  
the whole world.*

**Lk 24:35-48**  
*It was written that Christ would  
suffer and on the third day rise  
from the dead.*

**Monday**  
Acts 6:8-15; Jn 6:22-29

**Tuesday—St Peter Chanel**  
Acts 7:51 - 8:1; Jn 6:30-35

**Wednesday - St Catherine of  
Siena—Acts 8:1-8; Jn 6:35-40**

**Thursday**  
Acts 8:26-40; Jn 6:44-51

**Friday**  
Acts 9:1-20; Jn 6:52-59

**Saturday—St Athanasius**  
Acts 9:31-42; Jn 6:60-69

**NEXT SUNDAY**

**4th SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Acts 4:8-12**

**1 Jn 3:1-2**

**Jn 10:11-18**

## 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 : 7 May 2009**

## Liturgy Times—

**PLEASE NOTE NEW 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

<b>SUNDAY 26 APRIL</b> <b>3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	<b>12.30PM</b>	<b>MORNING TEA AFTER 10AM MASS, IN SFX RESOURCE AREA</b> <b>BAPTISMS AT SFX</b>
<b>MONDAY 27 APRIL</b>	<b>8.30AM</b> <b>10.30AM</b> <b>4.00PM</b> <b>7.00PM</b>	<b>SENIOR MIXED SOCIAL TENNIS GROUP @ SFX</b> (CALL JUDY REID 9878 4212 OR JUST TURN UP) ALL WELCOME. <b>FRANCIS/CLARE CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY MASS</b> AT ST CLARE'S PARISH HALL. OLIVE 9878 4103, THERESE 9878 3706 <b>CATECHETIC CLASSES AT ST CLARE'S</b> <b>CONFIRMATION CLASS AT SFX PHMR</b>
<b>TUESDAY 28 APRIL</b>	<b>12.45PM</b> <b>7.30PM</b>	<b>LEGION OF MARY @ SFX</b> <b>RCIA—SFX PARISH HOUSE MEETING ROOM</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY 29 APRIL</b>	<b>8.30AM</b> <b>9AM-11AM</b> <b>7.30PM</b>	<b>TENNIS GROUP (AS MONDAY)</b> <b>PLAYGROUP AT ST CLARE'S. CONTACT: RAY BELL 9893 4481</b> OR TRUDY FRANKENSTEINER 9899 5252 <b>MEDITATION GROUP IN SFX HALL. NEWCOMERS WELCOME</b>
<b>THURSDAY 30 APRIL</b>	<b>9.45AM</b>	<b>AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB—BUS TRIP—SEE BELOW.</b>
<b>FRIDAY 1 MAY</b>	<b>11.00AM</b> <b>7.30PM-9.00PM</b>	<b>HOLY HOUR AT SFX</b> <b>BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP IN SFX PHMR</b>
<b>SATURDAY 2 MAY</b>	<b>9.00AM</b> <b>2.00PM</b>	<b>PARISH WALKING GROUP—MEET AT SFX PARISH HOUSE. ALL WELCOME.</b> <b>MEMORIAL MASS (PAT FEWSTER) AT SFX</b>
<b>SUNDAY 3 MAY</b> <b>4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	<b>12.30PM</b> <b>2.30PM</b>	<b>BAPTISMS AT SFX</b> <b>CONFIRMATION AT SFX</b>

## AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB

**BUS TRIP** on Thursday 30th, to Mordialloc. We catch the bus at the bus station at Centro, Box Hill. We will meet at 9.45am, at the bus stop. There is no charge: the bus is free, until May 3. It would be advisable to carry a water bottle, hat and sunnies – and possibly rainwear, depending on the forecast. Members will be responsible for their own lunch - they will be able to purchase it at our destination. Just turn up on the day if you wish to come along..  
On **Thursday, May 7**, we will go tenpin bowling.



## CATECHETIC CLASSES

Recommence Monday 27th April at 4pm at St Clare's.

## MEMORIAL MASS

A Memorial Mass for former parishioner Pat Fewster who has died in Queensland. will be held at St Francis Xavier on Saturday 2nd May at 2pm.

## TAKE STEPS AGAINST POVERTY

### WALK AGAINST WANT

In support of Oxfam Australia. Start & finish at St John Ambulance Hall, ElgarPark, Box Hill North—Mel 47 B4. Sunday 3rd May. Call 9720 1703 or email: [digger@netspace.net.au](mailto:digger@netspace.net.au) to take part or [www.oxfam.org.au/walk](http://www.oxfam.org.au/walk)



## The Floral Art Society of Victoria presents CHURCH DESIGNS WITH A DIFFERENCE

Thursday 28 May at the Nunawading Uniting Church, cnr Whitehorse Rd & O'Shannessy St, Nunawading (Melway 48:G9). Doors open 10am. Cost: \$20. Morning Tea—demonstration at 10.30am. **BOOKINGS:** Janet Alesich 9894 4131. If any parishioner is interested in attending this demonstration, the parish will pay the attendance fee.

## MONSTER RAFFLE!

Knights of the Southern Cross will offer tickets @ \$2 each in a Rotary Raffle at Masses this weekend.

1st prize: Dream Holiday \$12,000

2nd prize: Weekend Away \$2,000

3rd prize: Electrical Goods \$1,000

Proceeds to Catholic Charities.

## UPDATE: CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP'S CHARITABLE FUND—Bushfire Appeal

An on-line subscription facility to the Recovery newsletter is now available on the archdiocesan website. The on-line subscription facility can be found by following the links from the home page of the website: [www.melbourne.catholic.org.au](http://www.melbourne.catholic.org.au). On line subscribers to the newsletter will be sent a copy by email when each new issue is released.

## PARISH MISSION REPORT

A report on the recent Parish Mission with Fr Justin Belitz ofm is available to read at SFX Parish Office.

Caritas Australia would like to **THANK YOU** for supporting Project Compassion.

If you still have a box or set of envelopes, please return them as soon as possible. If you are wondering how you could make a difference in the struggle against poverty in your daily life then visit [www.bemore.org.au](http://www.bemore.org.au) and take up the challenge to BE More!

## TIME CHANGE

As from Monday 20th April, the Francis Clare Charismatic Prayer Community meeting held in St Clare's Parish Hall, will start at **10.30AM** and finish at 12 noon. Prior to Praise & Worship, we say Divine Mercy Prayers at 10.15am. All are welcome to join us.

**THURSDAY NIGHT'S MEDITATION GROUP IS CANCELLED.**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARISHES—SUNDAY MAY 24 AT 12.30PM IN SFX HALL**

**REPRESENTATIVES FROM PARISH GROUPS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND IN THE HALL FROM 11AM ONWARDS PRIOR TO THE AGM TO MEET INDIVIDUALLY WITH PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL.**

**GROUPS ARE ALSO INVITED TO SUBMIT BRIEF REPORTS TO THE PARISH OFFICE BY WEDNESDAY 6 MAY FOR INCLUSION IN THE ANNUAL REPORT.**

*A brief summary of the past year's activities preferably by email would be appreciated.*

**ST FRANCIS XAVIER PRIMARY SCHOOL, BOX HILL**

2010 Prep Enrolments will open Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May for Baptised Catholic children who turn 5 years of age by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2010. Enrolments close Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2009. Enrolment forms can be obtained from School Office. (Phone: 9890 1108 Hours: 8.30am-4pm Monday-Friday during school terms). School Tours at 9.15am (for approx 1 hour) on Mondays, 4<sup>th</sup> May, 1<sup>st</sup> June, 20<sup>th</sup> July, 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 7<sup>th</sup> September, 12<sup>th</sup> October. **ALSO, 11am Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2009.**

**My corner**

During the past week, it has been wonderful to wake up to the magnificent autumn weather—a chill in the air, stunning sunrises, that exciting promise of a fantastic, near-perfect day. On a few days, I was somewhat disturbed to notice all the smoke hanging in the air, a too soon reminder of the bushfires in February, the loss and grief of so many people. I wonder how they must feel with that smell in the air, if it is rubbing and aggravating their pain further. There have been some very hopeful stories in the media about new beginnings, about hopes revitalized, about the persistent Australian spirit that moves people through the worst of times, helping them celebrate each small step on the path to their future. This whole situation has reminded me a bit of the gospels over the past week—the apostles shattered, full of disbelief and pain—wondering what on earth life could now hold for them, with Jesus dead. And then the stories of the glimmer of hope—Jesus appearing to group after group, reminding them of all that has been and all that he promised, encouraging and supporting them to get on with their mission. Dread and apprehension turning to action; anxiety and uncertainty becoming boldness. Our ongoing prayers for the bushfire survivors could centre around the examples we are seeing of the early church, and how they came from what seemed an empty void to a 2000 year old church, living faithfully, glorifying God, proclaiming the story of salvation.

*Liz Clark, Pastoral Associate*

**EARTH DAY 22 April 2009**

Earth Day has been an annual event for people around the world to celebrate the earth and renew our commitment to building a safer, healthier and cleaner world for all of us. The day broadens the base of support for environmental programs, rekindles public commitment and builds community activism around the world through a broad range of events and activities.

There are many ways you can get involved. And you needn't wait for April 22 each year to help out the Earth.

Suggested activities include: spring cleaning, planting (trees, shrubs and gardens), discussion of environmental impacts of current policies and plans, composting, clean energy, health alternatives and reduction of pesticide use.

*Earth Day is every day – to build a better future for the environment we must Commit to protect our environment on a year-round basis.*

Source: <http://www.earthday.net/>  
<http://www.earthsite.org/>

**FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY IN TODAY'S WORLD**

In a world where human beings are at war with themselves and with nature, we are in need of a spirituality that will guide us in our many varied relationships, that will give us heart and open us to the very heart of God and a more deeply human future. As the Franciscan Tradition celebrates 800 years since its origins, come and celebrate with us as Sr. Iliia Delio OSF, opens up this tradition for us in these early days of a new century.

**Saturday 16 May:**

*Christian Life in an Evolutionary Universe—10am at Yarra Theological Union, Albion Rd, Box Hill*

*What does it mean to live the Gospel in the 21st Century—1.30pm at Yarra Theological Union, as above.*

**ANZAC Day:**

*We pray for the peace of the world.*

We thank you for the brave and faithful dead, who willingly laid down their lives on the battlefields of war or succumbed to the perils of the deep or of the air. We bless you for the dauntless courage of those defenders of our country who have fallen in the cause of truth and righteousness.

In your hand, O Father, we leave their departed spirits. Grant us to follow their good example in faithfulness and endurance, even unto death, that we may with them be found worthy of the crown of everlasting life. O Lord, lover of souls, who through the mouth of your prophet of old declared that all souls are yours.

**Amen.**

*From Fr Ben*

*The more faithfully you listen to the voice within you, the better you hear what is sounding outside of you.  
(Dag Hammarskjöld)*

**ROSTERS**

**ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S—MAY 3**

**Extraordinary Ministers of Communion**

6.00pm A&E Fabian, A Leonard, N Succar, M Rossely  
8.00am J Reid  
10.00am G Augustin, K Fazio, M Sinclair, L Lampard, W Tan, E&E VDW, W Tan

5.00pm E Umashankar

**Ministers of the Word**

6.00pm P Tierney, M Williamsz  
8.00am B Reid  
10.00am H Miller, J Tan  
5.00pm J O'Brien, L Soulsby

**Welcomers**

6.00pm M Rossely, J Morison  
10.00am E&E Van Der Westhuizen

**Children's Liturgy**

May 10—5th Sunday of Easter B—Group B  
May 24—Ascension—Group C

**Altar Linen**

April 26 M Rossely  
May 3 C Chessari

**Counters**

April 26 R&Y Roy  
May 3 P Eng & H H Yeoh

**Collectors 5pm**

April 26 A Cutts  
May 3 L Soulsby

**Rosary Statue**

April 26—J&B Reid, 6 Hamilton St, Blackburn  
May 3—G Rae, 9 Derwent St, BHN

**Morning Tea (after 10am Mass)**

April 26 I Balchin, P Turner  
May 3 E VDW, R Bastianpillai

**ITALIAN MASS**

**Commentator**

April 26 R Bidinost  
May 3 J Adamo

**Lettori**

April 26 S Faulisi, A Dinardo  
May 3 G Tabacchiera, G Amato

**Ministri dell'Eucarista**

April 26 C Chessari, G Tabacchiera  
May 3 M Casamento, R Bidinost

**ST CLARE'S—MAY 3**

**Ministers of the Word**

9.00am J Sakowski, P Fitzgerald, P Sakowski

**Extraordinary Ministers of Communion**

9.00am D Tan, I D'Amato, T Nicholson, H Keown, P Ciccotosto, T Shallvey, F Fitzgerald

**Piety Stall—May 3**

9.00am D Tan

**POINTS TO PONDER**

*Why do you ignore me when I see you down the street/at the shops?  
You greeted me at the sign of peace.*

**YEAR OF ST PAUL**

2 COR 5:1 For we know that when the tent that we live in on earth is folded up, there is a house built by God for us, an everlasting home not made by human hands, in the heavens.

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.