



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

*In the care of the Franciscan Friars*

## 3rd Sunday of Easter April 18, 2010—Year C

**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

I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Christ is risen, the Lord of all creation; he has shown pity on all people. Alleluia!

### Communion Antiphon

The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus in the breaking of bread, alleluia.

### This week

*Do you have a role in leading Christ to others? How can you act on that 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.

### **'Feed my lambs' 'Look after my sheep' and 'Feed my sheep'.**

Last year I was expecting that we would be celebrating Easter at St Francis Xavier in a refurbished church. Many of you have spoken to me about your yearning for a refreshing environment and that the church is looking tired and in desperate need of some work done to it. But I was pleasantly surprised and humbled by how the Easter celebrations turned out great this year with all the uncertainties of the building work.

So far, all that I have heard from parishioners and visitors are all praises, without any constructive criticism. All the liturgies went really well and they also had a very reflective tone to them. The participation of all has to be commended and I was proud to be a part of these two parishes as you came together to celebrate Easter.

The Youth Stations of the Cross was perfect; every year we hear great things about our Youth Stations, but this year I feel they have perfected it. Thank you to our youth and to all who supported them. Lucy and Katerina did a great job of coordinating and involving many people in this year's Stations. Liz, together with the RCIA team worked wonderfully to prepare our candidates for the Sacraments of Initiation. To our musicians, choirs, sacristans, lectors, servers, ministers and everyone who helped our parishes to prepare well - thank you. It is a humbling reminder that Church is the not buildings, but the people of God. And you have proved it by your wonderful participation and contribution, not just at the Easter Triduum, but throughout the year in these two parishes by your witness to the paschal mystery. What we celebrated was not just an event, but our faith in the Crucified and Risen Lord.

How we nurture and nourish each other's faith is so important. The gospel reminds us how everything was reversed; sometimes we try so hard like the apostles trying to catch fish and achieve nothing. The Risen Lord changes everything and with him we can begin to change our lives and our world. Special thanks to Angela and Jeninne for organising a great supper after the Vigil. It has been nearly a year since we had the use of the resource area which has been transformed into a stunning staffroom.

**Fr Anthoni ofm**

**Parish of St Francis Xavier**  
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Facsimile 9898 4392  
**email:** sfxbh@celestial.com.au  
**www.scsfx.org.au**

**SFX Primary School** 9890 1108  
[www.sfxboxhill.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sfxboxhill.catholic.edu.au)

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North Box Hill, 3129  
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**This newsletter is also available on our website:**  
[www.scsfx.org.au](http://www.scsfx.org.au)

### **READINGS FOR THIS WEEK**

#### **3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Acts 5:27-32, 40-41

*We are witnesses of these words, and so is the Holy Spirit.*

Apoc 5:11-14

*The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, wealth, glory, and blessing.*

Jn 21:1-19

*Jesus stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.*

#### **Monday**

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

#### **Tuesday**

Acts 7:51 - 8:1; Jn 6:30-35

#### **Wednesday**

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**

Acts 9:31-42; Jn 6:60-69

### **NEXT SUNDAY**

#### **4th SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Acts 13:14, 43-52;

Apoc 7:9, 14-17;

Jn 10:27-30

### **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 : 6 May 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

<b>SUNDAY 18 APRIL</b>	<b>9.00AM</b>	<b>COMMITMENT MASS AT ST CLARE'S FOR CATECHETIC CLASSES</b>
	<b>12.30PM</b>	<b>BAPTISM AT SFX</b>
<b>MONDAY 19 APRIL</b>	<b>8.30AM</b>	<b>SENIOR MIXED SOCIAL TENNIS GROUP @ SFX</b>
	<b>10.30AM</b>	<b>(CALL JUDY REID 9878 4212 OR JUST TURN UP)</b>
	<b>4.00PM</b>	<b>FRANCIS/CLARE CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY IN ST CLARE'S HALL (OLIVE 9878 4103, THERESE 9878 3706)</b>
	<b>7.00PM</b>	<b>CATECHETIC CLASSES BEGIN AT ST CLARE'S</b>
		<b>CONFIRMATION CLASS—SFXPHMR</b>
<b>TUESDAY 20 APRIL</b>	<b>12.45PM</b>	<b>LEGION OF MARY (SFX PHMR)</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY 21 APRIL</b>	<b>8.30AM</b>	<b>TENNIS GROUP (AS MONDAY)</b>
	<b>7.30PM</b>	<b>MEDITATION GROUP IN SFX PHMR</b>
<b>THURSDAY 22 APRIL</b>	<b>11.00AM</b>	<b>AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB—MEET AT SFX AT 11.30 AM FOR PICNIC AT RUFFEY LAKE PARK</b>
<b>FRIDAY 23 APRIL</b>	<b>7.30-9.00PM</b>	<b>BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP (SFX PHMR)</b>
<b>SATURDAY 24 APRIL</b>	<b>9.00AM</b>	<b>PARISH WALKING GROUP. MEET AT SFX PARISH HOUSE.</b>
	<b>2.00PM</b>	<b>WEDDING AT SFX</b>
<b>SUNDAY 25 APRIL</b>	<b>12.30PM</b>	<b>2 BAPTISMS AT SFX</b>
		<b>WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS</b>

### **MINISTRY OF HOSPITALITY**

As I prepared the ministry rosters for the next few months, I found I was unable to add names for welcomers at 10 am Masses, and I have fewer people available for 6 pm. Our newly baptized Catholics cannot speak more highly of the warmth of the welcome they have received in the parish. This means that a very large percentage of parishioners is capable of offering welcome to others.

This may mean you.

Could you please give some prayerful consideration to joining this ministry. It involves arriving 10 minutes early for Mass, handing out the newsletters and greeting members of the congregation with a smile and a word of welcome. Let me know if you feel moved to assist.

In the meantime I invite all Ministers of the Eucharist to take part in the welcoming ministry by arriving early and greeting the members of the congregation as they arrive.

—Liz Clark

### **AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB**

This week—Picnic, at Ruffey Lake Park . BYO food and drink. We will meet at SFX at 11.30am. Next week—"Moving Gifts" demonstration at 1.15pm at St Clare's.

Advance notice – our next film, on May 27, will be "The Blind Side". All parishioners and their friends are welcome to attend our activities. Information - Judy - 9878 4212.

The **LIFE WALK, 2010**, finished in Melbourne on Sunday, April 11. There will be collection boxes in our churches this weekend - please consider making a donation, as the WALK is Right to Life's main source of funds to finance its work in Pregnancy Counselling and Community Education. Since the passing of the "Decriminalisation of Abortion" Bill, allowing abortion right up to the time of normal birth, the importance of this work has increased hugely. If you would like to sponsor a walker, ring Judy - 9878 4212.

We have a petition in the churches calling for the repeal of the "**Abortion Law Reform Bill of 2008**". Please consider signing it – it is extremely important to keep this matter before our politicians, especially as there will be an election later this year.

### **PHOTOGRAPHER!**

During the past few weeks, you may have noticed a photographer taking photos at some of the Easter ceremonies and other church activities, which may be published on our website. If you would prefer not to have your photo published, please let the Parish Office know.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARISHES—SUNDAY MAY 30 at 12.30pm AT ST CLARE'S**  
**Sausage Sizzle from 11.30am**

### **CATECHETIC CLASSES**

Commence Monday 19th April at 4pm at St Clare's. **COMMITMENT MASS—SUNDAY 18TH APRIL—9AM AT ST CLARE'S**

### **Could you care for a child with special needs?**

Centacare Catholic Family services is looking for adoptive or long-term foster care parents who feel prepared to take on the additional challenges of a child with special needs. Centacare's Adoptions and Permanent Care program manager Kathleen West says, "We are particularly seeking adoptive or long term foster care parents for a beautiful little two year old girl called Anne who has severe disabilities. We are hoping to find a family who can provide full time care for Anne for life. We need a family who is patient and resilient, able to manage Anne's ongoing medical requirements and prepared to work with support and therapeutic services. Most importantly, we need someone who can accept Anne's disabilities, limitations, and unknown future and love her for who she is." If you would like more information on providing Anne or another child, including those with special needs, with a loving home environment, please contact Centacare Catholic Family Services between 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday on 9689 3888. You could help a child like Anne reach their potential.

*University student looking for babysitting & domestic cleaning jobs—call Lu on 0415 798 671 (rates are negotiable)*

## A NEW SERIES: 'MARY MACKILLOP – AN AUSTRALIAN LIKE US'

Mary's father, Alexander, was often caught up in speculative ventures but his lack of business sense, combined with passionate idealism (including forays into politics), led to temporary periods of slight prosperity but ended in insolvency. Unable to support his wife and children, a dispirited Alexander moved away. With compassionate love for him, Mary wrote to her mother in 1867: 'I do feel for his lonely state.' In 1868, with his loving wife Flora at his side, Alexander died in Hamilton, Victoria.

Provided by the Sisters of St Joseph - [www.sosj.org.au](http://www.sosj.org.au). For further information, see [www.marymackillop.org.au](http://www.marymackillop.org.au) and [www.cathnews.com.au](http://www.cathnews.com.au)

## ANZAC DAY MASS—Catholic War Veterans' Association. St Bede's Parish, 1 Severn St, North Balwyn. Sunday 25 April at 7.30am.

## LIFE AS A FRIAR MINOR

Franciscan life is one lived with the joy of the Gospel at its core. St Francis loved and he loved to the full regardless of the work he found himself engaged in doing. If this way of life attracts you then Paul Ghanem ofm, the director of vocations, is there to help you discern this call. Fr Paul can be contacted on 02 9369 9369 or at [vocations@franciscans.org.au](mailto:vocations@franciscans.org.au)

### POINTS TO PONDER

★ *It is the Lord.' What moments of joyful recognition have you experienced in the last two weeks?*

## My corner

At the risk of sounding somewhat irreverent, I have to tell you that there is an error in the Bible—specifically Romans 6:23. "So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death.....for the wages of sin is death." I wish to advise those who attended the Lenten Reconciliation service that the wages of their sin is an amazing crop of bean plants and 2 slightly less amazing crops of peas. For those who weren't there, participants were invited to plant a seed in a tray of earth, signifying their own dying to the sin in their life, and their hope for living in better ways in the future. I left the trays outside the day after the Reconciliation service, and there was a very heavy fall of rain. In a matter of a few days all the seeds were sprouting. In the week I was away, they have gone crazy, and I can assure you all that the friars do not need to worry about their green vegetable intake over the winter—they always use the food they are given, and there will be plenty of peas and beans. In no way am I encouraging you to take up sinning to supplement your food needs. But I find it interesting to note how God provides for us all, even in the midst of our imperfection.

*fiz Clark, Pastoral Associate*

## Thank you!

Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion. If you still have a box or set of envelopes, please bring them back next week. 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!

## FRIENDS OF MARY OF THE CROSS CENTRE FUNDRAISING RAFFLE

Please support the Mary of the Cross Centre by buying a ticket or two in their 2010 Fundraising Raffle. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses next weekend. Three attractive prizes. (see notice board) Tickets are \$2 each OR 3 for \$5. All Proceeds go to the free counseling service of the MOC Centre.

## ST FRANCIS XAVIER PRIMARY SCHOOL

The School Office is open from 8.30am - 4.00pm Monday to Friday during school term. Tours of the School are held on the following dates. The tours are for approximately 1 hour. Please meet at the school office by 9.10am for Monday tours and 10.50am for Sunday tour. Mondays @ 9.15am—19 April, 3 May, 24 May, 19 July, 9 August, 6 September, 11 October and Sunday 11am on 2 May

## NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL

### Holy Week Liturgies

A big thank you goes to the staff and children for the preparation of the Holy week paraliturgies. They were all wonderful and helped us to celebrate the spirit of Easter. I always feel privileged to be a part of this community when we celebrate these.

### Confirmation Family Night

The Confirmation family night was held this week for Year Six families, in the Clare Building. The session was facilitated by Paul Spence for the first time at SFX. There was lots of positive feedback, so thank you to everyone who attended and participated with their child.

### Confirmation Presentation Mass this weekend

If you are unable to make it to the Saturday mass at 6.00pm, you can attend the 10.00am on Sunday and your child will be presented with their medal and will be presented to the parish community.

*Carmel Purdey, School Principal*

## entertainment books™

SFX Parents & Friends are once again offering the popular Entertainment™ Books. The Entertainment™ Book is a restaurant and activity guide that provides special 25 to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers from many of the best restaurants, hotels and attractions throughout Australia & New Zealand. Books are \$65 each, with \$13 from every book going to the school. Phone Clare on 0448 468 259 or [buxtonrayandclaire@bigpond.com](mailto:buxtonrayandclaire@bigpond.com)

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## ROSTERS

### ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S—April 25

**Extraordinary Ministers of Communion**  
6.00pm A Leonard, J Morison, M O'Brien, M Rossely, E Kimmet  
8.00am S Carney, F Neyland  
10.00am R Paul, M Hughes, C Hangan, E&E VDW, G Augustin, W Tan  
5.00pm M T Francisco, L Soulsby

### Ministers of the Word

6.00pm M Williamsz, M Jeffares  
8.00am F Neyland  
10.00am A M Diggins, M Edwards  
5.00pm M Soulsby, T Parker

### Welcomers

6.00pm M Rossely, J Morison  
10.00am E&E VDW

### Children's Liturgy

May 2—5th Sunday of Easter—Group A  
May 9—6th Sunday of Easter—Group B

### Altar Linen

April 18 J Reid  
April 25 M T Francisco

### Counters

April 18 P McGlin, P Madzarevic  
April 25 H Kerwin, M O'Connor

### Collectors 5pm

April 18 A Cutts  
April 25 L Soulsby

### Rosary Statue

April 18—J&B Reid, 6 Hamilton St, Blackburn  
April 25—G Rae, 9 Derwent St, BH

### ITALIAN MASS

#### Commentator

April 18 R Bidinost  
April 25 J Adamo

#### Lettori

April 18 V Peluso, M Salamone  
April 25 A D'Alessandro, L Ferola

#### Ministri dell'Eucarista

April 18 G Tabacchiera, D Amato  
April 25 G Massarotti, R Bidinost

## ST CLARE'S—APRIL 25

### Ministers of the Word

9.00am—P Fitzgerald, M Clark, C Abiad

### Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

9.00am—F Fitzgerald, P O'Brien, H Keown, A McGovern, P Cleary, J Murphy, P Ciccotosto  
**Piety Stall—April 25**  
9.00am—A Lindsey

## ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

For mother & daughter in share bedroom, close to public transport. Please call Susan 0430 023 830

### From Fr Ben

*When an astronomer suggested that all religions could be reduced to "do unto others as you would have them do to you", the theologian Karl Barth made the comment that perhaps all astronomy could be reduced to "Twinkle, twinkle, little star"...which underlines the truth that specialisation in one area should lead us not to believe that we know so much but that in fact we know so little.*

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.