



Newsletter for the Parishes of St Clare and St Francis Xavier

In the care of the Franciscan Friars

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time February 14th, 2010—Year C

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

Our responses today are:

Entrance Antiphon

Lord, be my rock of safety, the stronghold that saves me. For the honour of your name, lead me and guide me.

Psalm Response

Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Rejoice and be glad; your reward is great in heaven. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

They ate and were filled; the Lord gave them what they wanted: they were not deprived of their desire.



ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES
9AM - ST CLARE'S
12NOON & 7.30PM - SFX

This week

Take one of the Beatitudes which is most applicable to you & live it out 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.

Thoughts on Marriage

(from Parishioners and others)

Marriage means companionship through the journey of life with someone you love. AV

Marriage gives me the support I need to love myself and the world around me. KG

Marriage means love, commitment, patience, tolerance, unity, trust in God. MR

Someone to lean on when I need my partner's understanding and love.

Hard work!.....Teamwork.....security... trust....love.

Marriage is always having someone to support you—no matter how hopeless you are. LB

A unique loving and understanding permanent relationship, full of happiness and many shared happy memories and experiences. M & D

A challenge—a commitment—a responsibility—a joy—a blessing. EC

Marriage is sharing and celebrating the eternal love of God.

Marriage vows ask for a commitment from both husband and wife to work, pray and share some recreation together. Some space must be left for individual growth and interests too. A sense of humour and willingness to forgive are integral to marriage. There will always be challenges in any relationship, and conversation—both talking and listening—is essential to overcome these. F & P

Give your hearts, but not into each other's keeping. For only the hand of life can contain your hearts. And stand together yet not too near together: for the pillars of the temple stand apart, and the oak tree and cypress grow not in each other's shadow. *(Kahlil Gibran)*

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Facsimile 9898 4392
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www.scsfx.org.au

SFX Primary School 9890 1108
www.sfxboxhill.catholic.edu.au

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

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

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK 6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jer 17:5-8

A curse on those who trust in humanity; a blessing on those who trust in the Lord.

1 Cor 15:12, 16-20

If Christ is not raised from the dead, your faith is in vain.

Lk 6:17, 20-26

Happy are the poor. Woe to the rich!

Monday

James 1:1-11; Mk 8:1-13

Tuesday

James 1:12-18; Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday—Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:12-18; 2 Cor 5:20 - 6:2;

Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday

Deut 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25

Friday

Is 58:1-9; Mt 9:14-15

Saturday

Is 58:9-14; Lk 5:27-32

NEXT SUNDAY
1st SUNDAY OF LENT
Deut 26:4-10; Rom 10:8-13;
Lk 4:1-13

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 March 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

SUNDAY 14 FEBRUARY	11.00AM	LUNAR NEW YEAR/VALENTINE'S DAY MASS AT ST CLARE'S
	2.00PM	FOLLOWED BY LUNCH IN THE HALL
		YOUTH STATIONS OF THE CROSS PLANNING MEETING (SFX)
MONDAY 15 FEBRUARY	8.30AM	SENIOR MIXED SOCIAL TENNIS GROUP @ SFX
	10.30AM	(CALL JUDY REID 9878 4212 OR JUST TURN UP)
		FRANCIS/CLARE CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY IN ST CLARE'S CHURCH. (OLIVE 9878 4103, THERESE 9878 3706)
TUESDAY 16 FEBRUARY	12.45PM	LEGION OF MARY (SFX PHMR)
	7.30PM	RCIA (SFX PHMR)
WEDNESDAY 17 FEBRUARY		ASH WEDNESDAY - START OF PROJECT COMPASSION
		9AM MASS AT SC
		12 NOON MASS AT SFX
		7.30PM MASS AT SFX
		NO MEDITATION GROUP—ASH WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY 18 FEBRUARY	1.00PM	AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB—VIDEO AFTERNOON (SEE BELOW)
FRIDAY 19 FEBRUARY	7.30PM	STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT ST CLARE'S
	7.30PM	30- 40 MINUTES PRAYER/REFLECTION AT SFX
SATURDAY 20 FEBRUARY	9.00AM	PARISH WALKING GROUP. MEET AT SFX PARISH HOUSE.
		ALL WELCOME!
SUNDAY 21 FEBRUARY	12.30PM	2 BAPTISMS AT SFX

AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB

This week the Autumn Friendship Club is having a video afternoon in the Parish House Meeting Room at St. Francis Xavier's at 1.00pm - earlier than usual, so we can start promptly.

On February 18, we are planning a trip on the Blue Bus to Mordialloc; those who made this trip last year found it very enjoyable. Details in next week's newsletter.

HELP REQUIRED

'An elderly lady living on Victoria Street would like, if possible, to be accompanied to attend Mass on weekdays. If you feel you might be able to offer some help, please call her daughter on 044 88 44 8 11.'

All parishioners are invited to show their support for our **RCIA** candidates by joining them at St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday February 21 at 2.30 pm for the Rite of Election. This is a very solemn and momentous occasion for our candidates. The parish nominates them as suitable candidates for Baptism at Easter, sending a signed scroll to the Archbishop, so that their names can be entered into the Book of the Elect. For those who enjoy ceremonial occasions, it is a wonderful opportunity to join with 100s of fellow Catholics from all over Melbourne to offer prayer and support to the many people seeking to know more about Jesus and our faith. It is suggested that public transport is the best option for travel, as parking is at a premium around the Cathedral on Sundays. The Archdiocese is providing afternoon tea after the ceremony.

REFURBISHMENT OF ST CLARE'S CHURCH

Father Anthoni is asking for expressions of interest from anyone interested in being part of a committee for planning for the refurbishment of St Clare's Church. Please advise the parish office if you are interested.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is no longer accepting donations left in the Church.

If you think you have items that you think are suitable for the needy (eg: good, clean clothing), please deliver them to an Op-Shop. The nearest SVDP Op-Shop is at 24 Hamilton Street, Mont Albert. Thank-you for your cooperation.

CONFIRMATION

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred at SFX on Sunday 2 May, 2010. Classes will commence on Monday February 22 at 7pm for parish children from Year 6 onwards, who are not attending our school. If you wish to apply, please phone the Parish Office for enrolment information.

CALL FOR YOUTH

We are looking for young people (Year 7 and up) to be involved in our Good Friday Stations of the Cross presentation. There will be a meeting for those available at 2pm on Sunday 14th February in SFX Parish House Meeting Room. If you are interested in being involved as a musician, reader, actor, dancer or anything else, please contact Katerina Poropat on 0407 490 555 or kapor@deakin.edu.au or Lucy Pfeifer on 0422 742 083 or lucy_pfeifer@yahoo.com.au

TRAINING SESSION

On Saturday 27th February @10.30am in SFX Church, Fr Anthoni is conducting a training session for any adults interested in learning to set up the altar and to serve at Mass. This should mean that if required, people can step forward to help at Mass, confident that they know what to do.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE - This is an initiative started in 2004 in a small US town, by four people who prayed continuously outside an abortion centre for 40 days. By 2009, the programme had extended to 204 centres and involved 175 000 people - and the abortion centres experienced dramatic downturns in business (including three closing up immediately after) abortion staff quitting and a revitalisation of prolife activity in the groups and churches involved. Now the Helpers of God's Precious Infants have decided to run 40 DAYS FOR LIFE in Melbourne, starting on Ash Wednesday and concluding on Palm Sunday. And many pray-ers will be needed - PLEASE, consider, whether YOU could help, even for an hour or two. There is a group going from Box Hill, each Wednesday, from 5.30 to 7.30 pm; if you would be interested in being part of it, ring Clare or Tom - 9890 4457. Further details on the back page - and on the pro-life board in SFX porch and at back of SC church.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF PARISHIONERS - LENT 2010

The Lenten season has a two-fold character:

- (1) it recalls baptism or prepares for it;
- (2) it stresses a penitential spirit.

Lent readies the faithful for celebrating the paschal mystery after a period of closer attention to the Word of God, and more ardent prayer.

During Lent, penance should not be only internal and individual, but also external and social... The paschal fast should be kept sacred. It should be observed everywhere on Good Friday and, where possible prolonged throughout Holy Saturday, so that the joys of the Sunday of the resurrection may be visited on uplifted and responsive spirits.

Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, Vatican II

Ash Wednesday & Good Friday are days of Fasting & Abstinence from meat. On all other Fridays, except solemnities, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing anyone of the following: **Prayer; Self-Denial; Helping Others.**

All who have completed their 18th year & have not yet begun their 60th year are bound to fast. All who have completed their 14th year are bound to abstain. (*Canon 1252*)

To want to be with someone all the time, is infatuation....

To have to be with someone all the time, is obsession...

To feel you are with someone all the time, whether you are or not, is LOVE.

My corner

Over many years my main commitment to church ministry has been in the field of marriage— marriage preparation, marriage enrichment, and support and guidance for couples through the breakdown of relationships. As well I've worked on my own marriage . Talk of highs and lows! I've witnessed so much—from the starry-eyed joy of romantic youngsters to the courageous and painful struggles to remain faithful to vows that say 'till death do us part'. And of course, all the everything day things that happen in the middle. I greatly admire married couples. They are amazingly generous, patient, forgiving, trusting, and so often mirror God's love in both big and little ways. In a world that encourages pre-nuptial agreements, 'try before you buy', divorce because it's all too hard, those who remain committed to their marriages stand out like shining beacons. I've recently been stunned by a number of huge billboards at the side of roads and on the freeways that proclaim "Make love—do it longer". Yes, I do know what they're talking about, but to me they are really advertising what marriage is about—love doesn't just happen on it's own. It has to be worked at, nourished, supported in order to grow. And as it grows, the likelihood of it lasting longer becomes much more certain.

Today we pray for all married couples, for those who are engaged, and for those who bear the pain of separation or death of a partner. May they all continue to know God's love and allow it to flow through their relationships.

Liz Clark, Pastoral Associate

TODAY IS PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY

Project Compassion promotes peace by pursuing justice. Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of envelopes and give generously this Lent. Your donations allow Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to work with communities to reduce poverty and hunger around the world.



THIS WEEK'S RECIPE FOR A MEAT-FREE LENTEN MEAL— CAMELISED PUMPKIN RISOTTO

Ingredients:

- 500 g pumpkin flesh
- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- 1 medium onion, finely diced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 250 g Arborio rice
- nutmeg
- 2 tablespoons sage, chopped
- Salt and pepper to taste (optional)
- 4 tablespoons shaved parmesan

Method:

1. Dice 250g pumpkin flesh into 1cm-wide pieces. Place in a non-stick frypan with 1 tablespoon canola oil and cook over a medium to low heat. Periodically toss and continue to cook until the pumpkin is cooked and the outside is darkened. Set aside.
2. Dice remaining 250g pumpkin into large pieces and cook in 2 cups simmering water. When tender, puree the pumpkin with the water in which it was cooked. Add more water to bring the total pumpkin liquid to 1 litre.
3. Heat 1 tablespoon oil in a pan, add onion and garlic. Sweat for 30 seconds and add rice.
4. Toss for 1 minute and add 1 cup of pumpkin puree. Cook over a low heat. As the liquid is absorbed, add another cup. Stir constantly and keep adding pumpkin stock as necessary. After 25 minutes, the risotto will be cooked. Stir in nutmeg. Remove from the heat and toss the diced caramelised pumpkin and sage through. Season with salt and pepper and serve with shaved parmesan.

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—1 March, 15 March, 19 April, 3 May, 24 May, 19 July, 9 August, 6 September, 11 October and Sunday 11am on 2 May

PARISH LIFE

We are hoping to make a DVD to showcase parish life this year. We would use it on our website & give it to new parishioners to introduce them to our community. Are there any VOLUNTEERS with expertise in filming/ directing/editing or who have any helpful ideas? Please phone the Parish Office.

ROSTERS

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S—February 21

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

- 6.00pm D Williamsz, R Meyers, V Bellis, E&A Fabian
8.00am S Carney, F Neyland
10.00am V&G Mooney, E&E VDW, M Ferdinando, M Sinclair, E Abraham

5.00pm M Slevison, M Soulsby

Ministers of the Word

- 6.00pm M Williamsz, J Wells
8.00am F Neyland
10.00am M Edwards, K Kirwan

5.00pm M Soulsby, M Felix

Welcomers

- 6.00pm B&M O'Shaughnessy
10.00am E&E Van Der Westhuizen

Children's Liturgy—TBA

Altar Linen

- February 14 P Fitzgerald
February 21 L Chin

Counters

- February 14 M Rossely, J Butler
February 21 L&B Cohen

Collectors 5pm

- February 14 L Soulsby
February 21 P Aldag

Rosary Statue

- February 14—A Leonard, 1/22 Graham Place
February 21—Quinn family, 5 Graham Place

ITALIAN MASS

Commentator

- February 14 R Bidinost
February 21 J Adamo

Lettori

- February 14 N Pozzobon, A Lanza
February 21 R Bidinost, C Gibellini

Ministri dell'Eucarista

- February 14 M Casamento, R Bidinost
February 21 G Massarotti, D Amato

ST CLARE'S—February 21

Ministers of the Word

- 9.00am A McGovern, D Hayes, C Abiad
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion
9.00am J Murphy, D Tan, I D'Amato, P Ciccotosto, H Keown, D Hardy, T Nicholson

Piety Stall—February 21

- 9.00am B Murphy

From Fr Ben

People are like stained-glass windows: they sparkle & shine when the sun's out, but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is light within.
Elizabeth Kübler Ross (1926-2004)
American-Swiss psychiatrist

POINTS TO PONDER

- ★ *What are your ultimate pursuits?*
- ★ *What would you see reversed in our present order?*

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.