



Newsletter for the Parishes of St Clare and St Francis Xavier

*In the care of the
Franciscan Friars*

**6th Sunday of Easter
May 17th, 2009—Year B**

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

Our responses today are:

Entrance Antiphon

Speak out with a voice of joy; let it be heard to the ends of the earth: The Lord has set his people free, alleluia.

Psalm Response

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord. The Father will send you the Holy Spirit, to be with you for ever, alleluia.

**THE MONTH OF MAY IS TRADITIONALLY
DEVOTED TO OUR LADY.....**

O bright mother of sacred healing, through your holy Son you gave poured oil of anointing in the wound & woe of death, which Eve brought us to our misery.

You have annihilated death & built up new life. Pray for us to your Son, Mary, Star of the Sea! You mediator of life, you bliss full of splendour, you sweetness of all joys, of which you have lacked none.

Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179)

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.

God does not have favourites

The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles today is an important passage for interfaith dialogue. Peter came to realise that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to God. Not only that, Peter also said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on the pagans too.

Living and working in the modern world brings us to face to face with people from different backgrounds. Occasionally our dealing with people can be unpleasant, challenging and difficult, but we can never reduce this to the fact that they are culturally different to us or to their religious background. At times we have issues with our own siblings and friends too, so it is the person rather than his nationality. On the other hand having positive experiences with foreign cultures can help us to be open to the bigger world. That is why missionaries and travellers are not just great story tellers but are also very tolerant and understanding people.

Our neighbourhood and schools are changing; gastronomically we have changed but in all these differences we are called to see the basic things that unite us and are fundamental to human beings. Jesus' commandment to love one another as he has loved is the basis for all our endeavours to make this world a better place for everyone. We need to realise that we are called to work together in bringing about the kingdom of God.

The world community is good in responding to a crisis as one. The challenges to unity are embracing our diversity and seeking common values that are fundamental to our existence. We have a long way to go in working together for the common good. As Christians we are called to bring life and justice to our broken and fractured humanity. We begin with small steps - with reconciliation and healing. Having the right attitude towards others is vital for this to happen. 'God is love' and his love was revealed to us when God sent his only Son so that we might have life through him'. As Christians we are asked not just to believe, but to live this belief.

Fr Anthony ofm

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

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**

6th SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the gentiles also.

1 Jn 4:7-10

God is love.

Jn 15:9-17

No one can have greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.

Monday

Acts 16:11-15; Jn 15:26—16:4

Tuesday

Acts 16: 22-34; Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday

Acts 17:15, 22-18:1; Jn 16:12-15

Thursday

Acts 18:1-8; Jn 16:16-20

Friday

Acts 18:9-18; Jn 16:20-23

Saturday

Acts 18:23-28; Jn 16:23-28

**NEXT SUNDAY
ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

Acts 1:1-11;

Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13;

Mk 16:15-20

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 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 : 4 June 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

SUNDAY 17 MAY 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER	10.00AM 11.15AM 12.30PM	RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY GRADE 3 FAMILY MASS MORNING TEA AFTER 10AM MASS, IN SFX RESOURCE AREA DVD ON BLESSED MARY MACKILLOP IN SFX PARISH HALL BAPTISMS AT SFX
MONDAY 18 MAY	8.30AM 10.30AM 4.00PM	SENIOR MIXED SOCIAL TENNIS GROUP @ SFX (CALL JUDY REID 9878 4212 OR JUST TURN UP) ALL WELCOME. FRANCIS/CLARE CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY AT ST CLARE'S PARISH HALL. OLIVE 9878 4103, THERESE 9878 3706 CATECHETIC CLASSES AT ST CLARE'S
TUESDAY 19 MAY	12.45PM	LEGION OF MARY @ SFX
WEDNESDAY 20 MAY	8.30AM 9AM-11AM 12.30PM 7.30PM	TENNIS GROUP (AS MONDAY) PLAYGROUP AT ST CLARE'S. CONTACT: RAY BELL 9893 4481 OR TRUDY FRANKENSTEINER 9899 5252 FOOD AT THE BARN MEDITATION GROUP IN SFX HALL. NEWCOMERS WELCOME
THURSDAY 21 MAY	1.15PM	AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB—"Biggest Lunch" to help the Cancer Council. See below.
FRIDAY 22 MAY	7.30PM-9.00PM	BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP IN SFX PHMR
SATURDAY 23 MAY	9.00AM	PARISH WALKING GROUP—MEET AT SFX PARISH HOUSE. ALL WELCOME.
SUNDAY 24 MAY 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER	12.30PM	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IN SFX HALL

AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB

This week, the AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB is holding a "Biggest Lunch" to help the Cancer Council. Entry by donation. Please bring a plate of food to share. 1.00 pm in the hall. We have some good prizes to raffle to help the Council's work.

On May 28, we have the film, "Easy Virtue" with Colin Firth and Kristin Scott Thomas. Book with Marg 9803 4973 - \$16.00 – pay when booking. Meet at SFX at 9.15 am.

10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Mass will be celebrated by Fr Anthoni to mark the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Francis/Clare Charismatic Prayer Community. An invitation is extended to all parishioners to join us at 10am on Monday 25th May at St Clare's Parish Hall (enter Harrision St). We would especially like past members to join us. Refreshments to follow. Contact Therese 9878 3706.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

A Christmas Dinner will be held on Sat July 25th. **The Men of the Parish** are going to prepare the dinner!! More information coming soon!

FOOD at the BARN (FAB)

FAB is an ecumenical project by local churches to provide a 2 course lunch every Wed to people in need, app 50 people per week. This has been operating since 2000 at the Baptist Church in Station St. The Parish is next rostered on FAB on May 20. The meal that we provide costs app \$3 per head. If you would like to make a donation to the Parish costs please leave it in an envelope marked FAB at the Parish office.

CLEANING

Reliable honest lady to do house & office cleaning, available Monday to Saturday. Excellent references supplied. Contact Frances on 9894 7893.

MINISTRY ROSTERS AT SFX

AVAILABLE ON TABLE AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH IF NOT RECEIVED BY EMAIL.

ANNUAL MASS COUNT

THE ANNUAL MASS COUNT FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE OVER THE FOUR WEEKENDS OF MAY, CONTINUES TODAY AT BOTH PARISHES.

Collectors please note!

PILGRIMAGE IN HONOUR OF BLESSED MARY MACKILLOP

WALKING PILGRIMAGE on Sunday 14th June in Melbourne.

Please also mark in your diaries that there is a proposed pilgrimage to Sydney in August of this year. Definite dates for August will be available soon. **Expressions of interest are welcomed to the Parish Office 9890 2231/ 9898 5080.**

UPDATE: CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP'S CHARITABLE FUND—Bushfire Appeal

Number of parishes that have contributed: 201
Contributed by parishes: \$880,719
Contributed by other donors: \$2,483,068
Total funds raised to date: \$3,364,787
(7 May 2009)

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.

CAR WANTED

A parishioner is looking to purchase a small second-hand car. Please call 9898 2953.

SEE BACK PAGE FOR DETAILS OF CITY OF WHITEHORSE PRAYER BREAKFAST

**INFORMATION & TRAINING FOR
NEW & EXPERIENCED
Ministers of Communion**
Wednesday June 10—2pm
Thursday June 11—7.30pm

Ministers of the Word
Wednesday June 17—2pm
Thursday June 18—7.30pm

**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 SPEAK WITH
PARISHIONERS ABOUT THEIR GROUP'S
ACTIVITIES.

PLEASE ADVISE THE PARISH OFFICE IF YOUR
GROUP WILL BE REPRESENTED.

**THERE ARE A NUMBER OF PARISH
PASTORAL COUNCILLORS DUE TO RETIRE
AT THE AGM. IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU
KNOW WOULD LIKE TO ASSIST IN
PROVIDING LEADERSHIP TO OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY, PLEASE LET FR ANTHONI
OR THE PARISH OFFICE KNOW.**

My corner I am on holidays this week, a
break I feel I deserve and need,
particularly after the hectic time of Lent and
Easter in the parish, and looking ahead to a
fairly big study commitment next
semester, when I won't be able to have any
time away. With such a beautiful world
around us, it's hard to decide what to do on
holidays, where to go, who to go with (if
anyone). Last year we went to Mungo and the
Flinders Ranges—they call me back. And
Fiji was exciting and oh so restful. I love
Tasmania, the quieter pace, the wilderness
areas. And what about the trip I've promised
myself to Assisi one day? Not to be. We are
taking our caravan and heading north to go
camping with my brother and sister-in-law.
I'm not a brave camper. There's no electricity
or showers where we are going. My brother
says they live on the fish they catch. Judging
from my past fishing escapades, we will go
pretty hungry. I may come back thinner! His
wife asked me if I bait my own hook for
fishing. I said I could if I had to, and was met
with scornful silence. We decided to go with
them, as they often go to more remote places,
and know what to do—how to work the gas
fridge, how to get water from the river to the
heating contraption for a shower, how to gut
fish, how to cook on an open fire. I've looked
forward to this break with a mixture of
excitement and anxiety—I'm sure we'll be
fine, but there could be a few interesting
moments. I'd appreciate it if you would keep
me in your prayers—I'd love to come back to
work at Box Hill in one piece!

Liz Clark, Pastoral Associate



**TODAY IS
RESPECT LIFE
SUNDAY**

**There are
brochures and
prayer cards to
take home at the doors of the
church**

INFORMATION FOR PARISHIONERS

At St Clare's—a hand-rail has been
installed at the Parish House; a new fence
has been erected on the eastern
boundary of the car-park; the brick
retaining wall on Killara St has been
rebuilt; the new hall is near completion
and the repainting of the exterior of the
church will be completed soon.

At St Francis Xavier's—Approval for the
Church refurbishment has been received
from the Archbishop; the current school
building project is due for completion on
8th June; Two Federal Government
Grants have been received—(1) National
Pride Program – (\$150,000 for upgrade to
the administration office block); an (2)
Schools of the 21st Century – \$2,500,000
for refurbishment of current hall and 7
classrooms in the original building.

FROM ARCHBISHOP HART

I am pleased to advise you that Pope
Benedict XVI has appointed Monsignor
Les Tomlinson as Auxiliary Bishop of
Melbourne. Monsignor Tomlinson, 65, has
been Vicar General of the Archdiocese
since 2003, and previously was Parish
Priest of Ormond, Rowville and Carlton.
He has ministered in parishes in Victoria
and Tasmania since his priestly ordination
on 18 August 1972. The ordination of the
new Bishop will take place at Saint Pat-
rick's Cathedral on Wednesday 17 June
2009 at 7.30pm.

**ST FRANCIS XAVIER PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

2010 Prep Enrolments are now open for
Baptised Catholic children who turn 5
years of age by 30th April 2010.
Enrolments close Friday 12th 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 (approx 1
hour) on Mondays, 1st June, 20th July, 3rd
August, 7th September, 12th October.

Repeated this week as it was cut off in
error last week!

From Fr Ben

For Christianity, the great religious struggle is
not fought on a spectacular battleground, but
within the ordinary human heart..... How
monotonously alike all the great tyrants &
conquerors have been: how gloriously
different, the saints. (CS Lewis)

ROSTERS

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S—MAY 24

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion
6.00pm N Succar, E Colafella, D Williamsz,
J&S Arcuri
8.00am F Neyland, S Carney
10.00am K Fazio, M Chan, M Soulsby,
P McLaughlin, M Blundy, K de Lacy

5.00pm E Umashankar
Ministers of the Word
6.00pm P Tierney, M Williamsz
8.00am F Neyland
10.00am M Robotham, A M Diggins
5.00pm L Sanelli, T Parker

Welcomers

6.00pm B&M Mahoney
10.00am Fazio family

Children's Liturgy

May 24—Ascension—Group C
June 7—Trinity Sunday—Group A

Altar Linen

May 17 L Chin
May 24 I Balchin

Counters

May 17 T & E O'Brien
May 24 J Reid, M Rossely

Collectors 5pm

May 17 P Aldag
My 24 A Cutts

Rosary Statue

May 17—V&B Burns, 2/11 Loddon St, BHN
May 24—J&W Burrows, 11 Talbra St, BHN

Morning Tea (after 10am Mass at SFX)

May 17 GRADE 3 FAMILY MASS
May 24 M O'Connor, Leonard family

ITALIAN MASS

Commentator

May 17 G Amato
May 24 J Adamo

Lettori

May 17 M Salamone, V Peluso
May 24 N Pozzobon, A Lanza

Ministri dell'Eucarista

May 17 G Massarotti, D Amato
May 24 M Casamento, G Tabacchiera

ST CLARE'S—MAY 24

Ministers of the Word

9.00am T Nicholson, J Sakowski, P Sakowski

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

9.00am P O'Brien, J Murphy, D Tan,
T Shallvey, A McGovern, P Cleary, P Ciccotosto

Piety Stall—May 24

9.00am C Mirabella

POINTS TO PONDER

Kind words can be short & easy to
speak, but their echoes are
endless.
(Mother Teresa 1910-1997)

YEAR OF ST PAUL PHIL 3:8

I believe that nothing will happen that
will outweigh the supreme advantage
of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

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.