



Newsletter for the Parishes of St Clare and St Francis Xavier

*In the care of the
Franciscan Friars*

9th Sunday in Ordinary Time March 6th, 2011—Year A

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

Our responses today are:

Entrance Antiphon

O look at me and be merciful, for I am wretched and alone. See my hardship and my poverty, and pardon all my sins.

Psalm Response

Lord, be my rock of safety.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the vine and you are the branches, says the Lord; those who live in me, and I in them, will bear much fruit. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

I call upon you, God, for you will answer me; bend your ear and hear my prayer.



This week

*Spend time this week contemplating
what the bedrock of your life is.*

*Strengthen the foundation of your
faith.*

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 THE GOSPEL

'There are times in our lives when we can feel utterly overwhelmed by the difficulties that beset us. There are times when we can feel that we have lost control and that life has become chaotic. ... It is in God's Law that we find the way out of the chaos and bewilderment that threaten to overwhelm us. 'In the Gospel, Jesus calls on us to do the 'will of the Father.' In other words we are called on to follow the Law of the Father. And Jesus likens the person who follows the will of the Father to a man who builds his house upon a rock, which can remain standing when the storm sweeps over it. On the other hand, a person who does not do the will of the Father is like a man who builds his house upon the sand, which collapses in a heap when the storm comes.

'The storm is a good symbol for the life we so often experience, life marked by chaos and bewilderment. The will of the Father is the help we have to withstand these forces. It enables us to stand firm and for the 'houses' that are ourselves to remain safe and sound. The Law of the Father is the only thing we have to keep us from collapsing in a heap faced by the difficulties of life.'

From a homily by Fr. Martin Ganeri OP

'The disciple of Jesus is not to be measured simply by what they do and say, however religious or "holy" they seem to be. It is not enough, for instance, to keep saying "Lord, Lord..." That by itself will not bring a person under the kingship of God. Just spending a lot of time in church, being regularly at Sunday Mass, going on pilgrimages, joining in novenas, saying rosaries, does not necessarily make one the kind of disciple that Jesus is looking for.

Something more is required of the true disciple. He or she is someone who is totally united to God in heart, soul and mind. We can say a lot of prayers and be very busy doing the Lord's work and yet not be such a person. The problem is that such persons do not really have "the mind of Christ", they do not think like Christ nor have they totally submitted themselves to his way of seeing and doing things. They are not really in touch with his will because they are so busy talking (even to him) and doing that they have never really listened. So much so that at the end of time when they come face to face with the Lord he will not recognise them. "You did your (holy) thing but you were not doing mine."

**From a commentary by Fr Frank
Doyle SJ**

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www.scsfx.org.au

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www.sfxboxhill.catholic.edu.au

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

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

**READINGS FOR
THIS WEEK
9th SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

Deut 11:18, 26-28, 32

*I set before you today a blessing
and a curse.*

Rom 3:21-25, 28

*You are justified by faith, not by
law.*

Mt 7:21-27

*A wise person builds his house
on rock, not on sand.*

Monday

Tobit 1:3, 2:1-8; Mk 12:1-12

Tuesday

Tobit 2:9-14; Mk 12:13-17

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
Gen 2:7-9, 3:1-7
Rom 5:12-19
Mt 4:1-11**

FRIARS OF THE PARISHES

FR PETER McGRATH OFM
PARISH PRIEST
FR BOB MATTHEWS OFM
ASSISTANT PRIEST
FR PETER TRAN OFM
ASSISTANT PRIEST

Pastoral Associate/Assistant—

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

Pat Cleary Annie Setiawan
Breta Cohen Dianna Hardy
Ann-Marie Diggins Carmel Purdey
Jane D'Souza Monique Waring
Anthony Kennedy (ex-officio)
Peter Leonard

Next meeting : 7 April 2011

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

Bookings can be made with SFX Parish Office for each Parish, and celebrated in the church requested. This is to avoid double bookings.

BAPTISMS

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 6 MARCH <u>SOCIAL SERVICES SUNDAY</u>	10.00AM 12.30PM	YEAR 5 FAMILY MASS 4 BAPTISMS AT SFX
MONDAY 7 MARCH	8.30AM 10.30AM	SENIOR MIXED SOCIAL TENNIS GROUP @ SFX (CALL JUDY REID 9878 4212 OR JUST TURN UP) FRANCIS/CLARE CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY- IN ST CLARE'S HALL (OLIVE 9878 4103, THERESE 9878 3706)
TUESDAY 8 MARCH	12.30PM 7.30PM	LEGION OF MARY (SFX PHMR) RCIA (SFX PHMR)
WEDNESDAY 9 MARCH ASH WEDNESDAY	8.30AM	TENNIS GROUP (AS MONDAY) <u>MASSES: 9AM AT ST CLARE'S, 12 NOON & 7.30PM AT SFX</u>
THURSDAY 10 MARCH	1.00PM 7.30PM	AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP GROUP-THE BELLRINGERS (SFX HALL) BAPTISM PREPARATION
FRIDAY 11 MARCH	9-11AM 7.30PM	PLAYGROUP AT SFX IN OLD SCHOOL LIBRARY (SEE BELOW). CONTACT BRIDGET ON 0408 549 392 BIBLE DISCUSSION IN SFX PARISH HOUSE MEETING ROOM
SATURDAY 12 MARCH	9.00AM	PARISH WALKING GROUP MEET AT SFX PARISH HOUSE.
SUNDAY 13 MARCH	11.30AM	2 BAPTISMS AT ST CLARE'S

FROM FR PETER.....

The distinguished English Dominican, Fr Timothy Radcliffe has reflected long and lovingly on the Mass so central to our Catholic lives and produced a thoroughly prayerful and engaging reflection on what many of us celebrate or attend every day. I propose **Why Go to Church?** Be our Lenten programme for **Lent 2011**. Interested?

Why Go to Church? was the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent book for 2009. With this in mind, I've approached the Rev Derek Jones of St Peter's, Box Hill and Rev John Smith of St Andrew's, Box Hill that we might share **Why Go to Church?** as our common programme together. Though both Derek and Andrew have their own programmes already in place they thought some of their congregations might like to share with the Catholics.

Ring the parish office (Tel: 9890 2231) to register interest.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF PARISHIONERS - LENT 2011

The Lenten season has a two-fold character:

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

By these means especially, 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...In any event, let the paschal fast 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*)

AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP GROUP

This week, we will be entertained by "The Bellringers"; we will be asking for a small donation, to cover their costs. The following week our film, on Thursday March 24, is "The King's Speech". Please let Marg know if you want to go—9803 4973. \$18 covers the cost of the film, lunch & transport to & from the cinema. All parishioners & their friends are welcome at our activities. Information - Judy - 9878 4212.



ST FRANCIS XAVIER PLAYGROUP

For all children 0 to school age

NOW EVERY FRIDAY MORNING
9AM - 11AM

In the building next to the church.
(Old School Library)
Contact Bridget on 0408 549 392

THE ASHES

On Wednesday before the First Sunday of Lent, the faithful receive the ashes, thus entering into the time established for the purification of their souls. This sign of penance, a traditionally biblical one, has been preserved among the Church's customs until the present day. It signifies the human condition of the sinner who seeks to express his guilt before the Lord in an external manner and by so doing, express his interior conversion, led on by the confident hope that the Lord will be merciful.

(*Paschale Solemnitatis* #6)

EARTHQUAKE IN CHRISTCHURCH

Donations for the Caritas Australia - Christchurch Earthquake Appeal can be made in the following ways:

- Online at www.caritas.org.au
- Cheque: Caritas Australia - Christchurch Earthquake Appeal, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne Vic 3002



Project Compassion Sunday

Your donations to Caritas Australia's Project Compassion make a real difference to communities in need. Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of Lenten envelopes and give generously to the appeal during Lent.

Your donations allow Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to alleviate poverty and bring hope and justice to disadvantaged communities throughout the world.



WOMEN'S DAY 8 MARCH 2011

International Women's Day celebrates its centenary on 8 March. It is a day to celebrate the contribution and achievements of women and to look forward to what is still to be achieved. UN Women Australia (formerly UNIFEM) has a number of national alliances organising action on issues including violence against women, economic security for women, rural women's issues and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women's issues. A range of International Women's Day events are being held on or around March 8. To find out more about the various alliances and events, go to <http://internationalwomensday.org.au/>

REFUGEES MOVE INTO FORMER CANBERRA CONVENT

Refugees arriving in Canberra will have a comfortable introduction to Australia thanks to CatholicCare's purchase of the former convent at O'Connor where Josephite Sisters have lived for the past 54 years. The building, renamed Tenison Woods House, will be used as transitional housing for three families at a time, assigned by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship to CatholicCare's New Arrivals Humanitarian Service.

Director, Ms Juleen Schiefelbein, commented: 'We work with about 140 clients a year, and finding immediate housing can be an issue. Our current practice is to put people up in motels until suitable housing can be found. The convent will be a much better alternative, particularly for families.'

FOUNDATIONS IN FAITH LECTURE SERIES 2011: Unpacking the Faith for Young People

Come along to this free, five-week short course for young people interested in learning more about their faith. It will be held every **Wednesday night in March, from 7.30pm - 9pm.**

Topics include: *Who is Jesus?, Scripture Basics, The Eucharist, Mission & Evangelisation.*

Speakers include: *Bishop Timothy Costello, Fr Chris Ryan MGL, Fr Stuart Moran, Fr Tony McSweeney & Bishop Jaime Soto from Sacramento.*

Where? *Mercy Lecture Theatre, Australian Catholic University (115 Victoria Pde, Fitzroy). Enter via Young Street.*

REVISED TRANSLATION OF THE ROMAN MISSAL

"By now, we should all be aware that we are preparing for a change in the words we use to celebrate the Holy Mass. These changes have been well publicised, even in the secular media, but perhaps not so well understood. To aid understanding of the changes that will be implemented, I intend to devote a series of 'Heartbeat' columns over the next six months to exploring and explaining the specific changes we will encounter. Details of all the changes to the people's part of the Liturgy are available on the Archdiocesan website (www.cam.org.au) under 'The Revised Roman Missal'."

Archbishop Denis Hart

Kairos: Volume 22, Issue 2

<http://www.cam.org.au/hartbeat-2011/and-with-your-spirit.html>

SEE ALSO WORKSHOP ON 'CELEBRATING THE EUCHARIST' AT HOLY SAVIOUR PARISH ON SATURDAY MARCH 19TH ON BACK PAGE OF THIS NEWSLETTER

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL

My School website

The updated and controversial *My School* website is due to go live today. Principals have had the opportunity to preview all the data this week. There has been a great deal of controversy over this version of school data. There has been debate over reliability, fairness and accuracy of the data which compares schools' financial information. Some argue that it not a valid thing to compare schools learning data when they may have vastly different financial resources available. In an effort to give more information to the community, the government has published individual school financial data and also an "ICSEA" score. The ICSEA score is an effort to compare "like with like" or schools which are statistically similar. Some of the data used to calculate the ICSEA score is the data which schools collect from parents on occupation and education background, when a student is enrolled.

Confirmation Family Night

On Monday night, the Year Six families came together to reflect on the sacrament of Confirmation. The meeting was facilitated by Paul Spence and it proved to be a great success. Paul led us through the origin of the sacrament and the theology.

ROSTERS

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S—March 13

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

6.00pm T D'Andrea M Slevison J Hickey
D Williamsz A Leonard
8.00am J Reid
10.00am C Chin M&L Soulsby M Blundy
M Sinclair V&G Mooney

5.00pm H Dyjak, A Large

Ministers of the Word

6.00pm M Williamsz, L Norton
8.00am B Reid
10.00am H Miller, A M Diggins
5.00pm T Parker, M Waring

Welcomers

6.00pm C Gately, J Hickey
8.00am M&B Walker
10.00am J Dominic, S Liew
5.00pm M Plain

Children's Liturgy

Altar Linen

March 6 M Rossely
March 13 J Morison

Counters

March 6 p McLaughlin, G Kitch
March 13

Collectors 5pm

March 6 N Large
March 13 V Mudenda

Rosary Statue

March 6—La family, 4/1095 Whitehorse Rd, BH
March 13—P Walker, 17/16 Bedford St, BH

ITALIAN MASS

Commentator

March 6 G Tabbacchiera
March 13 D Amato

Lettori

March 6 N Pozzobon, J Amato
March 13 A Lanza, S Faulisi

Ministri dell'Eucarista

March 6 M Casamento, M Salamone
March 13 D Amato, G Massarotti

ST CLARE'S—March 13

Ministers of the Word

A McGovern, T Nicholson, K McMahon

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

P O'Brien, T Shallvey, J Murphy, D Tan, P Cleary, E Lim, H Keown

Welcomers

I Abiad, M Boulton

Piety Stall—March 6

Farry family

Young man, Year 12 student, looking for lawn mowing work. Please call James on 0425 894 069 OR 9894 78 93

POINTS TO PONDER

- ✦ *What foundation is your faith built on?*
- ✦ *What 'floods' and 'gales' do you experience in your life which threaten to undermine your faith?*

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 & St Clare's.