



Newsletter for the Parishes of St Clare and St Francis Xavier

*In the care of the
Franciscan Friars*

Passion Sunday April 5th, 2009—Year B

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

Our responses today are:

Entrance Antiphon

Six days before the solemn passover the Lord came to Jerusalem, and children waving palm branches ran out to welcome him. They loudly praised the Lord: Hosanna in the highest. Blessed are you who have come to us so rich in love and mercy.

Psalm Response

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Communion Antiphon

Father, if this cup may not pass, but I must drink it, then your will be done.

This week

Spend time reflecting on the events of the Passion of Jesus. What does it mean for you that Jesus dies for all humanity?

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.

Ahimsa (non-violence)

Ahimsa a Sanskrit word meaning 'to do no harm' or avoiding violence, and is a rule of conduct in religions like Buddhism, Jainism and Hinduism that bars killing or causing injury to living beings. In the modern world Gandhi witnessed to non-violence as a way of life and even introduced it into politics.

Violence can be seen and experienced everywhere from big cities to the remotest parts of our world. It can take many different forms from words to actions, not only personal but it can also be politically motivated like ethnic cleansing and genocide. The frightening thing is we are getting used to it and accepting it as part of life; even some movies and video games are made based on violence.

In the passion narrative we hear the story of betrayal, the institution of the Eucharist, violence and Jesus walking to his saving death. One thing is very clear; Jesus did not resort to violence even to save his own life. Not only did he not fight back but all his life had been one that spoke the truth and was lived in truth. In Isaiah's words, "I offered my back to those who struck me and my cheeks to those who tore at my beard." He made no resistance and did not turn away in defence.

Our human response to God, truth and goodness can be negative at times. Sometimes we do resist and turn away from God. We resist because the way of Jesus is the opposite way to the world. Not only is the way not attractive but it does not even appeal to our common sense. Instead of progressing, developing, the way of Jesus is a downward movement, which goes against human thinking of striving to better our lives, higher salaries and rewarding careers. Aggression, bullying and threatening behaviour are justified means to get what one wants or desires.

Jesus' way was the non-violence way, but more than that his actions and teachings bring life to the world. The way of Jesus is challenging, and disturbs our consciousness and makes us give up our privileged positions. But it also brings us fullness of life and offers others salvation as well. We wish the world would change, but the reality is the changes that we make in our lives have a ripple effect on the world.

Fr Anthony ofm

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This newsletter also available
at: www.scsfx.org.au

**READINGS FOR THIS WEEK
PASSION SUNDAY**

Isaiah 50:4-7

*I did not cover my face against
insult and I know I will not be
ashamed.*

Philippians 2:6-11

*He humbled himself to become
like us and God raised him on
high.*

Mark 14:1 - 15:47

*A passion of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to Mark.*

Monday

Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday

Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday

Is 50:4-9; Mt 26:14-25

Holy Thursday

Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor 11:
23-26; Jn 13:1-15

Good Friday

Is 52:13-53:12; Heb 4:14-16,
5:7-9; Jn 18:1-19:42

Holy Saturday—Easter Vigil

Gen 1:1-2:2; Gen 22:1-18;

Ex 14:15-15:1; Is 54:5-14;

Is 55:1-11; Baruch 3:9-15,

32-4:4; Ezek 36:16-28;

Rom 6:3-11; Mk 16:1-7

NEXT SUNDAY

EASTER SUNDAY

Acts 10:34, 37-43; Col 3:1-4;

Jn 20:1-9

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

SUNDAY 5 APRIL PASSION SUNDAY	11.30AM 3.00PM	MORNING TEA AFTER 10AM MASS, IN SFX RESOURCE AREA BAPTISM AT ST CLARE'S WEDDING AT SFX
MONDAY 6 APRIL	8.30AM	SENIOR MIXED SOCIAL TENNIS GROUP @ SFX (CALL JUDY REID 9878 4212 OR JUST TURN UP) ALL WELCOME.
TUESDAY 7 APRIL	11.00AM 12.00PM 12.45PM 7.30PM	CHRISM MASS AT ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL COMMUNION SERVICE AT SFX LEGION OF MARY @ SFX RCIA—SFX PARISH HOUSE MEETING ROOM
WEDNESDAY 8 APRIL	8.30AM 4.00PM 7.00PM 7.30PM	TENNIS GROUP (AS MONDAY) SFX CHOIR PRACTICE IN CHURCH ITALIAN CHOIR PRACTICE IN SFX CHURCH MEDITATION GROUP IN SFX HALL. NEWCOMERS WELCOME
THURSDAY 9 APRIL HOLY THURSDAY	7.30PM	MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER IN BOTH CHURCHES (FOLLOWED BY NIGHT PRAYER)
FRIDAY 10 APRIL GOOD FRIDAY	10.00AM 11.00AM 3.00PM 7.00PM	YOUTH STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT SFX STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT ST CLARE'S CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION (SC & SFX) ITALIAN STATIONS OF THE CROSS
SATURDAY 11 APRIL HOLY SATURDAY	9.00AM 4.00PM 7.00PM	PARISH WALKING GROUP—NOT WALKING THIS WEEK (FROM APRIL 18, STARTING TIME REVERTS TO 9AM) MORNING PRAYER AT SC (FOLLOWED BY RECONCILIATION) RECONCILIATION AT SFX EASTER VIGIL AT BOTH CHURCHES
SUNDAY 12 APRIL EASTER SUNDAY		NO EVENING MASS AT SFX

The **LIFE WALK**, to raise funds for Right to Life Pregnancy Counselling, will this year start from Hamilton, on Easter Tuesday, April 14 and end in Melbourne on Sunday, April 19. You can walk for one day or several or just for a few hours. Inquiries 9387 7098. Forms at the back of the church.

This Easter, prominent Christian leaders are asking Australians to support Fairtrade and prevent the exploitation and enslavement of children and adults who pick cocoa beans for Easter eggs. By supporting **Fairtrade** certified cocoa, consumers can ensure small holder farmers are paid fairly, receive investment to improve the future for their families, and are protected from the use of harmful agricultural products. Look for the **Fairtrade** symbol on chocolate made by companies like Cocolo, Oxfam Trading, Scarborough Fair and find Chocolatier eggs at Oxfam stores or selected outlets when shopping this Easter.



TIME TO JOIN

Young people in the Archdiocese of Melbourne are being encouraged to keep alive the spirit of World Youth Day (WYD08) and Days in the Dioceses (DID08). To assist this process, Archbishop Denis Hart announced a new Archdiocesan Office for Youth (AOY) which aims to provide young people with opportunities to further their spiritual development. The AOY website offers numerous resources for youth groups, including an online calendar for schools, parishes and communities to post their events. To cap off a highly successful 2008, a special time capsule with DID08 and WYD08 memorabilia from Melbourne pilgrims was placed in the gardens of the Cardinal Knox Centre near St Patrick's Cathedral. The website can be accessed at: www.aoy.org.au

**PLEASE NOTE: Next week Thursday's
Meditation Group will not meet as it is Holy
Thursday.**

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION 2009

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land takes place on Good Friday. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment and housing. Parishes, schools, orphanages and medical centres throughout the Holy Land rely very much on assistance from the Good Friday collection. The collection is also used to maintain 74 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. Last year, Australian Catholics donated just over \$1 million to this cause. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land again on this Good Friday. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Please also pray that peace and harmony will become a reality in the birthplace of Jesus, the 'Prince of Peace'.



ALL THINGS SOCIAL

A Social Committee meeting will be held on Wed April 15 in SFX Parish House Meeting Room at 7.30pm. Items on the agenda include Fr Ben's Big Birthday Bash. Everyone is welcome to come along & help plan some events. Inquiries to Parish Office.

TAKE STEPS AGAINST POVERTY WALK AGAINST WANT



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

ROSA



The whole community is invited to join our 3 Elect for the ceremonies of Baptism and Reception into the Church at the Easter Vigil at St Francis Xavier - 7pm Saturday April 11.

Following the Mass we will celebrate together in the hall. You are requested to bring a plate of food/drink to share for supper.

POINTS TO PONDER:

The Sunday Liturgy is a gathering of people who share the meal of the Eucharist. It is a community event. We are all part of the community of St Clare & St Francis Xavier & therefore responsible for reaching out to each other. It is important for everyone to feel welcome, improving our community life.

My corner

The one thing I miss more than anything at Easter time (and on Christmas Eve) is being part of a choir. Since I was 10, and I won't tell you how long ago that was, I have enjoyed singing the liturgy. In the early days, it was all in Latin, and rather solemn and grand. Then Vatican II brought it's changes, and we sang all sorts of upbeat, strange, catchy but holy songs. I loved the opportunity it gave me for full participation. I'm no Joan Sutherland, but my voice is quite good, and I believe in using the talents I have been given, in no better way than in praising God. Since there's now the expectation that I attend major liturgical celebrations at Box Hill rather than my own parish, and I have various other duties on most occasions, my life in the choir has stalled. During this week I have been trying to drum up some support for the music ministry in the parish. We have good and faithful organists, musicians and a handful of choristers, but there seems to be a dearth of singers. We urgently need some people to swell the numbers. Most music we use is not new. I often sit near people in church and hear them joining in—some brilliantly, some making a good noise. It doesn't really matter. Raising our voices to God is a vital and exciting part of worship. I consider that God gave us our voices, so he will probably be thrilled to hear them. So, please, if you are available, willing, even vaguely musical, join the choir, offer melodious praise to God, help us sound as if we have something to celebrate.

Liz Clark, Pastoral Associate

PROJECT COMPASSION SIXTH SUNDAY OF LENT

In a world of inequality we are called to hunger and thirst for what is right. In this week's Project Compassion story we meet Maria Gaby from Bolivia. She is participating in a Caritas Australia-supported project addressing food insecurity and malnutrition, the loss of local identity from migration and threats to children's rights. Parents and elders join in the activities and games too. Your donation to Project Compassion enables Caritas Australia's to work in partnership with some of the world's most vulnerable communities before, during and after the headlines.



REQUEST FROM FR ANTHONI

Father Anthoni has requested that during the Easter ceremonies, parishioners please return hymnals to the pews, and return the Triduum booklets to the tables or boxes at the doors of the church. This will save a lot of unnecessary tidying up after each ceremony. Thank you.



Seeking a Granny Flat

For a middle-aged single women who is currently studying Theology at YU. I am quiet, neat and tidy and have an honest compassionate nature. Please phone Emmy on 9873 1119 or 0420 330 786 if you can help.

UPDATE: CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP'S CHARITABLE FUND—Bushfire Appeal

- ★ Number of parishes that have contributed: 155
- ★ Amount contributed by parishes: \$ 668,140
- ★ Amount contributed by other donors: \$2,237,169
- ★ Total funds raised to date: \$2,905,309

(31.03.09)

To stay up to date with bushfire recovery news, please visit www.melbourne.catholic.org.au and watch out for the next issue of Kairos and the Recovery newsletter.



From Fr Ben

Do not lose your inward peace for anything whatsoever, even if your whole world seems upset.
(St Francis de Sales 1567-1622)

ROSTERS

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S - TRIDUUM HOLY THURSDAY

1st reading—P Fitzgerald

2nd reading—J Tan

Commentator - M Dodds

Eucharistic Ministers—K Fazio, W Tan, F Fitzgerald, F Neyland

GOOD FRIDAY

1st reading - M Dodds

2nd reading - P Tierney

Gospel - C Gately, F Neyland

Intercessions - J Tan, M Jeffares

Eucharistic Ministers — M Rossely, D Williamsz, F Fitzgerald, F Neyland, W Tan, M O'Brien

EASTER VIGIL

Commentator - C Gately

1st reading - M Jeffares

2nd reading - M Nevada

3rd reading - M Hughes

4th reading - M Williamsz

5th reading - L Hughes

Eucharistic Ministers - M Rossely, K Fazio, M O'Brien, E Colafella, L Clark

EASTER SUNDAY - 9.30am

Reader -

Commentator -

Eucharistic Ministers -

Children's Liturgy

April 26—3rd Sunday of Easter B—Group A

Altar Linen

April 5 O Rewega

April 12 P Turner

Counters

April 5 H Kerwin, M O'Connor

April 12 M Rossely, J Butler

Collectors 5pm

April 5 I Mahlstedt

April 12 NO 5PM MASS

Rosary Statue

April 5 & 12—M&L Soulsby, 7 Simpsons Rd

Morning Tea (after 10am Mass)

April 12 Sandy, Nicholson, Mary Blundy

ITALIAN MASS

Commentator

April 5 G Amato

April 12 G Tabbachiera

Lettori

April 5 N Amato, R Bidinost

April 12 N Pozzobon, A Dinardo

Ministri dell'Eucarista

April 5 M Salamone, M Casamento

April 12 C Chessari, M Salamone

ST CLARE'S—APRIL 12

Ministers of the Word

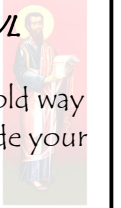
9.00am M Hardy, J Sakowski, A McGovern

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

YEAR OF ST PAUL

EPH 4:20

You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self.



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.