

World Day of Prayer asks us this year to pray for Suriname.

On Friday, 2 March - all Christians are invited to share in prayer and worship at High Street Uniting Church. Refreshments at 10.30am - Service at 11.00am All Welcome

In 2018 that prayerful support will be directed at the 540,000 inhabitants of the Republic of Suriname, on the north-eastern coast of South America. Suriname is part of the Guianas, an ecological region within the Amazon.



Legion of Mary - Lady of All Nations Prasesidium

The Legion of Mary would like to invite you to have the statue of Our Lady of Fatima visit your home for a week to pray for world peace and the conversion of sinners. Please register your interest at the Piety Shop after Sunday Masses or contact Frances - 5971 1924



Other Groups/Activities:

Friendship Club (Seniors) - 1st Wednesday of month in the Xavier Centre at 10.30am. Bus trips on 3rd Thursday of month. Contact: Marie - 9775 8737

Knitting Group - Contact Yvonne - 5976 8480.

PRAYER LINE: Carolyn Gobel - 5971 3103

St. Vincent de Paul Society

meets 1st & 3rd Mondays at 4.00pm in the Xavier Centre. **Donations/Assistance:** 9769 6060

Membership: 0438 573 694; 9770 5570; 9783 3976

Furniture Donations: 1800 621 349

Parish Cuppa: First Sunday of month after the 10.30am Mass in the Xavier Centre.

Other Cuppas: Every Thursday after 9.15am Mass in the Quilter Room and every Sunday after the 10.30am Mass in the Xavier Centre.

New Parishioners: If you are new to the Parish, please take a 'New Parishioner pack' located in the Church Foyer.

Contact the Parish Office for information about the following: Catechist Program, Cell Groups, Youth Group and Fundraising activities. *Thank you.*



St Augustine's Official Opening of the new classroom complex.

Thank you to Auxilliary Bishop Peter Elliott who lead the dedication with other dignitaries attending the Opening which included Mr Chris Crewther MP, Mr Paul Edbrooke MP, Fr Chinua, Mrs Tonia Flannagan-Principal of St John's Frankston, Ms Sue Rollands - Director of KL Modular Systems (our builders) together with parents, students and staff. The children behaved beautifully during the Liturgy and Blessing of the new crucifixes for the new classrooms and then the classrooms themselves, thereby earning themselves the title of "the best kids on the planet".



Next Sunday's Readings for Reflection

1st Reading (JB) Exodus 20:1-17

2nd Reading (JB) 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

Gospel (JB) John 2:13-25

UPCOMING EVENTS

Lenten Retreat Feb. 28 - March 21

Anointing Of Sick Mass Mar 1

Parish Cuppa Mar 4



St Francis Xavier Parish, Frankston

60 Davey Street, Frankston 3199
Tel: 9783 3484 Fax: 9783 2210
Email: frankston@cam.org.au

Website: www.cam.org.au/Frankston

Parish Priest Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp, chinua.okeke@cam.org.au
Assistant Parish Priest Fr Jude Agorchukwu CSSp jude.agorchukwu@cam.org.au

Honorary Associate: Fr. Neil Fryer (Ordinariate OLSC)
Secretaries: Vicki Abbatangelo / Christina Williams

Parish Schools: St Augustine Principal Jan de Koning 9781 3007
St Francis Xavier Principal Colleen McGreal 9783 3424
John Paul College Principal John Visentin 9784 0200

Sunday Masses

Vigil Mass -Saturday Evening 6.00pm
Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am, 5.30pm

Weekday Masses

Tuesday - Saturday 9.15 am
Monday - 1st + 3rd Mondays of month

Liturgy of Word and Communion Service

Monday - 9.15am
2nd + 4th + 5th Mondays of month

Anointing Mass

9.15am First Thursday of month

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament & Adoration

Wednesday 8.40am-9.10am
Friday after 9.15am Mass

Rosary

Wednesday after 9.15am Mass
Before Mass Tuesday and Saturday

Children's Liturgy

Sunday during 10.30am Mass

Legion of Mary

Friday: 2pm in Quilter Room

Charismatic Prayer Group

Wednesday: 7.30pm in Chapel.

Divine Mercy

Friday: 3pm in Chapel (private prayer)

Charismatic Prayer for Healing

3rd Sunday of month: 5.15pm music,
then Prayer for Healing after 5.30pm
Mass:

Teach,Preach,Reach (TPR), Adoration

& Healing after 5.30pm Mass
4th Sunday of month

Cell Groups

Tuesday: 10.00am in Quilter Room
Thursday: 7.30pm in Quilter Room

Confessions

Saturday: 10am - 10.30am,
Saturday: 5.30pm - 5.50pm

The Sacrament of Baptism

1st Sunday of month during the Masses.
(Saturday Evening Mass inclusive)

4th Sunday of month at 11.30am
(after the 10.30am Mass)

This Sunday's Readings: 1st Reading **Genesis 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-182** and Reading **Romans 8:31-34**
Resp. Psalm **Ps 115-10. 15-19** **R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.**

Gospel Mark 9:2-10 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus. As they came down the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



2018
25th February



Second Sunday
of LENT
Year B

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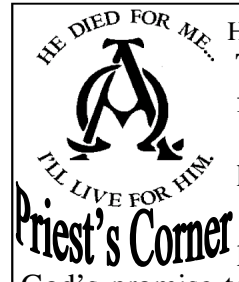
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ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN OUR BULLETIN

Business & Tradespeople

You are invited to advertise your business / trade in our Parish Weekly Bulletin, which reaches many homes. Rates are reasonable, for 6 or 12 monthly placements and can be of business card or smaller size. For more details. - Office 9783 3484



HOMILY FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B - Transfiguration of Jesus Christ
 The first reading, (Gen 22: 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18), presented us with a demonstration of Abraham's faith in God at the moment of his trial. Abraham and his wife Sarah, after tens of years of marriage had no children because Sarah was barren. After God had called Abraham to leave his Chaldean City of Ur, in modern day Iraq, and go to a land he was going to show him, God entered into a covenant with Abraham. In that covenant, God promised Abraham that his generations will be as numerous as the stars in the sky. To bring God's promise to fruition, Abraham with the consent of his wife Sarah, had a child with Sarah's maidservant, Hagar. This child was called Ishmael; however, Ishmael was not to be the child of promise. The child who Sarah miraculously later gave birth to when all hope was gone - Isaac by name, was the child of promise. Abraham's heart was broken when Ishmael and his mother Hagar was forced out of the house at the request of Sarah, (Gen 21:8-20). Now Abraham is to have a second broken heart because his only remaining child was to be sacrificed.

We know that eventually, a ram was sacrificed instead of Isaac, but Abraham because of his faith and trust in God, was willing to give up his son if that was what God wanted. It was a difficult choice. Abraham believed that God would always provide, and indeed, God did provide for him. God would later provide for us too, by sending his only Son to live and die for our justification. Isaac then, prefigured Christ who died on the cross to redeem us. We are washed clean by the blood of Christ. Only our deep-seated faith will see us through during our challenging moments.

The Transfiguration of Jesus, (Mark 9:2-10), which took place after Peter had confessed him as the messiah, and Jesus had foretold his passion, was a faith experience for Jesus' disciples. Jesus took Peter, James and John to a high mountain where they could be alone. Luke 9:28 informs us that they went up the mountain to pray. Mountains or hills have been places of prayer. When the people of Israel left Egypt after their enslavement, it was at Mount Sinai that they experience theophany and God made a covenant with them to make them his chosen people, a royal priesthood and a consecrated nation if they kept God's commandments, (Ex 19).

It was at Mount Sinai that God gave Moses the ten commandments and Elijah defeated the prophets of Baal at Mount Carmel, (1Kg 18). The temple of the Lord in Jerusalem was built on a mountain. We read from Isaiah 56:7 that, "I will bring them to my holy mountain of Jerusalem and will fill them with joy in my house of prayer. I will accept their burnt offerings and sacrifices, because my Temple will be called a house of prayer for all nations." Jesus also gave his sermon in Matthew's gospel from the mountain, (Matt 5:1).

During Jesus' prayer with his disciple on the Mountain, Jesus allowed his divinity to become manifest. Suddenly, the disciples felt the glory Jesus had with the Father before the foundation of the world, (Jon 17:5). Jesus' face became dazzling white as Moses' face shone when he communed with God on the mountain, (Ex 34:29-30, 35). It was an awe-inspiring experience which translated to paradise on earth. It was an experience that anyone who had had it would not want to let go. The disciples of Jesus did not want to let go. They wanted to build tents so they could dwell in that experience forever. The psalmist captured this intensity of experience when he stated that, "one thing I ask of the Lord and this I long, to dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life....", (Ps 27:4). But the disciples had to let go at this moment, because they had to go through the Triduum, (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter), experience to arrive at glory.

Within this theophany, the disciples of Jesus also witnessed the apparition of the two pillars of the Old Testament; Moses and Elijah. The two major parts of the Old Testament were the Law which Moses represented and the Prophets represented by Elijah. These two icons of the Old Testament appearing in glory, and speaking with Jesus was symbolic of a handover ceremony. Now the one to lead us to the Father is Jesus; for he is our way, our truth and our life, (John 14:6).

The Transfiguration of Jesus which was to prepare his disciples for the scandal of his passion, was a deep prayer experience for them. At times, after spending considerable period in prayer, we may wonder what we had been doing, because our minds had wondered far and near. At other times, we might feel an inner peace that we have communed with God. Prayer should permeate our lives, not only when we stop for an intense prayer to God.

Through prayer, we get the strength to bear hardships when they come our way. For Jesus, to live was to pray. Let us pray earnestly during this Lent, so that we too, like Jesus, will radiate the glory of God in us.

Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp

We pray with loving and trustful hearts for the sick: Robyn, John Rodgers, Michael Grogan, Adrian Gobel, Kevin Churchill and for all our Parishioners, friends and family who are not doing so well at this time, that they will recognize the hand of our Merciful and Loving God in difficult times.
We pray for our recently departed family and friends: especially Harry Arnold, Margaret Carruthers and Eugenie Carrigg and we remember those who anniversary occurs at this time: George Rawkins, John Andrew Dwyer, Marlene Collins and Mavis Duggan - may they rest in peace in God's heavenly kingdom.

Funeral for Harry Arnold will be held next Tuesday 27th February at 11.30am

During Lent :

Weekdays

1. Adoration and Benediction will be offered after 9.15am Mass on Tuesdays.

2. Evening Mass: Wednesday at 7pm.

3. Stations of the Cross will be offered after 9.15am Mass on Friday - commencing 16th February.

*Alternatively: St John's Parish Fridays 7pm
20 Coral St, Frankston East*

Sundays

- 1st Sunday in Lent Commitment Sunday
- 2nd Sunday in Lent Benediction/Adoration after Masses
- 3rd Sunday in Lent Renewal Sunday
- 4th Sunday in Lent Anointing of the Sick
- 5th Sunday in Lent Outreach Sunday

LENTEN RETREAT

How long has it been since you have attended a Retreat in your Parish?

The Live Christ Share Christ Movement supported by St Francis Xavier Parish cordially invites you to attend "A LIFE IN CHRIST LENTEN RETREAT", a 5 session seminar where we can Meet Christ, Live Christ and Share Christ! Everyone is welcome - singles, engaged/ married couples, widows, divorced or separated.

The Life in Christ Seminar will be held at St Francis Xavier Church, 60 Davey Street, Frankston, Wednesday nights - 28 February, 7, 14 & 21 March from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Coffee, tea and biscuits will be provided. Save these dates for a spiritual experience to complement the Lenten season! Sign up sheets in Church foyer this weekend.



4th Medjugorje Peace Conference **Saturday 3 March 2018** St Mark's Catholic Church **9am - 4.30pm**

9 Lee Street, Fawkner. Cnr Sydney Rd opposite Fawkner Train Station on the Upfield Line (Melway: 17 H5) **FREE ENTRY**
 Special Speakers: David Parkes from Ireland/ Medjugorje, Fr Peter Ferwerda, Fr Eugene Ashkar, Fr Andrew Grace, Robert Matek and John Canavan

If you are interested in taking Holy Communion to house-bound parishioners (home visits) once a month. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.



Childrens' Mass

Our Children will be actively participating during this Sunday's 10.30am Mass
 Afterwards, there will be a special morning tea in the Xavier Centre. All Welcome!

BAPTISMS THIS WEEKEND

Welcome to ..
Jimmy Pavlic, son of Christopher and Corryne, & **Aria Nelson**, daughter of Mark and Archie who will be baptised in our Church this Sunday.
 Please pray for these children, parents, grandparents and godparents.



For Your Interest and Diaries

St Francis Xavier - Frankston

- **Legion of Mary Meeting:** Every Tuesday in Quilter Rm. - 2pm.
- Next Sunday 4th March- Parish Cuppa in Xavier Centre after the 10.30am Mass. Everyone Welcome - bring a plate to share.

Syro Malabar

Regular services
 Every Thursday night - 6pm Mass
 First Sunday of month - 4pm Mass

During Lent

Every Friday night - 6pm Stations of the Cross

External

- ♦ John Paul College OPEN DAY - Thursday 8th March - session times: 4pm and 7pm Contact: 9784 0200
- ♦ International Women's Day (8 March 2018) theme is "Time is Now: Rural and urban activists transforming women's lives". This will draw attention to the rights and activism of rural women, who make up over a quarter of the world population and majority of the 43 percent of women in the global agricultural labour force.
We pray for women and men in our Church, that we may highlight the needs of rural women and work relentlessly for justice and equality. Lord, hear us.
- ♦ LOCAL RADIO: Every Sunday morning at 8am Peninsula Radio Rpp 98.7fm (98.3 fm Frankston) presents THE CATHOLIC HOUR free to air. Contact Maureen Federico on 0410 524 338.

Parish Cells Groups

Are you looking for a way to deepen your relationship with Jesus?
 Contact the Parish Office for more details

New comers / notification

Welcome and thanks for worshipping with us at St Francis Xavier. If you are new to the parish or have changed your home address or need Thanksgiving Envelopes, please fill in your details and drop it in the collection bag or give to the priest.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____
 New Change of Address
 I would like Thanksgiving Envelopes