

Welcome and thank you for worshipping with us at

**St Francis Xavier.**

Please let us know if:

- You are new to the parish
- Recently changed your home address
- Need Thanksgiving envelopes

Please fill in your details and drop it in the collection bag or hand it to the Priest.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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† Many Blessings †

**St. Vincent de Paul Society**

If you would like to help us give back to the community please contact **Peter Butler:** 0410 569 357  
**For Donations:** 1800 621 349  
**For Assistance:** 9769 6060  
 Meetings held on 1st & 3rd Monday 4.00pm-5.30pm at SFX.

Thank you for your ongoing Support.

Church \$2912 Presbytery \$1294

*Please Pray for*

**OUR SICK** - Ross Monterosso, Jan Buckner, Evan, Adrian Gobel, Margaret Humphries, Len Crowe, Alex Millins, Alfredo Fiorenza, Tim Fitzgibbon, Samual Joyce, Ann Wood, Nellie Curry, Judy Banks-Phillips, Frank Gianini, Chiara Gianini, Melissa Moyle, Judy Jones, Ailish Fitzgibbon, Salih Basic, Jean Pierre Bailey, Tania Richards, Celestino Magno, Eric Pierrot



**REMEMBRANCE** — Clotilde Martin

**RECENTLY DECEASED** – Giovanna Priviteli

**JEREMY WILLIAMS & FRIENDS**

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**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH**

60 Davey Street, Frankston 3199

**Parish Office:** 9.00am - 4.00pm Monday to Friday

**Phone:** 9783 3484 **Email:** [frankston@cam.org.au](mailto:frankston@cam.org.au)

**Web:** [cam.org.au/Frankston](http://cam.org.au/Frankston)

**Parish Priest: Fr. Chinua Okeke, CSSp**

**Email:** [chinua.okeke@cam.org.au](mailto:chinua.okeke@cam.org.au)

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Jude Agorchukwu CSSp

**Honorary Associate:** Fr. Neil Fryer (Ordinariate OLSC)

**Secretary:** Christina Williams & Bethany Plowright



**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

**WEEKLY MASS TIMES**

**Sunday Masses**

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

**Weekday Masses**

Tuesday - Saturday 9.15 am  
 Monday - 1<sup>st</sup> + 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of month

**Liturgy of Word & Communion Service**

Monday - 9.15am  
 2<sup>nd</sup> + 4<sup>th</sup> + 5<sup>th</sup> Mondays of month

**Exposition of Blessed Sacrament & Adoration**

Wednesday 8.40am-9.10am  
 Friday after 9.15am Mass  
 First Friday of the Month, 24hour following Mass

**The Sacrament of Baptism**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of month during 10.30am Mass.  
 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of month 11.30am (after the 10.30am Mass)

**Baptism Preparation:**

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the Month prior to Baptism

**Children's Liturgy**

Every Sunday during 10.30am Mass during School terms.

**Reconciliation**

Saturday: 10am & 5.30pm

**Anointing of the Sick Mass**

First Thursday of month 9.15am

**Weddings and Funerals**

Please contact the Parish Office.

**Rosary**

Wednesday after 9.15am Mass  
 Before Mass Tuesday and Saturday  
**PARISH INFORMATION**

**Parish Child Safety Team:**

0410-715-267

**Parish Schools:**

**St Augustine** 9781 3007  
 Principal - Jan de Koning  
**St Francis Xavier** 9783 3424  
 Principal - Stephen Peart  
**John Paul College** 9784 0200  
 Principal - John Visentin

**This Sunday's Readings**

**1st Reading:** Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18  
**2nd Reading:** Philippians 3:17 - 4:1  
**Psalm** 26:1, 7-9, 13-14  
**R.** The Lord is my light and my salvation.

**Next Sunday's Readings**

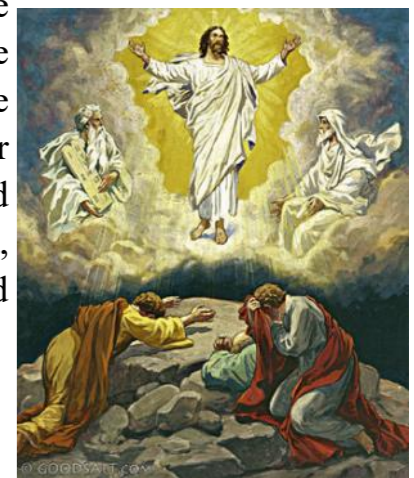
**1st Reading** Exodus 17:3-7  
**2nd Reading** Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12  
**Gospel** John 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42

**GOSPEL**

**Luke 9:28-36**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, 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 he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him'. And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.



The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

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## Homily - First Sunday of Lent, Year C

The Transfiguration of Jesus took place on Mount Tabor. Mountains have been places where people encounter the divine. Abraham went to sacrifice his son Isaac on a mountain in Moriah, (Gen 22); the Lord gave the Israelites the ten commandments at Mount Sinai, (Ex 20); Prophet Elijah defeated the prophets of Baal at Mount Carmel, (1Kg 18:17-40); Jesus gave his sermon which included the beatitudes on a mountain, (Mt 5); and Jesus was crucified on Golgotha which was a mountain.

The Transfiguration of Jesus Christ was like an eureka moment for his disciples; an aha experience. In the Gospel of today, the human body that veils the divinity of Christ was lifted in the context of prayer. For we read in the Gospel that "Jesus took with him Peter, and John and James and went up the mountain to pray", (Lk 9:28). When the disciples experienced the divinity of Jesus they exclaimed through Peter, "Lord, it is wonderful to be here". They realised instantaneously, that Jesus is the fulfilment of the covenant God made with Abraham, (the First Reading), whose unflinching faith in God made him justified. They also came to the awareness that Jesus is the gate to heaven because at Jesus' Transfiguration, his disciples also communed with the saints in glory in the person of two Old Testament Pillars – Moses and Elijah.

We are now invited to put our faith and trust in Jesus who has set us free through his Cross and Resurrection. Just as Abraham put his faith in God, so are we invited to have unwavering faith in Jesus who as the new Moses and Elijah would lead us to the promised land where God is all in all.

Today as we reflect on the Transfiguration of Christ, I invite you to also reflect on how the message of Christ has transformed the Church and her members to be advocates for the voiceless in our society.

The first, (encyclical), letter of a pope to address social justice issues was a letter written to all patriarch, bishops, priests and lay people by Pope Leo XIII on 15<sup>th</sup> May, 1891. It was titled **Rerum Novarum, (On New Things)**. It upheld the dignity of human labour and defended the right to private property. It criticised radical socialism and extreme capitalism. It also defended the right of workers to form unions! This letter was in response to industrial revolution.

On 11<sup>th</sup> April, 1963, Pope John XXIII, who convened the second Vatican Council, issued an optimistic encyclical, (letter), titled, **Pacem in Terris, (On Establishing Universal Peace in Truth, Justice, Charity and Liberty)**. The background to this encyclical was the establishment of the United Nations to forestall future conflicts after the horrors of the Second World War, the emergence of Cold War, arms race and the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nation General Assembly in 1948.

The theological basis of Pacem in Terris is 'marvellous order' found in God's "Natural Law". Pope John XXIII declared that every person has the right to life, "the right to bodily integrity and to the means necessary for the proper development of life", (n.11).

In 1991, following the collapse of Communism in 1989, and to commemorate the centenary of Rerum Novarum, (the letter by Pope Leo XIII), Pope John Paul released a letter titled, **Centesimus Annus, (on the hundredth anniversary of Rerum Novarum)**. John Paul excoriated Communism for failing the people by denying rights to workers. It also criticised Communism for sponsoring atheism that have denied meaning and purpose to the younger generations. John Paul supported capitalism that has a heart; "It is not wrong to want to live better; what is wrong is a style of life which is presumed to be better when it is directed towards 'having' rather than 'being', and which wants to have more, not in order to be more but in order to spend life in enjoyment as an end in itself," (# 36).

With the debate ranging between those who believe that climate change is real and climate change sceptics, Pope Francis in his 2015 Encyclical, (letter), "**Laudato Si'**" (on climate change), sided unequivocally with those who believe that climate change is real. He stated that climate change is real, and it is a moral issue that everyone, especially the Catholics, must address in order to protect the earth and everyone living in it.

The principles of Catholic Social teaching include life and dignity of the human person, the call to family, community, and participation; rights and responsibilities; options for the poor and vulnerable; the dignity of work and the rights of workers; solidarity and care for God's creation.

I salute and congratulate individuals and groups, governmental and non-governmental agencies that are in the forefront of mitigating the divide between the rich and the poor especially those at the margin of the society. These individuals, groups and governmental agencies provide advocacy, legal aid, food, medical treatment, allowances and accommodation to the needy. Here, I wish to acknowledge the bold government initiatives of Centre-link and Medicare. I recognise the invaluable services provided by St Vincent de Paul, Salvation Army, Meals on Wheels, Doctors Without Borders and so on.

May our Transfigured Christ, give us the grace to take care of our environment and to be always mindful of the needs of the less privileged in our communities for he said, *I was hungry and you feed me, thirsty and you gave me drink, lonely and you visited me.* (Mt 25:31-46).

Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp

### EVENTS @ SFX

- MONDAY 18 MARCH ST. PATRICKS DAY MASS
- TUESDAY 19 MARCH MASS FOR ST.JOSEPH & CUP OF TEA
- WEDNESDAY 20 MARCH RECONCILIATION FOR THE CHILDREN IN OUR PARISH SCHOOL, ST FRANCIS XAVIER PRIMARY, ST.AUGUTINES, PRIMARY AND SURROUNDING STATE SCHOOLS.
- SUNDAY 24 MARCH FOOD STALL
- FRIDAY 5 APRIL PETER KEARNEY CONCERT @ 7PM
- SUNDAY 28 APRIL DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY @1.30PM

### BANNS OF MARRIAGE

GROOM: Dileep Joseph Veluthadath-Parambil Mathew  
BRIDE: Ancy Mary Anthonichan  
If you know any reason this marriage should not take place, please contact Fr. Chinua Okeke, CSSp.

### 3rd Sunday of LENT

After all Sunday Masses, we will be having 15 minutes Adoration and Benediction as part of our Lenten Program.



### St Patrick's Feast Day

Monday March 18th

Great numbers of Irish settlers were imprisoned here in the early history of our home land Australia. Many came later looking for a new life after the wretched potato famine inflicted such hardship and hunger. The GREAT gift they brought with them was their CATHOLIC faith. Somehow they built the schools and churches where our faith grew as children into adulthood. We Aussies have traditionally worn the green ribbons, sung Irish songs and raised a glass of Guinness on St Pat's Day. On Monday wear something green and enjoy morning tea in the QUILTER room after Mass.

### ST. JOSEPH

Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

On Tuesday 19 March we will be Celebrating St. Joseph's Feast Day with Mass at 9.15am followed by a cup of tea. We hope you can join us.

### PROJECT COMPASSION AT SFX

As a way of contributing to Project Compassion, we are holding a **FOOD STALL** on Sunday 24 March after 8.30am and 10.30am Masses. Please support our Parishioners in raising funds for project compassion.

### Ensuring your Child is Safe at St. Francis Xavier



We are committed to ensuring a safe environment for children in our parish. Each Sunday Children 12 years and under are invited to participate in Children's Liturgy of the Word sessions during 10.30 AM Mass. The sessions are held in the Xavier Centre. Children are led by at least two volunteer Leaders, who are approved by Fr Chinua. They hold either active Working with Children Checks or an active Victorian Institute of Teaching registration. They have agreed to abide by the parish's **Child Safety Policy, Child Safety Code of Conduct- Safeguarding Children and Young People and Child m Protection Reporting and Responding Policy.** Our Child Safety Team this year plans to engage with our younger parishioners to develop accessible and easy to understand, child-friendly information about our child safe policies and practices. Our parish's Child Safety Code of Conduct can be found posted around the church or on the St Francis Xavier parish website at [www.cam.org.au/Frankston](http://www.cam.org.au/Frankston).

### SUNDAYS OF LENT

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday / 17 March *Social Justice*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday / 24 March *Exposition of Blessed Sacrament after Mass*
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday / 31 March *Anointing of the Sick after Mass*
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday / 7 April *Outreach Sunday*
- Palm Sunday / 14 April *Holy Week*

### DURING LENT

- Lenten Reflection**  
Tuesday 2 April & Wednesday 3 April 7pm @ St Francis Xavier, concluding with: Friday 5th April, 7pm  
**Peter Kearney** presenting *Ashes to Easter* a prayerful sequence of stories, reflections, songs and hymns.
- Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction**  
Wednesday, after 9.15am Mass during Lent.
- Stations of the Cross**  
Fridays after 9.15am Mass and 7.00pm
- Sacrament of Reconciliation for Easter**  
Wednesday, 17 April at 7.30pm

### Project Compassion

Lenten donation envelopes/boxes are available in the Foyer.

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY



Every Sunday during 10.30am Mass we have a fabulous team who will be leading the Children's Liturgy. We thank Mary, Ivey, Barbara, Christine, Jadeah, Liya, Anne, Sylvia, Lyz, Amber and Judy for volunteering to help our Children.

On Friday March 1st Fr Chinua, Maina, Fiona and David and myself joined a "World Day of Prayer" service at the Uniting Church Frankston courtesy of Minister David Fotheringham to pray for and learn something of the country of Slovenia. Other guests of various denominations shared an enjoyable morning tea and an atmosphere of GOODWILL. God Is Good.