

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.

Next Sunday's Readings

1st Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13
2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21
Gospel: John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

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, Joan Semmel
REMEMBRANCE - Valeria Puszka, Sheila Boucher and Selwyn Boucher
RECENTLY DECEASED - Stephen Seymour



60 Davey Street, Frankston 3199

Parish Office: 9.00am - 4.00pm Monday to Friday

Phone: 9783 3484 Email: frankston@cam.org.au

Web: cam.org.au/Frankston

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

Email: chinua.okeke@cam.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Jude Agorchukwu CSSp

Honorary Associate: Fr. Neil Fryer (Ordinariate OLSC)

Secretary: Christina Williams & Bethany Plowright



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 - 1st + 3rd Mondays of month

Liturgy of Word & Communion Service

Monday - 9.15am
 2nd + 4th + 5th 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

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

Baptism Preparation:

2nd Thursday of the Month prior to Baptism

Children's Liturgy

Every Sunday during 10.30am Mass

Reconciliation

Saturday: 10am & 5.30pm

Anointing of the Sick Mass

First Thursday of month 9.15am

Rosary

Wednesday after 9.15am Mass
 Before Mass Tuesday and Saturday

Weddings and Funerals

Please contact the Parish Office.
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

GOSPEL
John 4:5-42

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' - Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans.

Jesus replied: 'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?'

Jesus replied: 'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water.' 'Go and call your husband' said Jesus to her 'and come back here.' The woman answered, 'I have no husband.' He said to her. 'You are right to say, "I have no husband"; for although you have had five, the one you have now is not your husband. You spoke the truth there.' 'I see you are a prophet, sir' said the woman. 'Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.'

Jesus said: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come - in fact it is here already - when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah - that is, Christ - is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

At this point his disciples returned, and were surprised to find him speaking to a woman, though none of them asked, 'What do you want from her?' or, 'Why are you talking to her?' The woman put down her water jar and hurried back to the town to tell the people, 'Come and see a man who has told me everything I ever did; I wonder if he is the Christ?' This brought people out of the town and they started walking towards him.

Meanwhile, the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, do have something to eat'; but he said, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples asked one another, 'Has someone been bringing him food?'

But Jesus said: 'My food is to do the will of the one who sent me, and to complete his work. Have you not got a saying? Four months and then the harvest? Well, I tell you: Look around you, look at the fields; already they are white, ready for harvest! Already the reaper is being paid his wages, already he is bringing in the grain for eternal life, and thus sower and reaper rejoice together. For here the proverb holds good: one sows, another reaps; I sent you to reap a harvest you had not worked for. Others worked for it; and you have come into the rewards of their trouble.'



Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done', so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

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

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Homily - First Sunday of Lent, Year C

Christ our Living Water

In the first reading from the book of Exodus, (Ex 17:3-7), the people of Israel complained against Moses and God because they were thirsty, at Horeb, in the desert. They asked Moses why he brought them out from Egypt only to die of thirst in the desert. They seemed to have forgotten all their plights in Egypt just because of thirst. In Egypt, their male babies were being killed and they were slaves working under taskmasters. Due to their thirst, they also wondered if the Lord was still with them. The Lord ordered Moses to strike a designated rock with his staff so that water would gush out for the people to drink. Moses struck the rock and water gushed out, and the people and their livestock drank to their satisfaction.

It is a common experience that when we feel thirsty, we just want to quench the thirst. While I am aware that severe thirst can lead to dehydration which is a health issue, however, the people of Israel ought to have been patient with the Lord because the Lord will always provide. The people of Israel should have remembered all the marvels the Lord worked for them in Egypt and all the wonders he had continued to do for them in the desert. The water the Lord provided for the people of Israel in the desert satiated their physical thirst, but not their spiritual thirst. Psalm 42: 1-2 stated that, just as the deer longs for running stream so are our souls longing for God. Hence, our souls are restless, said St Augustine, until they rest in the Lord.

The Gospel of today, (Jon 4:5-42), started with the dialogue between Jesus and a Samaritan woman at Patriarch Jacob's well. The woman had come to draw water and Jesus had asked her to give him some water to drink. She was stunned that a Jew, (due to Jesus' attire or accent), should even talk to a Samaritan let alone ask for a drink from a Samaritan woman. Moreover, this woman does not seem to be of good repute in her community due to her multiple marriages and concubinages, hence, she had come to draw water at midday when there was more likelihood that she would meet no one at the well.

Feel her astonishment when she responded to Jesus' request, "What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?" It meant that Jesus was willing to use a utensil already used by a Samaritan which most Jews will not do. The Jews were at loggerheads with the Samaritans, and looked down on them as second-class citizens.

The history of the enmity goes back to the conquest, of Northern Israel, with Samaria as the capital, by the Assyrians in 722 BC. The Assyrians scattered a good number of the people of Israel across the empire, never to return to Israel again, and moved people from other nationalities to the land of Israel; unlike the captivity of the Southern Israel by Babylon in 537 BC, where the Israelites were camped as a block in Babylon and they came back en masse at the end of their captivity. Hence, for the Southern Israelites, the Northern Israel had become a mixed race; no longer Jewish.

Though Jesus' initial dialogue with the Samaritan woman was about physical water, he gradually moved the discussion to include spiritual encounter with God when he said to the woman that "if you only knew what God is offering, and who it is that is saying to you: give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water." Jesus went on to clarify that anyone who drank the water from Jacob's well will get thirsty again because it quenches only physical thirst, but the spiritual water that Jesus is offering turns into a spring in people's lives that leads to eternal life.

Again, Jesus by revealing to the Samaritan woman some of the things she had done in her life, led her to faith that he, (Jesus), was the Messiah. With the Samaritan woman accepting Jesus as her personal Lord and Saviour, she ran into her village to invite more people to come and meet Jesus. The Samaritans that listened to Jesus, because of the Samaritan woman's testimony, also came to faith that Jesus is really "the saviour of the world." Jesus reaching out to the Samaritans showed that salvation is for everyone, and that everyone who worships God "in spirit and truth" is acceptable to God. Everyone, including the Jews, needs this salvation.

We too, participate in this salvation brought to us by Jesus through our baptism and we, as the Samaritans, profess him as our Messiah and "the saviour of the world."

Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp

EVENTS @ SFX

- SUN 24 MARCH LENTIL RICE FOR SALE
- MON 25 MARCH MASS & ANNUNCIATION
- WED 27 MARCH NATIONAL SENIORS MEETING 8.15-12NOON
- WED 3 APRIL SFX FRIENDSHIP CLUB 10.30
- FRI 5 APRIL PETER KEARNEY ASHES TO EASTER @ 7PM
- SUN 7 APRIL MORNING TEA AFTER 1.30AM MASS
YOUTH LEAD MASS 5.30PM
SYRO MALABAR 4-6PM
- SAT 20 APRIL HIGH MASS IN TAMIL
(INDIAN EASTER CEEBRATION)
- SUN 28 APRIL DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY @1.30PM
- SUN MAY 5 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION ST. FRANCIS XAVIER & GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS
- SUN MAY 19 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION ST. AGUSTINE'S

COMBINED PARISH FESTIVAL & FR. CHINUA 25TH ORDINATION

WILL TAKE PLACE ON Sun 25 AUGUST AT ST. JOHN'S PARISH STARTING AT 10.30AM. IT WILL BE A MULTICULTURAL CELEBRATION WITH MASS, FOOD, DANCES ECT.

PALMS WANTED!

As Palm Sunday is fast approaching we are asking if anyone has Palm Leaves/ olive branches that they could donate for our Palm Sunday Services. Please contact the Parish office. Many thanks

PROJECT COMPASSION AT SFX

As a way of contributing to Project Compassion, we are selling **Lentil Rice** this Sunday 24 March after 8.30am and 10.30am Masses. Lentil Rice's sold at **\$6 each or 2 for \$10.** Please support Felix, Julie and Stephen to raise funds for Project Compassion.



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Sunday 28 April This year our Parish shall be celebrating divine mercy Sunday with Confession, Rosary, Procession and Mass, starting at 1.30pm.

Next Sunday Anointing of the Sick After all Masses

Peter Kearney



I am a songwriter, singer and recording artist. My songs were first published in 1966. 'Fill My House' and 'The Beatitudes' from that collection of folk-hymns became internationally known and are still widely sung today. In 1982, music became my full time occupation. Since then I have toured extensively through Australia, also in Ireland and the UK. Fifteen albums of my songs have been published, with a wide range of material including folk-hymns, justice ballads, fun songs for children and a musical-narrative 'Good Morning Good People' on the life of St. Francis of Assisi.

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.

SUNDAYS OF LENT

- 3rd Sunday / 24 March Exposition of Blessed Sacrament after Mass
- 4th Sunday / 31 March Anointing of the Sick after Mass
- 5th 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

St. Francis Xavier Tuesday 16th at 7.30pm

St. John's Wednesday 17th at 7.30pm

HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2019 TIMETABLE

Palm Sunday 14 April 2019	
6.00pm	Sunday Vigil Mass – Blessing of Palms
8.30am	Mass – Blessing of Palms
10.30am	Mass – Blessing of Palms – Solemn Procession
5.30pm	Mass – Blessing of Palms
Monday 15 April 2019	
9.15am	Mass
Tuesday 16 April 2019	
NO MASS	
11.00am	Chrism Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne (All welcome to attend)
5.00pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation 2 nd Rite SFX
Wednesday 17 April 2019	
9.15am	Mass
7.30pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation 2 nd Rite SJE
Holy Thursday 18 April 2019	
7.00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper & Watch & Prayer until 12am
Good Friday 19 April 2019	
9.15am	Station of the Cross
11.00am	Frankston March of Witness at Frankston Foreshore
3.00pm	Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion
5.00pm	Stations of the Cross Syro Malabar
SOLEMNITY OF EASTER	
Easter Vigil 20 April 2019	
8.00pm	Easter Vigil Mass
10.00pm	Tamil Mass
Easter Sunday 21 April 2019	
5.00am	Dawn Mass
7.00am	Mass Syro Malabar
8.30am	Easter Day Mass
10.00am	Easter Day Mass
5.30pm	Easter Day Mass
Divine Mercy Sunday 28 April 2019	
1.30pm	Confession, Rosary, Procession and Mass