

For your Interest

Stewardship Reflection

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul and all your mind". Matt 22:37
Do you put other "gods" before God? Is your love of money, power, status or some personal possession greater than your love of God? Do you really recognize that everything you have and everything you are is a gift from God? The good news - it's not too late to put God first in your life in all things.

Thanksgiving Mass for Volunteers

All volunteers are invited to a Thanksgiving Mass on Friday 17th November, 2017 at 7.00 pm.
 If your family members are not volunteers, they are more than welcome to attend with you.

Sunday MASS led by children

St. Francis Xavier parish community would love to celebrate the gift of our children by involving them in our 10:30am mass once a month. All primary school aged kids will be invited to sit at the front of the church and assist with various aspects of our liturgy, including: greeting/welcoming, singing, collection, offertory and more. Reading and altar serving will require special training and preparation – please see our children's ministry coordinators if you are interested in these roles. This mass will be followed by a special morning tea for the children. All parishioners are welcome to come! Let us continue to pray for and encourage our children in their spiritual journeys. "Have faith like a child, and you will enter the kingdom of Heaven" – Matt 18:3 Our children will be leading at the 10.30 am Mass next Sunday 5th November.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SYRO-MALIBA NOVENA 23rd OCTOBER 6.00 PM

ALL SAINTS DAY 1st NOVEMBER 9.15 AM

ALL SOULS DAY 2nd NOVEMBER 9.15 AM and NOON

CHILDRENS MASS 5TH. NOV 10.30 AM

MEMORIAL MASS 10th NOVEMBER 7PM

CAKE SALE NOVEMBER 11/12 November

VOLUNTEERS THANKSGIVING MASS Nov 17 7pm

ASSIST A STUDENT OCTOBER 2017

Dear Parishioners, Thank you for your past and current support of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and its "good works". However, we would like to draw your attention to, and provide information of our Assist a Student program, with a mini display in the Church foyer. The AAS program assists students in very poor circumstances in countries to our north to get a school. We all appreciate that education is the key in helping people to get out of the poverty cycle. It costs \$70 to assist one student for one year. Some Parishioners are already supporting the program, these pamphlets and poster provided are for your information and support if you are able. A Donor container is also available below the display for any immediate smaller contributions. The Parish Community may then Sponsor a student as a result of this.

Thank you for your interest, your SVDP Conference.

St. Vincent De Paul Society

St Vinnies asks you to help us collect quality non-perishable food items so that we can be ready for the many people who will come to us for assistance. All we ask is that you bring just **one non-perishable, quality food item** to Mass on the weekend of 11th. and 12th. November or the following weekend of 18th. and 19th. November, and place it in the boxes we will have in the foyer for that purpose.

our *GIVING TREE*, which will be decorated with cards, showing the age and gender of children from needy families, whom we would like to surprise with a Christmas gift on your behalf. All you do is select a card from the tree, buy a gift suitable for that child and return it to the tree for us to distribute in the week before Christmas. The tree with its cards will be in the foyer on the 25th. and 26th of November and we ask you to return a wrapped gift (with the card on the outside) no later than the 3rd. of December

Friendship Club (Seniors):

Knitting Group: Contact Yvonne - 5976 8480

Prayer Line: Carolyn Gobel - 5971 3103

Parish Cuppa: 1st Sunday of month after the 10.30am Mass in the Xavier Centre.

Next Sunday's Readings for Reflection - 31TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1st Reading Malachi 1:14-22

2nd Reading Thessalonians 2:7-9

Gospel Matthew 23: 1-12

SUNDAY COLLECTION 22/10/2017

Thanksgiving Offering-Pledged - Church \$1522
 Thanksgiving Offering-Pledged - Presbytery \$577
 Please ensure you write your dollar amounts on each side of the envelopes. *Thank You*
 Collection will be taken up after the Prayer of the Faithful.



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

Children's Liturgy

Sunday during 10.30am Mass

Charismatic Prayer Group

Wednesday: 7.30pm in Chapel

Legion of Mary

Friday: 2pm in Quilter Room

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** Exodus 22:20-26 Isaiah 45:1,4-6 **2nd Reading** Thessalonians 1:5-10

Gospel Matthew 22: 34-40

You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ





Theme Love of God and Neighbour

The first reading from the Book of Exodus, (Ex 22: 20-26), proffered what practical love should look like in ancient Israel - not molesting or oppressing a stranger, not maltreating the widow or orphan, lending money to the poor without interest, and returning back what was taken as a collateral to the owner in due time. In ancient Israel, the stranger, the widow and the orphan were considered as being poor because they may not have had access to the land to cultivate their crops, or have their own herd from which they could produce milk and meat, or trade them as a source of income. The Jews in this first reading were asked to be kind to strangers because they were once strangers in Egypt. This advice, seemed to be in accord with the Mosaic code of “an eye for an eye, tooth for tooth,” for it urged the people of Israel not to avenge on strangers the ill-treatment they received in Egypt, for the strangers were not responsible for the Jewish predicament in Egypt. This piece of advice given to the people of Israel, is still relevant today. We should remember Jesus’ saying, “do to no one what you will not like done to you,” (Mt 7:12).

The context of the Gospel of today was that the Pharisees and the Herodians tried to entrap Jesus by asking him if it was permissible to pay taxes to Caesar, but Jesus out-witted them by giving them a classical answer of giving back to” Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.” Next, the Sadducees who did not believe in the resurrection of the dead, came to Jesus; they felt they had proof that demonstrated that resurrection of the death was a mere farce. They narrated a situation where a particular woman was discontinuously married to seven brothers, whom she married each time one of the living brothers died, after her husband had died. They wondered at the resurrection of the dead - to which of the brothers will she be wife to since she had been married to all of them. Jesus explained to them that in the next life, people do not marry because they are like the angels. Thus, Jesus’ reply silenced the Sadducees.

The above background clarifies the opening statement in today’s Gospel, (Matt 22:34-40), “When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?'" Though the Pharisees were looking for opportunity to unsettle Jesus, however, Jesus saw their question as a moment of grace that he could use to elucidate the essence of the commandments of God. He summarised the commandments of God as love of God and love of neighbour. In the ten commandments of God as enunciated in Exodus 20:1-17, the first three commandments, related to our relationship with God, and the rest, pertained to our relationship with our fellow humans. The book of Deuteronomy, reminded us that the Lord our God is one Lord, and that we should love Him with all our heart, soul and strength, (Deut 6:4-7).

Jesus brought it to our consciousness that, “you did not choose me, no I chose you and I commissioned you to bear fruits that will last,” (Jn 15:16). Hence, God was the one who took the first initiative to relate with us. We are invited to have a personal relationship with God. Loving God with our heart, mind, and strength, will automatically flow into our relationship with our fellow human beings. The apostle John had asked rhetorically, how can we say that we love God whom we cannot see when we cannot love our neighbour whom we can see? (1Jn 4:20).

Our love of God and neighbour is not merely something cognitive but it is also practical. St Paul said that, “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres, (1Cor 13: 4-7). And for Jesus, practical love included feeding the hungry, welcoming a stranger and visiting the sick, and the imprisoned, (Mt 25: 31-43) .

Today, may our love of God, bring out the best in us as God’s creatures. Amen.

Fr. Chinua Okeke CSSp

We pray with loving and trustful hearts for Charles Rowland, Rory David, Corinne Deapas, Wendy, Neil Stevenson, Rita, Len Crowe, Yvonne Curnow, Nicholas, Graeme Purdon, Coral Taylor, John and Maria Barbon, Emily Middleton, Max Janiszewski, Jack Torcaso, Kevin Churchill, Ross Monterosso, 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.

ALL SAINTS DAY Wednesday Nov 1st. Mass 9.15 am

Anointing of the sick Mass anointing of the sick mass for the month of November will be held on Wednesday November 1st, not on Thursday November 2nd

ALL SOULS MASS 9.15am and 12 Noon.

NOVEMBER MASSES FOR THE DEAD

November Mass envelopes are in the foyer, please place your November Mass envelope with your intention in the box provided at the memorial altar.

Memorial Mass

Friends, on Friday November 10th at 7.00pm“ Memorial Mass” will be celebrated for those families and friends who have passed away this year. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to remember and pray for our deceased loved ones who have died between November 2016 and October 2017.

You are invited to bring a photo to be placed in the Church during Mass. Please write the names of your loved ones in the in the register in the Church Foyer.

PARISH FUNDRAISING: CAKES/BISCUITS/SLICES/ JAMS/MARMALADE (HOME MADE)



We are asking our Parishioners to donate baked/home made Goodies for the 11th & 12th November which will be sold in a fundraising activity after the Sunday Masses. This Sunday we have a volunteer sign up sheet in the Church Foyer to register your interest in this activity. Please place your name, contact number and which home made goodie you intend to make. Please take home an information sheet and food ingredient’s label.

Food donations can be delivered to the Parish Office until 4pm on Friday 10th November and in Xavier Centre (hall) on Saturday 11th November between 9am – 12 noon . This will allow Cake stall leaders an opportunity to mark the items ready for the cake stalls.

We Pray for: Dorothy Barton and Pat Vastering who died recently and for Raffaele Brancatella, Zieta & Vivian Martin, Bertram & Elfrida D’Netto, Royston D’Vaz, Daisy Assey, Hilda McConnell, Miss Rukmani, Daniel, Elena, Harold, Xavier Illiparambil, Kurian Vithayathil and Teresa Sanchez all who anniversaries occur at this time.

May the souls of all departed rest in the peace and love Of God.



All our Policies can be viewed on our Website:

www.cam.org.au/Frankston
St Francis Xavier’s Parish Frankston

Child Safety Policy

Excerpt from Policy dated 9 February 2017: Policy Commitments

All children at St Francis Xavier’s Parish have the right to feel safe and be safe. The wellbeing of children in our care will always be our first priority and we do not and will not tolerate child abuse. We aim to create a child-safe and child-friendly environment where children are free to enjoy life to the full without any concern for their safety. There is particular attention paid to the most vulnerable children, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and children with a disability.

EUTHANASIA UPDATE 26.10.17

Those of us who espouse life over death lost Round 1 when the Victorian Legislative Assembly last week voted 47-37 to support the Andrews government’s assisted suicide Bill. However, all is not lost because the Bill now has to be sent to the Legislative Council for it to agree or not. The Legislative Council is a very different beast, having eight regions, with 5 representatives from each region. Our five members, from South-Eastern Region, are listed below. I believe that the Legislative Council has a more conservative mind-set, and is more likely to vote down the Bill than the Legislative Assembly was ever likely to. Outside parliament, self-styled “experts” such as Andrew Denton and Daniel Andrews have been given plenty of oxygen by the mainstream media, in spite of their experience being limited almost exclusively to describing the death of each of their fathers. However, I’d like to share with you the remarks of a REAL expert, a nurse who for any years worked in country hospitals: “In all my 40 years of nursing, not one patient ever asked me to help them die. Pity I can’t say the same for the relatives.” (Text Talk, Herald Sun, October 18) **THIS WILL PROBABLY BE OUR LAST CHANCE AT THIS, SO IF YOU WANT ONE FINAL SHOT, PLEASE WRITE OR PHONE EACH OF OUR REPRESENTATIVES SHOWN BELOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

Hon Gavin Jennings, MLC, 517a Princes Highway, Noble Pk 3174. Ph: 9548 5644, Hon Gordon Rich-Phillips, MLC, Suite 1, 31 Princes Hwy, Dandenong 3175. Ph: 9794 7667, Hon Adem Somyurek, MLC, Unit 2, 24 Langhorne Street, Dandenong 3175. Ph: 9794 0699, Mrs Inga Peulich, MLC, 376 Nepean Highway, Chelsea 3196. Ph: 9772 1366Ms Nina Springle, MLC, Suite 1, 1174 Nepean Hwy, Cheltenham 3192. Ph: 9584 4013

Thanks for your wonderful support over these last few months - Michael Long Co-Ordinator

Michael Long Anti-Euthanasia Co-ordinator

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: _____

Change of Address