

For your Interest

World day of the Poor

Pope Francis has announced the forthcoming World Day of the Poor. We are called, then, to draw near to the poor, to encounter them, to meet their gaze, to embrace them and let them feel the warmth of love that breaks through their solitude. Their outstretched hand is also an invitation to step out of our certainties and comforts, and to acknowledge the value of poverty itself. We are asked to make an effort to create moments of encounter and friendship, solidarity and concrete assistance.

Media and Communications Office, Catholic Archdioceses, Melbourne

Thanksgiving Mass for Volunteers

All volunteers are invited to a Thanksgiving Mass on Friday 17th November, 2017 at 7.00 pm.

The time and support you give to the Church is very much appreciated. Volunteers, please bring your pouse with you as I would like to thank them as well. A Cuppa will be held after Mass.

Fund Raising Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday 21st November at 7pm in the Quilter Room.

Our Parish Cake Stall will be held this weekend. I am sure you will find something delicious to purchase for your morning tea.

Other Group Activities:

St. Vincent de Paul Society

meets 1st & 3rd Mondays 4pm in Xavier Centre.

Donations/Assistance: 9769 6060

Membership: 0438 573 694; 9770 5570; 9783 3976

Furniture Donations: 1800 621 349

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

Parish Cuppa: 1st 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

UPCOMING EVENTS

MASS IN THE MEMORIAL GARDEN NOV 15 7 PM

VOLUNTEERS THANKSGIVING MASS Nov 17 7pm

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING NOV 26

RETREAT LEAD BY BR JOHNSON SEQUIERA
NOV 27 & 28 7pm - 9.30 pm

ASSIST A STUDENT OCTOBER 2017

Dear Parishioners, Thank you for your past and current support of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and it's "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. See the display, in the Church Foyer.

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

There will be a special Christmas second Collection, for St. Vincent de Paul Society on Saturday 9th. and Sunday 10th. December to financially assist our good works. We seek you special support please, for helping care for the Lord's poor in Frankston. Thank you and God bless you".

Next Sunday's Readings for Reflection - 33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1st Reading Proverbs 31:10-13

2nd Reading Thessalonians 5:1-6

Gospel Matthew 25: 14-31

SUNDAY COLLECTION 05/11/2017

Thanksgiving Offering-Pledged - Church \$934
Thanksgiving Offering-Pledged - Presbytery \$406
Please ensure you write your dollar amounts on each side of the envelopes. *Thank You*



St Francis Xavier Parish, Frankston

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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** Wisdom 6 12-16 **2nd Reading** Thessalonians 4:13-18

Gospel Matthew 25: 1-13

Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said, "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ



WISDOM A GREAT VIRTUE



WHAT IS WISDOM?

Wisdom is one of those often –used words the meaning of which, for many in our world, can be difficult. From time to time we should pause for a few moments and reflect on its meaning – a word having a great deal of religious significance. If we are truthful to ourselves, we discover that is wisdom is actually very difficult to define, for it is directly linked to God and we all know that we cannot completely define God. An attempt at describing wisdom sees it as the awareness, recognition and acceptance of God’s will at all times and in all circumstances. It means making choices that will benefit us not just at the moment but eternally hereafter. The purpose and meaning of our lives should always guide our choices. It is wise for us to remember that we came from God and we are returning back to God is true wisdom. True Wisdom has to do with our option for God and a decision making or action, which places God first in our lives. Wisdom is not mere intelligence or brilliance; it is beyond that. It involves deep clarity of judgement that moves us to speak and act only after listening to God.

As the first reading advises us, that as we engage in our pursuits, seeking many things that are good, we would do well to ponder on the pursuit of wisdom. For without wisdom our spiritual lamps will then quench, die out and lose their light. We would then have eyes to see and see not, ears to hear and hear not. We would be sighted in intellect but blind in Spirit. In the second reading, St. Paul addresses the question of death so that the Thessalonians will not be unaware of the hope that is theirs; life and a strong vital relationship with God is not interrupted by death. Jesus has conquered death; he entered into the glory of the Father and will bring with him all those who, in baptism, have been united with him. For Paul all that matters **is the** kind of person we are in the sight of God, not what we have achieved or what we have amassed, and also not to be caught unprepared. We should see that in the light of Jesus’ words, “stay awake”, for you know neither the day nor the hour. The Gospel reading for today, (Matt. 25:1-13), unveils the deeper meaning of our Spiritual journey and our human unpreparedness. The parable of the wise and foolish virgins and their respective lamps should have an impact on us. The virgins or bridesmaids were TEN in number. The number ten is very significant in the Bible. It signifies perfection or completion of divine order. We have ten fingers and ten toes, God gave Ten Commandments to Moses, (Ex.34:28), Daniel was ten times better than the magicians in the realm, (Dan.1:20). Tithes were to be one – tenth, (Deut.14:22), Our Lord Jesus Christ cured ten lepers and made them whole, (Lk. 17:12), The Lord’s Prayer has ten parts, (Matt.6:9-13). Apart from the fact that they were complete in biblical numerology, they were virgins. This is an indication of purity and morally spotless. But as we can see further in the story, being a virgin is not enough because one can also be a foolish and oil-less virgin. The Gospel of today presented to us Ten Virgins; five were wise and five were foolish. The only thing that differentiated them was decision making. The wise ones decided to take flasks of oil while the others did not. Wisdom consists so much **of** decision. The decision to follow good counsel, to listen to God, to make choices that would be beneficial eternally. Evidently, Our Lord Jesus Christ used the parable to compare what the kingdom of heaven is like. They were all virgins, having the same moral excellence. However, five of them thought about the future and made the decision to cater for both now and after. The other five were only concerned about the present or they presumed that their mates may help. Presumption can never help us; for those who believe that having someone in heaven would make them not go to hell are gravely wrong in their belief, and are not wise and prudent. To apply this parable to our lives is the most pertinent thing to do today. The ten virgins represent all of us who are baptized and have been called by God as candidates for the eternal banquet in heaven. We also are waiting for the Lord to come so that we can follow Him into the place he has prepared for us, (John 14:2). But this time of waiting requires us to provide for the journey. The oil in this context is much more than the ordinary lamp oil. Here it stands for Faith, Hope, and Love, and the greatest among them is Love, (1 Cor. 13:13). With reference to the parable, we discover that all the ten virgins had lamps. This is the same as there are many Christians with bibles in their hands. Five of the virgins had no oil, (no faith), in the same way that there are various Christians whose lives are spiritually empty with no faith. The name Christian is not enough to admit us into the kingdom of God just as being a virgin with lamp was not a guarantee for the foolish virgins to enter into the wedding banquet. We need to learn the following lessons from today’s Gospel message: Being a Christian is not enough to go to heaven. We need to activate our Christian life with the oil of Faith, Hope and Love and with works of charity. Be prepared especially for the future. Do not live in presumption, otherwise we may end up in “had I known”. Wisdom is all about decisions we make. Always make the right decision and God will support you for the right choices. There is always a day or time of reckoning. Wisdom consists of making plans for that time.

God bless us all. Fr Jude CSSp

We pray with loving and trustful hearts for John McHugh, Elaine Kennedy, Charles Rowland, Rory David, Corinne Deagan, ,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.

.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.
Mass in the Memorial Garden will be on Wednesday this week at 7.00 pm

EXCERPTS FROM THE **JOY OF THE GOSPEL** BY POPE FRANCIS WILL BE PRINTED IN COMING WEEKS

THE CHURCH’S MISSIONARY TRANSFORMATION
Evangelization takes place in obedience to the missionary mandate of Jesus: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you” (*Mt* 28:19-20). In these verses we see how the risen Christ sent his followers to preach the Gospel in every time and place, so that faith in him might spread to every corner of the earth.

A Church which goes forth

The word of God constantly shows us how God challenges those who believe in him “to go forth”. Abraham received the call to set out for a new land (cf. *Gen* 12:1-3). Moses heard God’s call: “Go, I send you” (*Ex* 3:10) and led the people towards the promised land (cf. *Ex* 3:17). To Jeremiah God says: “To all whom I send you, you shall go” (*Jer* 1:7). In our day Jesus’ command to “go and make disciples” echoes in the changing scenarios and ever new challenges to the Church’s mission of evangelization, and all of us are called to take part in this new missionary “going forth”. Each Christian and every community must discern the path that the Lord points out, but all of us are asked to obey his call to go forth from our own comfort zone in order to reach all the “peripheries” in need of the light of the Gospel.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday: 10am - 10.30 am
Saturday: 5.30pm -5.50pm



FAMILY CARE SISTERS - CROYDON
The Family Care Sisters are offering the following one day programs.
Monday 13th November : Feminine Spirituality
Wednesday 15th November: Tools for effective & compassionate communication
Monday 27th November: Prayer Day
Monday 18th. December: Prayer Day
Contact Sr. Jill Harding 03 9723 6797

Fr. Neil advises that the “Sodality News” is available to you for collection in the Church foyer.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration
Wednesday 8.40 am 9.10 am
Friday after 9.15 am Mass.

We Pray for: All who have died recently and for Kevin Redfern, Ray Stubbs, KT & AJ George, and all souls departed from Angilivelil Family 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.

Who Should make a report?
Any person may make a report. If an allegation involves sexual or other abuse of a child, you should not investigate the matter yourself, or raise it with parents/guardians or the alleged abuser directly.

SCREENING AND RECRUITMENT OF PARISH STAFF

St. Francis Xavier Parish will apply thorough and rigorous screening processes in the recruitment of employees and volunteers involved in child-connected work. Our commitment to child safety and our screening requirements are included in all advertisements for such employee, contractor and volunteer positions, and all applicants are provided with copies of the parish Child Safety Code of Conduct and Child Safety Policy.

CHILD SAFETY WORKSHOP

Thank you for all those who attended the training sessions. The working with Children’s check can be easily done online, nomination Religions Organizations, and the group you. Eg: Legion of Mary. If you need any help please contact the Parish Office.
Our Child Safe Team member are:

Paul McCarthy	St. Francis Xavior Parish
Christine Wakeling	St. Francis Xavior Parish
Helen Overend	St. Francis Xavior Parish
Jeremy Williams	St.Francis Xavior Parish
Trish Stabb	St. John the Evangelist Parish
Mary Murtagh	

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 ☐