

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  
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Meetings held on 1st & 3rd Monday 4.00pm-5.30pm at SFX.

**Thanksgiving pledged Church: \$1534  
Presbytery: \$586**

**Thank you for your continued support.**

*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, Frank Gianini, Chiara Gianini, Melissa Moyle, Judy Jones, Ailish Fitzgibbon, Salih Basic, Jean Pierre Bailey, Tania Richards, Eric Pierrot, Joan Semmel  
**REMEMBRANCE** - Govanna Privitelli, Raffaele Brancatelle,  
**RECENTLY DECEASED**



**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



**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**PLEASE NOTE:**  
we only use our CAM email address

**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

**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

**This Sunday's Readings**

**1st Reading :** Isaiah 43:16-21  
**2nd Reading :** Philippians 3:8-14

**Next Sunday's Readings**

**1st Reading :** Isaiah 50:4-7  
**2nd Reading :** Philippians 2:6-11

*John 8:1-11*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.*

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'



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

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**Ming Zhu Massage**  
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## Homily, Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year C

In the first Reading of today, (Is 43:16-21), the Lord, through the mouth of prophet Isaiah, addressed the Israelites during their Babylonian captivity. After about 70 years in exile, the Israelites were wondering if the Lord has abandoned them for ever. The Lord spoke words of encouragement to them by letting them know that he was doing something new in their lives which would be greater than he had done in the past. The Lord said, "No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before. See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it?" The greatest story the Jewish people reminisced about was their freedom from slavery in Egypt. The Lord was saying that their greatest story would now be their reconciliation with God; the pardoning of their sins.

This becomes more evident in the Gospel of today, (Jon 8:1-11), where a woman caught committing adultery was brought to Jesus by the Scribes and the Pharisees. According to the Book of Deuteronomy, a man and a woman who committed adultery must be put to death, (Deut 22:22).

The Scribes and the Pharisees enquired of Jesus if he supported carrying out the injunction prescribed in the Law on the accused. It was a difficult question for Jesus because he must not be seen as condoning sin. The people of today might frown at killing a man or a woman because he or she committed adultery. However, let us never forget that fidelity to one's spouse in marriage is of supreme importance!

Jesus, while not condoning the sin the woman had committed, however, in a gentle but persuasive way pointed out to the woman's accusers that each of them in one way or another do commit sin and were in need God's mercy. Some sins are graver than others, nonetheless, everyone needs God's mercy and forgiveness.

Stoning was the mode of carrying out capital punishment in Israel in Jesus' time, which explains Jesus' injunction to the woman's accusers that lets the one without sin be the first to cast the stone on the accused. The woman's accusers suddenly realised that they were all sinners in one way or another and needed God's mercy and forgiveness. Hence none of them raised their hands on the woman and Jesus said to the woman; "neither do I condemn you but go and sin no more." Wow! Isn't that a great healing to experience the mercy and forgiveness of one's wife, husband, friend, parents or business associates after we have offended them, especially in very serious ways.

The mercy and forgiveness of God abounds in Jesus and "nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus our, (sic) Lord," (Phil 3:8). Let us not gloss over our past mistakes if they were serious, nor should we not only dwell on the wrong choices we have made. Make restitution for the harm and pain you may have inflicted on people and with the grace that comes from true repentance; the desire not to re-offend, move your life forward.

Paul was a persecutor of the Christians. While on his way to Damascus to arrest and torture the Christians, he had an encounter with Christ through a vision. He heard a voice call out to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" He enquired about whose voice it was and was informed that it was the voice of Jesus and he, (Saul), was persecuting him, (Jesus), as he persecutes the Christians. Paul underwent a transformation from that moment and became a protagonist of the gospel of Christ after receiving baptism. He worked very hard to make as many people as possible come to know about Jesus Christ and the salvation which he brought to humankind. He founded many churches. His hard work for the faith was a way for him to make restitution for the harm he caused to the nascent church. He did not allow his past mistakes of persecuting the church to be all that he would be remembered for. No! His doggedness in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ has made him to be remembered as an apostle of Christ and a saint! Thus, we should not allow our epitaph to be on our mistakes but on how we were able to triumph despite our mistakes, by the grace of God.

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday which marks the beginning of the most Holy Week in the Christian calendar. Today, I am sending you forth to your family members and neighbours to invite them to reconnect with their faith by joining our Parish in the celebration of the Paschal Mystery – the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. I know that there is a lot of negative news about the Church these days, but with Christ, we will remain sailing!

Fr. Chinua Okeke CSSp



## EVENTS @ SFX

- SUN 7 APRIL 10.30AM CHILDREN'S MASS FOLLOWED BY MORNING TEA  
YOUTH LED MASS 5.30PM  
SYRO MALABAR 4-6PM
- SAT 13 APRIL WORKING BEE
- SUN 14 APRIL PALM SUNDAY
- THU 18 APRIL HOLY THURSDAY
- FRI 19 APRIL GOOD FRIDAY
- SAT 20 APRIL HOLY SATURDAY
- SUN 21 APRIL EASTER SUNDAY
- 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. AUGUSTINE'S
- WED 19 JULY WATOTO CHILDRENS  
CHOIR

### 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.

### PALM SUNDAY

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday, if anyone has Palm Leaves/Olive branches that they could donate for our Palm Sunday Services. Please bring them next Saturday morning.

### STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

There are new envelopes in the Church foyer ready for collection. Thank you to all who are supporting the financial needs of the Parish, and our Priests, your support is greatly appreciated, and for new Parishioners who are not yet contributing through the thanksgiving envelopes/direct debit, and would like to do so, please contact the Parish office.

Statements for credit card and direct debit contributors are available anytime on request.

### DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Sunday 28 April

This year Our Parish will be celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday with Confession, Rosary, Procession and Mass, starting at 1.30pm.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

**SATURDAY April 13th, 10am** : Working bee in preparation for Palm Sunday.

**Thursday 18th April 7.30pm**: We need 12 volunteers for " WASHING OF THE FEET". This is to remind us of the **Washing of the feet of the Apostles by Jesus Christ himself**. A list will be in the foyer from Sunday evening.

**EASTER ROSTERS** for READERS AND MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST & OFFERTORY GIFTS PROCESSION VOLUNTEERS will be available from Sunday Evening.—MS

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER TIMETABLE 2019

### Palm Sunday 14 April 2019

- 6.00pm Sunday Vigil Mass - Blessing of Palms- Procession
- 8.30am Mass – Blessing of Palms- Procession
- 10.30am Mass – Blessing of Palms - Solemn Procession
- 5.30pm Mass – Blessing of Palms - Solemn Procession

### Monday 15 April 2019

- 9.15am Mass

### Tuesday 16 April 2019

- 9.15am Mass
- 11.00am Chrism Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne (All welcome to attend)
- 7.30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation 2<sup>nd</sup> Rite SFX

### Wednesday 17 April 2019

- 9.15am Mass
- 7.30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation 2<sup>nd</sup> Rite SJE

### Holy Thursday 18 April 2019

- 7.30pm 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
- 10.30am Easter Day Mass
- 5.30pm Easter Day Mass

### Divine Mercy Sunday 28 April 2019

- 1.30pm Confession, Rosary, Procession and Mass

### EASTER RECONCILIATION

- 16 April St. Francis Xavier 7.30pm
- 17 April St. John's 7.30pm

