

Welcome and thank you for worshipping with us at

St Francis Xavier.

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- 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.

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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.

With pledged thanksgivings.

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, Ailish Fitzgibbon, Salih Basic, Jean Pierre Bailey, Judy Jones, Tania Richards, Celestino Magno
REMEMBRANCE— Rosa George, Anne Moles, Patrick Flynn, Mavis Dungan, Norman Lord, Emanuele Alaimo
RECENTLY DECEASED— Kevin Churchill, Rob Smith, Sheila Lock, Tony Pisano, Chris Geehman, Lynette Deal



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 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 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: Sirach
 27:4-7
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians
 15:54-58
Psalms 91:2-3, 13-16

R. Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

Next Sunday's Readings

1st Reading Deuteronomy
 26:4-10
2nd Reading Romans
 10:8-13
Gospel Luke
 4:1-13

GOSPEL

Luke 6:39-45

A person speaks from what is in his heart.

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'



The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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Homily - SEVENTH Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

The book of Sirach or Ecclesiasticus, the source of this Sunday's first reading, was received by the Church from Greek speaking communities in the Jewish diaspora; it was ultimately excluded from the Jewish canon of Scripture but early Christians so cherished it that it was nicknamed *Liber Ecclesiasticus* (*Church book*) and so it is in our canon (but not the Protestants'). However, it has only five occurrences in our three-year Sunday cycle (Ordinary Time 6A, 24A, 8C, 22C, and 30C). Today's passage (Sirach 27:4-7) was chosen to accompany the gospel reading (Luke 6:39-45, third and final excerpt from the Sermon on the Plain) due to a similarity with the gospel's analogy of knowing trees by their fruit (verses 43-45); it is the Old Testament's nearest parallel to the gospel analogy, but a nearer match is found in a New Testament epistle, James 3.

Sirach likens the judging of an orchard by its fruit to the assessing of people's thought as expressed in their speech. This apparent attention to *thinking* and *speaking* rather than *doing* is found elsewhere too, such as Isaiah 32 (which includes reference to thorns and briars), but closer scrutiny shows no such division. Our gospel passage similarly ends with a reference to *speaking* as coming from and therefore revealing the heart, yet until that point it could be read as referring to *doing*. We need to remember Scripture's repeating theme of the importance of meditating on and pondering God's Law so as to know and follow God's ways; *knowing* God's ways results in both *speaking truly* and *acting rightly* – thought and speech go hand in hand with action, and wisdom is seen to be not merely an intellectual pursuit but also the following of a good manner of life.

The first part of this week's gospel reading may now be seen as similar, but it points to a communal aspect. Self-awareness is important, and understanding one's own interpretation of God's ways, indeed any intellectual subject, is deepened in the process of discussion. An idea often seems sound until we try to express it; in expressing it we may hear it more clearly, noting weaknesses and then honing or changing the argument. But this is enhanced further by our hearers' critiques, if we are open to hearing them. This insight may help us better understand the role of disputation and argument in the gospels, and then avoid reading passages like today's in an anti-Jewish manner; questioning and criticising, or disputing, does not necessarily mean opposition to Jesus, for part of the genius of Judaism is this proceeding by way of argumentation, seeking ever to deepen understanding of God's word so as to better know how to act. It is far better to view the participants in such arguments not as enemies (as we too often currently find in today's polarised "debates") but as partners in the struggle for knowledge and understanding. It requires an openness to the other, and a readiness to be aware of the possibility of being wrong in at least some detail. Common to many languages, including English and Aramaic and Greek, verbs for *seeing* may be synonyms for *knowing* or *understanding*. In the question emerging from the parable of the blind leading the blind, the *eye* refers to understanding. How obvious it would be to have sight obscured by a stick, so much so that none with a stick in the eye would ever presume to attend to the speck in another. But unreflective people are often blind to their own inabilities and shortcomings. The ancient Greek aphorism comes to mind: "Know thyself", but this is only truly done in engagement with others.

The hierarchic leadership of the Church, too, needs to be open to dialogue and correction, and to show humility to acknowledge fault in thought and practice – especially with regard to sexual abuse scandals and their mismanagement – for it is now wide open to the accusation of hypocrisy, of arrogantly orating correction to others while blatantly blind itself. Or worse, it may be judged by the bad fruits produced as a demonstrably bad tree worthy of being cut down.

Rev Dr Barry Craig - Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

Project Compassion

Commences on Ash Wednesday-
Lenten donation envelopes/boxes will
be available from this Sunday.

Lenten 2019 Regulations

The Lenten season has a twofold character:

- 1] It recalls Baptism or prepares for it;
- 2] It stresses a penitential spirit.

By these means especially, Lent readies the faithful for celebrating the Paschal Mystery after a period of closer attention to the Word of God, and more ardent prayer. In the Liturgy itself and in the Liturgy of centred- instructions the baptism and penitential themes should be more pronounced. Hence: wide use is to be made of baptismal features proper to the Lenten Liturgy and the same approach holds for the penitential elements.

During Lent, penance should not be only internal and individual but also external and social .. in any event, let the Paschal fast be kept sacred. It should be observed everywhere on Good Friday and, where possible, prolonged through Holy Saturday so that the joys of the Sunday of the Resurrection may be visited on uplifted and responsive spirits.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fasting and Abstinence from meat.

On all other Fridays, except Solemnities, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following :

- a) **Prayer** - for example : Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a Church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying the Rosary; or in other ways.
- b) **Self-denial** - for example : not eating meat, not eating sweets or dessert; giving up entertainment to spend time with family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one's own country or elsewhere; or in other ways.
- c) **Helping others** - for example : special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or overburdened; or in their ways.

All who have completed their 18th year & have not yet begun their 60th year are bound to fast. [Can1252].

All who have completed their 14th year are bound to abstain. [Can1252].

The Season of Lent is a time of Penance. During this season the faithful are exhorted to devote themselves in a special manner to prayer, to engage in works of piety & charity, & to deny themselves.

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept must be fulfilled between Ash Wednesday, 6 March 2019 & Trinity Sunday, 16 June 2019 unless for a good reason it is fulfilled at another time during the year.

The wonderful gift of the Lord's merciful love is offered in a special way in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Lent is a most appropriate time to receive this Sacrament. All the faithful who have reached the age of discretion are bound faithfully to confess their grave sins at least once a year.



Ash Wednesday Masses

6 March

9.15am and 7.00pm

2pm @ St. Augustines

SUNDAYS OF LENT

1st Sunday

10 March *Commitment Sunday*

2nd Sunday

17 March *Social Justice*

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

Wednesday, 17 April at 7.30pm

SPECIAL EVENTS @ SFX

TUESDAY 12 MARCH CHILD SAFETY MEETING 7PM

THURSDAY 14 MARCH BAPTISM PREPARATING MEETING 7PM

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. AUGUSTINES PRIMARY AND SURROUNDING STATE SCHOOLS.



JP College Open Day

Thursday, 7 March 2pm or 5pm

Register on line www.jpc.vic.edu.au

Enrolments for Year 7, 2021 close Friday, 16 August

Enquiries: 9784 0200.