

Other Groups/Activities:

St. Vincent de Paul Society

meets 1st & 3rd Mondays at 4.00pm in the Xavier Centre. **Donations/Assistance:** 9769 6060
Membership: 0410 569 357, 9781 4761, 9783 3976
Furniture Donations: 1800 621 349

Charismatic Prayer Group / Prayer Line / Ministry of Healing : Carolyn Gobel - 5971 3103

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

LOCAL RADIO Catholic Hour: Every Sunday at 8am
 Radio Rpp 98.7 fm Contact Maureen Federico 0410 524 338

Next Sunday's Readings for Reflection :
1st Reading (JB) Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24
2nd Reading (JB) 2 Corinthians 8:7. 9. 13-15
Gospel Long (JB) Mark 5:21-43
Short (JB) Mark 5:21-24. 35-43

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St Francis Xavier Parish, Frankston

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 Email: frankston@cam.org.au
Website: www.cam.org.au/Frankston

Parish Priest
Assistant Priest

Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp, chinua.okeke@cam.org.au
 Fr Jude Agorchukwu CSSp jude.agorchukwu@cam.org.au

Honorary Associate:
Secretaries:
Parish Schools:

Fr. Neil Fryer (Ordinariate OLSC)
 Vicki Abbatangelo / Christina Williams
 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
 Before Mass Tuesday and Saturday

Children's Liturgy

Every Sunday during 10.30am Mass
 during School terms.

Legion of Mary

Tuesday: 2pm in Quilter Room
Charismatic Prayer Group
 Wednesday: 7.30pm in Chapel.

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
Eucharistic Adoration of the Holy Spirit

prayer group :

Wednesday: 1.00pm in Chapel

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 Isaiah 49:1-6 and 2nd Reading Acts: 13:22-26
Resp Psalm Ps 138:1-3. 13-15 R. I praise you for I am wonderfully made.

Gospel (JB) Luke 1:57-66. 80 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The time came for Elizabeth to have her child, and she gave birth to a son; and when her neighbours and relations heard that the Lord had shown her so great a kindness, they shared her joy.

Now on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child; they were going to call him Zechariah after his father, but his mother spoke up. 'No,' she said 'he is to be called John.' They said to her, 'But no one in your family has that name', and made signs to his father to find out what he wanted him called. The father asked for a writing tablet and wrote, 'His name is John.' And they were all astonished. At that instant his power of speech returned and he spoke and praised God. All their neighbours were filled with awe and the whole affair was talked about throughout the hill country of Judaea. All those who heard of it treasured it in their hearts. 'What will this child turn out to be?' they wondered. And indeed the hand of the Lord was with him. The child grew up and his spirit matured. And he lived out in the wilderness until the day he appeared openly to Israel.

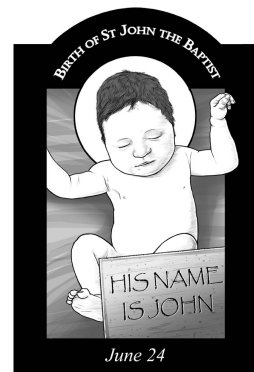
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

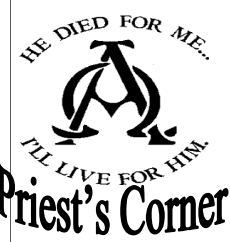
The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

"...Behold, one is coming after me; I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet." - ACTS 13:25

24th June
 2018

**The Nativity of
 St John
 the Baptist**





HOMILY: The Nativity of St John The Baptist

Today the Church is celebrating the Solemnity of the Birth of John the Baptist. This is no doubt a special celebration and that is why the Church can still celebrate it on a Sunday. John the Baptist occupies a very expedient position in the history of salvation being the forerunner of our Lord Jesus Christ. That is actually why Jesus would, in the Gospel of Luke, (7:28), say that among all those born of women none is greater than John. The extraordinary events surrounding the birth of John the Baptist indicates his extraordinary calling.

We shall be looking at the birth of John as heralding the immediate coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. His birth marks the bringing forth of the object of proximate preparation for the coming of the Messiah. John, thus qualifies as an inter-testament prophet. He carried on the message of the Old Testament, (... *prepare a way for the Lord and make his paths straight*, Isaiah 40:3-5), into the New Testament and went ahead to witness its fulfillment through the Baptism of the Lord to his martyrdom.

John's birth actually followed the trend of the birth of great and significant figures in the Bible. The trend among these figures is that their parents went through years of turbulence and searching before his birth. The following make the list: Isaac, (Genesis 21), Jacob & Esau, (Genesis 25: 21ff), Joseph, (Genesis 30: 22-24), Samson, (Judges 13:3ff), Samuel, (1 Samuel 1&2), John the Baptist, (Luke 1:7; 57ff).

John the Baptist actually came for the sole purpose of preparing the way for the Messiah. Hence the barrenness of Elizabeth all the while was within divine plan. Her womb had been prepared to carry the immediate herald of the advent of the Messiah. John the Baptist couldn't have been born at any other time and for any other purpose apart from the time and season of the Messiah. He was born for that purpose and he knew it from his mother's womb. No wonder then he leapt for joy when Mary the Mother of the Lord greeted her cousin and his mother Elizabeth, (Luke 1:41).

The birth of John the Baptist served as a strong indicator that God's plan for the salvation of mankind was near. This is actually contained in God's nature and character; the art of preparation before undertaking any activity. John the Baptist came to prepare the spiritual ground for the Messiah through his preaching and baptism of repentance.

The celebration of the birth of John the Baptist is in a way a remote celebration of our redemption. This is because he prophesized about the coming of the Redeemer, (*There is one coming after me who is more powerful than me, Mark 1:7-8*), and showed him to all when he finally came, (*This is the Lamb of God, John 1: 29-34*).

We have a lot to learn today from the birth of John the Baptist: in the first place his life and ministry was totally under divine will, plan and direction. He cued into this divine plan and direction till he died in active service. We have been called individually for specific missions. God has a plan for each and every one of us, (Jer. 29:11). We are blessed and greatly too if we discover and work in accordance with God's plan. Do not work in another person's plan. Work with the plan of God that he has set for you. Most people have abandoned the life they should live and are living the lives of others. You are special the way you are and God loves you that way. Life is not always easy but with God's plan for us and His providence we shall overcome the storms of life. The Lord is GOOD.

We see in the life of John the Baptist humility at its best and it is the supreme lesson of his life. He never arrogated to himself anything that did not belong to him. To those who were confusing him with the Messiah he said: "I am not the Messiah!" (John 1:20). He went further to state that the Messiah was greater than himself. On the day of Christ's baptism he also displayed a heart-touching humility by asking Christ to rather baptize him, (Matt. 3:14). We are called upon to reflect humility always in our lives. One of the best ways to achieve this is to know our position and maintain it. What John the Baptist illustrates for us, (just like Mary the Mother of Jesus), is that true greatness makes itself manifest in profound humility, lowliness, modesty and true simplicity of heart.

Truth was the hallmark of John's ministry. We all know that he came to bear witness to the truth. Of course our Lord is the Truth itself, (Jn. 14:6). His martyrdom was entirely on account of the truth, (Matt. 14:1-12). Our proclamation to the truth must be in season and out of season. Truth must always be told because it exalts God and God's blessing manifests itself in humility of life. Humility frees us from our compulsion to dominate. It leads us to rejoice, as John did, in Christ. It leads us to recognize God in people beyond ourselves. It leads us to rejoice in others and with others. With humility comes a sense of inner peace, true happiness and joy. If we are humble men and women, others will start looking for what we have found in Christ which is Love and which is the source of life
Fr. Jude Agorchukwu, CSSp

Sincerest Thanks to the Dinner-Dance Committee, and helpers, for staging a splendid evening - enjoyed by all, with fun and frivolity! Thank you to all who attended and helped make this fundraiser a winner!
Thank you to all our sponsors and those who donated prizes to assist with our fund-raising efforts. We raised \$5,100 to be shared with St Johns.
An item of jewellery was found at Saturday's Dinner Dance - contact Parish Office 9789 9672.



The Knitting Group will be holding their next stall on **Sunday 1st July** . All proceeds will help our church.

Notice from St Francis Xavier Primary School Principal - Colleen McGreal



I wish to personally inform all parents and children of St Francis Xavier School community, that after 11 years as Principal of St Francis Xavier, I have accepted the new Principal position at St Macartan's Parish Primary School in Mornington. I have mixed feelings - delighted, excited as well as sad and curious about the change ahead of me - actually the news has not really set in.

My last day at St Francis Xavier will be Friday September 21 as I begin at St Macs the beginning of term 4 (this year).

Please know that Fr. Chinua together with Catholic Education Melbourne is committed to finding an exceptional leader to become the next principal of St Francis Xavier School. Mr Steve Peart our Deputy Principal will be working as Acting Principal until a new principal comes on board.

SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB : AN INITIATIVE OF CATALYST FOR RENEWAL PLENARY COUNCIL 2020

Fr. Noel Connolly is a Columban missionary Priest and currently on the Plenary Council 2020. Sandringham Hotel Wednesday 27th June, 2018 at 7.30 pm Crn Beach Road & Melrose Street, (Melway 76 G9) You are welcome to gather for a meal at your expense or join the group for 7.30 -9.00 pm for presentation and conversation. For further details contact Vin 95306004 Or Kathy Lord 0417 649 037



St Francis Xavier Parish Prayer

O God, eternal Lord of all things: You created humanity in your image and likeness and so loved the world that you gave your only begotten Son so that whoever believes in him might have life and have it to the fullest.
Grant that, in imitation of the servant of Christ, Saint Francis Xavier, who carried the good news of salvation to many people we may courageously proclaim your Word and be the salt of the earth and light of the world. **Amen.**

SICK: We pray for Evangeline Phillips, argaret Mackey, Gerard Carra Ivana Barbir, Irene Sinclair, Ross Monterosso, Krzysztof Krol Helen Harrison, Lee Cuthrie, John Hapela, Michael Grogan, Jan Buckner, Adrian Gobel, Kevin Churchill & John Harrison

RECENTLY DECEASED: We pray for Michael Angelico and Mathias Adinnu .



DEATH ANNIVERSARY: We pray for Giuseppe Torossi, Jean Dyson, P.P.Varghese, C.O.Thomas, Amakkutty Mathew, Jaya Watson, Catherine Hall, Waclaw (Charlie) Wolkow, Mathew Daniel and Bill Kinnane .

BAPTISMS THIS SUNDAY



Welcome to Braddley Couper, child of Aaron and Audrey Odin McKay, child of James and Charlotte, Archie Bush, child of Stuart and Lucy, Dzavannah Angeles, child of Dave and Erika, who will be baptised into our worshipping community this Sunday. Please pray for these children, their parents, Godparents, relatives and friends.

For Your Interest and Diaries

St Francis Xavier - Frankston

- Children's Liturgy will now be on holidays until July 22nd.
- READERS & OFFERTORY Roster Volunteers: Liturgy Children's Masses have been moved to 1st Sundays of the month at 10.30am until end of year excluding holiday times. This will effect readers rostered for 1st Sundays. ONE rostered reader will still be necessary please. It will also effect those doing Offertory Processions. Please note dates for Children's Liturgy Masses.: August 5th; Sept. 2nd; Nov.4th; Dec.9th. Thanking you - Maureen Sharpe.
- **Combined Catholic Parishes Raffle results are displayed in the Church Foyer.**

Youth Groups

(Grades 5&6)Natasha - tash.dewhurst@gmail.com
Next meeting: 6th July -7pm in Xavier Centre
Theme: Community Awareness
(Ages 15-25) Lyzbeth Grenness - 0438 003 967
Next meeting: 1st July Sunday -6.30pm after Mass

Syro Malabar

Regular services Every Thursday night - 6pm Mass
First Sunday of month - 4pm Mass

Sunday Collection 24.06.2018 Pledged Thanksgiving

Church \$ 1158.00 Presbytery \$ 559

Please ensure you write your dollar amounts on each side of the envelopes. **Thank You**

Regular collections per Mass.

1st Collection - Church/Stewardship
Will be taken up after Prayer of Faithful
2nd Collection - Presbytery/Priests
Will be taken up after reflection following Communion

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