

SHALOM WORLD -

Family Television Network
Australia have launched a

commercial free high-definition Catholic family entertainment channel that reaches out to the world with the truth and peace that can only be found in Jesus Christ! Download now on: iPhone, iPad, Android phone & tablet, Kindle Fire. More details can be found at shalomworld.org



menALIVE Weekend for Men. Could you benefit from a weekend featuring talks, personal testimonies, opportunities for discussion and space to reflect? Since menALIVE commenced in 2003, thousands of Catholic men have been encouraged and inspired at weekends across Australia. A menALIVE Weekend conducted by experienced leaders will be held at St Joseph's Chelsea on the 3rd & 4th of March. Come along and be inspired, encouraged and rediscover God's purpose for your life. Enquiries, phone Mike Shaw (0418 122 966), Jolyon Butler (0401 538 589) or St Joseph's Chelsea Parish Office (9772 2211).

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.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Parish Picnic	Feb 4
Queen's Baton Relay	Feb 11
Ash Wednesday	Feb 14
Lenten Program	Feb 28 - Mar 21

(More details to follow)

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN OUR BULLETIN

Business and Tradespeople

You are invited to advertise your business / trade in our Parish Weekly Bulletin, which reaches many homes.

Rates are reasonable, for 6 or 12 monthly placements and can be of business card or smaller size.

Contact Parish Office 9783 3484 for more details.

Feast Days:

5 Feb: St Agatha
6 Feb: St Paul Miki & Companions
8 Feb: Sts Jerome Emiliani + Josephine Bakhita
10 Feb: St Scholastica

Other Groups/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

Please stop by and have a Cuppa:
Every Thursday after 9.15am Mass in the



Frankston Parish strives to create an environment where children are safe, respected and cared for. See Church Foyer for more information.

SUNDAY COLLECTION 28/01/2018

Thanksgiving Offering-Pledged -
Church \$ 971 - Presbytery \$ 386
Please ensure you write your dollar amounts on each side of the envelopes. **Thank You**

Next Sunday's Readings for Reflection

1st Reading (JB) Leviticus 13:1-2. 44-46
2nd Reading (JB) 1 Corinthians 10:31 - 11:1
Gospel (JB) Mark 1:40-45



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
Before Mass Tuesday and Saturday

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: **In Recess until 21st February.**

Teach,Preach,Reach (TPR), Adoration & Healing after 5.30pm Mass

4th Sunday of month

Cell Groups - In Recess

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 Job 7:1-4. 6-7 2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 9:16-19. 22-23
Resp Psalm Ps 146:1-6 **R. Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.**

Gospel Mark 1:29-39 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

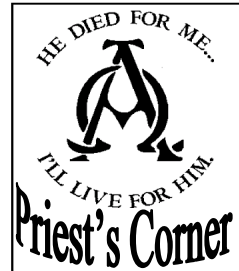
That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.





HOMILY FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B Theme: Problem of Evil

Evil remains an enigma. How did evil arise in this world created by God in which the book of Genesis tells us that, "it was good, and indeed very good", (Gen 1:1-27). Why should an entire family be wiped out in a natural disaster or accident? Why should a rising star be nipped in the bud by death? Why should some children be taken before their parents? Why do people suffer from chronic diseases? Why should a spouse betray the other? Why do people suffer from endemic hunger and malnutrition? Why do people live in abject poverty?

A very poor family has just witnessed their son graduate from university, they are full of optimism that things will turn around for the family as he gains employment, however he becomes a drug addict. Some families have experienced tragedy upon tragedy. Sometimes, one may ask why me? The list is unending. This was one of the major themes grappled with in the book of Job from which the first reading, (Job 7:1-4. 6-7) was taken.

Job was presented as a rich Nomad from Uz, a non-Jewish town. He was happily married with children, but suddenly he lost all his herd to raiders and all his children died when their eldest brother's house, where they were partying, collapsed. As if this tragedy was not bad enough for Job and his wife, Job took ill with a chronic psoriasis that left his entire body covered with sores. His wife lost her cool and asked him to curse God. Three of Job's friends also tried to proffer their ideas on the reasons these calamities had befallen Job. One of their ideas was that Job was suffering because of his sins.

While the book of Job insisted that Job's faith remained strong in God despite his ordeals, however, the first reading presented us with some of Job's laments. Tragedy is real, and it is legitimate to express how one feels in moments of tragedy. One should not pretend that everything is ok while one is hurting inside. Our tears and murmurings in sorrow are known as prayers of lamentations. Job expressed his anguish and disappointment when he said, "Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind. Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy." Jesus himself cried on the cross, "my God, my God why have you abandoned me?" However, like Job and Jesus, one must never lose hope. Hence, Jesus also said, into your hands Lord I commit my spirit, (Lk 23:46).

Evil is real, and there are people who are possessed by the evil-one or the devil. St Paul warns us that, "... it is not against human enemies that we have to struggle, but against the principalities and the ruling forces who are masters of the darkness in this world, the spirits of evil in the heavens." Some people indulge in Satanic worship.

In today's Gospel, (Mk 1:29-39), Jesus healed the sick including those who have been held in shackles by evil spirits. Jesus has the power to rescue us from negative forces, for in the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow in heaven and on earth, (Phil 2:10).

In Catholic tradition, sin is the origin of evil. Sin includes the action of the fallen angels who were created good by God, but who revolted against God. Lucifer, (the angel of light), was their ring leader. Lucifer is called Satan.

"The power of Satan is, nonetheless, not infinite. He is only a creature, powerful from the fact that he is pure spirit, but still a creature. He cannot prevent the building up of God's reign. Although Satan may act in the world out of hatred for God and his kingdom in Christ Jesus, and although his action may cause grave injuries - of a spiritual nature and, indirectly, even of a physical nature- to each man and to society, the action is permitted by divine providence which with strength and gentleness guides human and cosmic history. It is a great mystery that providence should permit diabolical activity, but 'we know that in everything God works for good with those who love him'." (Catechism of the Catholic Church Nos 385-401).

Humanity sinned when our first parents disobeyed God's command. This is known as original sin. Each individual too, at times wilfully or unwilfully, make choices that contravene the commandments of God. The wilful acts are called personal sins and the unwilful acts are called human error. Though sin or human error has consequences, however, we cannot equate every calamity that befalls us to a particular sin or human error. A consequent of a particular sin or human error may befall those who may be innocent. For instance, if a contractor does a sub-standard job in building a house, the occupants of the house will suffer the consequence of the building collapsing.

Evil does exist and people suffer the consequences of evil, however, we must approach the problem of evil by "fixing the eyes of our faith on him who alone is its conqueror," (CCC 385). That conqueror of sin and evil is no other person than our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To all who are heavy hearted, who feel that they have had more than a fair share of tragedy in their lives, I pray that the gentle touch from Jesus may console you in your ordeals. *Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp*

Next Sunday (11 February) Frankston Residents will be participating in outside activities while they cheer on local legends at Beauty Park as they carry the **Queen's Baton through Frankston City**, past St. Francis Xavier Church towards its final destination, the Gold Coast XXI 2018 Commonwealth Games *Opening Ceremony*. **Time:** 4pm to 5.30pm **Location:** Beauty Park, Frankston . More information at : frankston.vic.gov.au

SUNDAY EVENING MASSES - Next Sunday 11th February.

- 5.00pm St Augustines Primary School, 88 Golf Links Road, Frankston South**
- 5.30pm St Francis Xavier Church (allow extra time for parking)**

A joint picnic between the Parishes of St Francis Xavier & St John in the George Pentland Botanical Gardens (entry via Foote Street) in Frankston **BYO Everything**



THIS SUNDAY Parish Picnic Sunday, 4 Feb

For Your Interest and Diaries

St Francis Xavier - Frankston

- Welcome back to our Sunday 10.30am Mass Children's Liturgy
- Friendship Club's first meeting in 2018 will be held next Wednesday 7th February at 10.30am in Xavier Centre. All Seniors Welcome .
- Tuesday Cell will re-group on February 13th in Quilter room after 9. 15 am Mass. The aim of this group is to grow in our faith and knowledge of Christs Messages , especially the development of loving Him in our neighbour ie our brothers and sisters in Christ. This is in not a Bible study . It is about the reading of the Gospels and its interpretation and our understanding as lay people. Trust and friendship builds as we learn to grow and pray together .Everyone is welcome. Come ..
- SVdP Mornington will hold a Musical Concert fundraising event on Sunday 18th February at 2pm in our Xavier Centre. Proceeds will go to help the less fortunate in the Mornington Community. Contact Elvira on 5974 2607

Syro Malabar

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

External

- LOCAL RADIO: Every Sunday morning at 8.00 am Peninsula Radio Rpp 98.7 fm presents **THE CATHOLIC HOUR**. ! For further information contact Maureen Federico 9787 6540

Welcome back to the teachers and school children; we pray the year ahead is a happy and enjoyable one!

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

SUBMISSION TO EXPERT PANEL REGARDING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

In 2017, when the nation voted to legalize same-sex marriage, we were led to believe that if the question was resolved in the affirmative, parliament would change the law to reflect that and the matter would then be at an end. Because churches, including Catholics, expressed concern that a successful "yes" vote, and subsequent anti-discrimination legislation could threaten freedom of religion, the Prime Minister undertook to establish, in 2018, what he called an Expert Panel to examine whether Australian law adequately protects the human right to freedom of religion. The panel will be chaired by former attorney-general, the Hon. Philip Ruddock.

The Melbourne Archdiocese has not sent us any material to use in this matter, perhaps because of its nation-wide focus, not just a Victorian one, so I am relying on information from Marriage Alliance at <http://marriagealliance.com.au> to inform you, should you wish to lodge a submission to Mr. Ruddock's panel.

Unfortunately, submissions close on February 14, so anyone who wishes to have a say will have only the next week to do so.

Overseas experience in countries such as Britain and Canada has shown that, subsequent to the legalization of same-sex marriage, additional anti-discrimination laws are often passed which compromise the rights and freedoms of people with religious affiliations, such as you and I. Examples of rights and freedoms which need to be protected by Australian law:

- *The right of individuals and groups to express their views on any matter whatsoever, including same-sex marriage.
- *The right of parents to an active role in the rearing and education of their children.
- *Protection of the individual against being made to participate in, or in any way endorse, a practice which is against his/her conscience.
- *Protection for religious organisations as regards their policies, practices, facilities and services.
- *The right of individuals and religious organisations to access government funding.
- *Religious beliefs to be upheld and protected from erosion by anti-discrimination laws.

If you wish to lodge a submission to the Expert Panel, I recommend that you visit the Marriage Alliance website shown above. There you will find all the information and support needed to create and lodge your submission on the spot.
Michael Long, Co-ordinator, same-sex marriage campaign

We pray with loving and trustful hearts for Adrian Gobel, Kevin Churchill , Jan Buckner, Helen Boundy, Graeme Purdon, Gloria Resubal, John Kennedy, 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.

We pray for our recently departed family and friends: especially Maureen Farrell and Shelia Ruby-O'Donovan and we remember those who anniversary occurs at this time: Sr Jean Farington, John Lisinski, and Gwen Burford - may they rest in peace in God's heavenly kingdom.