

St Francis of Assisi Parish



~ INFORMATION

~ MINISTRIES

~ PARISH GROUPS

PARISH MASS TIMES & MINISTRIES

WEEKEND PARISH MASSES:

Saturday Vigil: 5.00 pm

Sunday : 9.00 am

10.30 am

5.00 pm Life Teen and Youth Mass

WEEKDAY PARISH MASSES:

Monday — Saturday 9.15 am.

VIGIL MASS:

1st Friday of the month 7:30 pm to Midnight Mass.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Wednesday Evening after 7:30 Mass and Novena.

Saturday 9.45 am.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Wednesday 7:30 am - 7:30 pm

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP:

Wednesdays 7.30 pm, beginning with Mass.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Saturday 9.45 am - 11 am, concluding with Benediction.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

After 9.15 am Mass on 2nd Wednesday of the month.

HOME VISITS:

If you would like a visit from one of the priests, please contact them at the parish office, or after Sunday Mass.

MARRIAGES & BAPTISMS:

By appointment with priest.

Dear Parishioners,

To all Parishioners, new and old, you are a member of a large parish family.

Our parish is big, bustling, noisy, lively, a little chaotic, open to all and a continual work in progress. From the oldest to the youngest and everyone in between we have any number of groups that may be of interest to you.

As you read through this booklet I hope you will find a group of interest that will meet your needs. Each group has a contact person who is ready to receive your call.

So come on, join in.

May God bless you,

Fr Anthony Girolami

Parish Priest

AGAPE CATHOLIC RENEWAL PRAYER GROUP

The purpose of the Agape Catholic Charismatic Mission Group is to preach the Gospel to lead a holy life and lead everyone in their sacramental and prayer life especially Holy Mass, Confession, family prayer and personal prayer. We also focus on our children practising the faith. We provide activities to develop their faith formation and give them the opportunity to organize their own programs.

We meet every Sunday at 6.30pm for praise and worship, intercession, recite Holy Rosary , preaching the Word of God and pray for the anointing of the Holy Spirit. We pray for the Parish and Church as a whole. All are welcome. God bless.

Contact person: Gigimon Joseph Mobile: 0402 652 646 Email: tjgigimon@gmail.com

ALPHA

Are you interested in learning more about the Christian faith?

Alpha is a 10-week basic introduction to Christian faith and life. Each Alpha session starts with a shared meal followed by a video and then group discussion. The speaker, Nicky Gumbel, is entertaining and inspiring. You have the opportunity to share your ideas and ask any questions. Alpha refreshes and relights the fire of the faith. Everyone is welcome! The Alpha Course is run each year in St Francis Parish starting after Easter, on Thursday evenings, 7.00— 9.30 pm.

Contact persons: Parish Office: 9407 6700 Email: Ruth.Lees@cam.org.au
Trish Spiteri Mobile: 0438 010 018 Email: Trish.spiteri@gmail.com

APOSTLES OF DIVINE MERCY

The Apostles of Divine Mercy celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday on the Sunday after Easter Sunday, inviting all local parishioners and friends.

They have devotions every Friday after morning Mass and every Friday at 2.45 pm in the Chapel. The Divine Mercy Chaplet and Novena is said. The Devotion is to make us all aware of God's mercy.

Contact person: Carlo Stocco Mobile: 0419 351472 Email: carlo2355@hotmail.com

CATECHETICAL PROGRAM

Sacramental Program for Government School Children

Lessons for the children are held every Tuesday at 4.15pm except school holidays.

The Catechetical program at St Francis of Assisi provides lessons for:

- * Pre-Sacraments (Gr Prep - 2)
- * Reconciliation
- * First Holy Eucharist
- * Confirmation

The program is run by a group of volunteers who are passionate about teaching children about our faith.

Contact persons: Parish Office Phone: 9407 6700
Email: stfranciscatechist@gmail.com.au

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy sessions run every Sunday (except school holidays) in the Church Fellowship area, during 10.30am Mass (duration 25 minutes).

Children's Liturgy provides a warm and friendly environment for children, aged between 3 and 12, to learn about the love of Jesus through Bible stories.

Facilitated by a Children's Liturgy Leader, the children listen to Scripture at their level of understanding, sing a song about Jesus/faith and/or participate in a spontaneous drama relevant to faith and Scripture.

Contact person: Parish Office Phone: 9407 6700 Email: Ruth.Lees@cam.org.au

COMMUNION TO THE SICK

Ministers of Communion to the Sick give pastoral care such as giving Communion and bringing spiritual comfort to the sick, the infirm, the frail, the aged and those housebound. We minister in faith and charity on behalf of the Parish. We have 2 meetings each year (mid year and end of the year) to reflect on our ministry.

Contact persons: Fr. Anthony, Fr. Zaher Sr Anh Tran Phone: 9407 6700 Email: millpark@cam.org.au

COUPLES FOR CHRIST

Couples for Christ have a monthly gathering at St. Brigid's Church, Fitzroy and weekly small group meetings – rotating through members' homes.

We are a family renewal movement, seeking to strengthen family life through the proclamation of the Gospel and personal conversion to Jesus Christ.

CFC incorporates ministries for various life stages – Kids for Christ (KFC) 4 – 12 years Youth for Christ (YFC) 12 - 20 years old; Singles for Christ (SFC) unmarried, over 21 y, Handmaids of the Lord (HOLD); and Servants of the Lord (SOLD)

Contact persons: Walter Delacruz Mob: 0423 813179 Email: wxbster@gmail.com

Gary Cuenta Mob: 0418 418120 Email: gerardo_cuenta@yahoo.com

Frances Cuenta Mob: 0449 781383 Email: frances_munar@yahoo.com

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion assist the priest to distribute Holy Communion during Sunday Mass. They are on a monthly roster.

Contact person: Fr Anthony Girolami Phone: 9407 6700

FILIPINO COMMUNITY & SENIOR CITIZENS

There is a Filipino Mass in the Church on the 2nd Sunday of the month. After the Mass we get together in the Church foyer for lunch, to know one another, especially the new migrants. The Senior Citizens group organises social outing trips.

Contact person: Delia Javier Mobile: 0423 856 259 Email: denise_977@yahoo.com.au

GODSTART

The GodStart team visit the homes of children baptised in our parish on their 1st and 2nd Birthdays with birthday cards, greetings and information from the Parish. We visit in pairs. We also invite the parents to bring the child to 3rd and 4th Birthday parties organized by the Parish and run by the GodStart Team. There is one team meeting at the end of the year.

Contact person: Parish Office Phone: 9407 6700 Email: Ruth.Lees@cam.org.au

JESUS YOUTH

Jesus Youth is an International Association within the Catholic Church with a focus on evangelising young people and nurturing their missionary initiatives promoting 'joy, vitality and fullness of life discovered in Christ'. The Jesus Youth prayer group meets every Thursday at 7.00 pm in the Chapel.

Contact person: Amish Joseph Mobile: 0481 717 616 Email: amish.joseph@outlook.com

LECTORS

Lectors read the Word of God at Sunday Masses and lead the Prayers of the Faithful. They are on a monthly roster.

Contact person: Fr Anthony Girolami Phone: 9407 6700

LEGION OF MARY - SENIOR

“MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS” PRAESIDIUM

The Legion of Mary meet weekly on Thursdays at 10.00am in the Church Fellowship Area. They pray the Rosary and hold a meeting.

They are available to bring Our Lady's statue to homes on Monday/Tuesday evenings to pray the Rosary with families, their friends and neighbours. They encourage families to pray the Rosary and teach them its significance. They visit the sick and elderly during the day time.

Contact person: Jackie Sheehan Mobile: 0422 443 324 Email: mjackiewoods@hotmail.com

LEGION OF MARY - JUNIOR

“OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA” & “MORNING STAR” PRAESIDIUMS

The Junior Legion of Mary meet weekly on Wednesdays at 3..30pm in the Church Fellowship Area.

- They pray the Rosary at 3.45 pm followed by a meeting which includes the Lives of the Saints, Allocution on a topic.
- Work given to children includes: handing out Miraculous Medals to friends and family, praying the Rosary and doing some helpful work in the parish.

LIFE TEEN MILL PARK

Life Teen runs every Sunday during school terms. It begins with the 5pm Youth Mass, followed by supper and a 'Life Night', concluding at 7:45pm. We also organise social justice outreach, annual retreats and holiday activities.

What is Life Teen?

As a Eucharist-centered movement within the Roman Catholic Church, Life Teen leads teenagers and their families into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. With the Blessed Virgin Mary as our intercessor and guide, Life Teen seeks to unleash the fullness of the Sacramental power present within the young Church.

Life Teen is the most prolific youth ministry in the Catholic Church. Every Sunday, 120,000 teenagers attend a Life Teen Mass throughout the world. The 1800 programs stretch around the globe into more than twenty countries.

What are we doing in Mill Park?

Life Teen has been running at St. Francis of Assisi since 2002. At Life Teen, teenagers have the opportunity to experience engaging and authentically Catholic catechesis, build life-long friendships with like-minded Catholics, discuss their faith and tough issues confronting them daily, pray and experience the Sacraments, and reach out to others in the community.

Life Teen is for young people between the ages of 12-18 years old. Young adults and parents are also a valued part of our ministry. Life Teen could not run without the involvement of our 'Core Team', a group of adults who commit to facilitating the ministry and leading our youth closer to Christ.

To see how you can get involved, please email millpark.youthministry@cam.org.au or call **94076705**. Please also visit our Facebook Page "Mill Park Youth Ministry" to stay updated about our ministry.

Contact person: Carmel Walsh Mobile: 0432 302 672 Email: carmelewash@gmail.com

MALTESE PASTORAL COMMITTEE

We gather the Maltese people to sing, pray, say the Rosary and celebrate Mass in the Maltese language and provide tea and coffee after Mass.

We contribute in many ways to Parish: to the Parish Fair and many other ministries.

We meet every 3 months or on request, in the Parish Nook.

Contact person: Michael Saliba Mobile: 0414 281 332 Email: michael.saliba@hotmail.com

MEN'S SOCIAL GROUP

It allows Men to get together in a relaxed environment and share a meal and socialise with a few activities to encourage building stronger relations in the Parish and encourage men to involve their sons to participate. We meet every first Wednesday of the month (Excluding Jan and Feb) at 7:00pm in the small hall.

Contact Persons: Frank Spiteri: 0414 648475 Frank Schembri: 0410 121 066

Email: frank.ac427@gmail.com

MUSIC MINISTRY

Our Parish Choirs sing at weekend Masses, aiming to encourage the congregation to participate in worship. They provide music for special occasions: Easter, Christmas, Communion and Confirmation Masses, St Francis Feast Day. At Christmas our parish choirs sing Carols at local shopping centres and some sing at aged-care homes. They sing at the Parish 'Carols by Candlelight' each year. Each choir aims to encourage young musicians and singers to participate in the Church community.

Contact persons:

Saturday 5pm Mass: Victor Napoles Mobile: 0425 827944 Email: vicnap@gmail.com

Robert Yacoub Mobile: 0423 023975 Email: rayacoub2@gmail.com

Sunday 9am Mass: May Park Mobile: 0409 355 977 Email: mpark@sfmillpark.catholic.edu.au

Savio Fernandes Mobile: 0410 278 443 Email: sanchef96@icloud.com

Sunday 10.30am Mass: Faye Gray Mobile: 0412 196 096 Email: fayegray123@gmail.com

Sunday 5pm Mass: Maree & Olivia Chamoun Mobile: 0450 274 888 or 0449 100 986

Youth Choir Email: millpark@cam.org.au

PARISH CELLS OF EVANGELISATION

Weekly Cell meetings are conducted by Cell group leaders, either at a Cell member's home or a Parish meeting room. The seven steps of the Cell meeting are:

Songs of praise

Prayers of praise and thanks

Gospel reading & discussion/sharing

Talk by Fr Anthony on Church Teaching & discussion

Prayer of intercession

Fellowship/ cuppa

We support each other through prayer, grow in faith and be a part of our Parish life.

Contact: Parish Office Phone: 9407 6700 Email: Ruth.Lees@cam.org.au

Khoi Nguyen Mobile: 0481 208886 Email: khoinguyenau@gmail.com

PARISH WELCOME COMMITTEE (PWC)

We promote a sense of belonging in our Parish by providing our warmest welcome to new parishioners and visitors. We support and encourage newcomers to find a 'home' in our Catholic community and ensure that they are all very important part of our Parish's mission.

We provide a platform whereby newcomers and visitors connect with existing parishioners to share their hope of Jesus and grow together in faith. We keep them informed about upcoming Parish events.

We meet every quarter on a Thursday from 7.30pm via zoom and/or in the Parish Nook.

Contact Persons: Chantal Lamer Mobile: 0449 107 100 E: jupiter_ntumba@hotmail.com
Christopher Fernando Mobile: 0410 809 498 E: christhushara@gmail.com

PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP MOVEMENT

'A FAMILY FOR ALL' known as Family Group

There are four Family Groups in our Parish, including one Seniors group.

Everyone is welcome: single, married, divorced, non-Catholic, all cultures.

Family groups live the faith in the concrete circumstances of their lives. Members aim to get to know other members of the Parish, support each other in joys and sorrows, involve our children, often become actively involved in Parish life, thus building a Family of Faith, a Christian community.

Members meet monthly in groups of eight to ten families for activities, like picnic, BBQ, birthday celebration, sharing stories, video movie night, day trip, weekend away etc.

New members and parishioners are most welcome and wanted as we celebrate both our St Francis Family Group 31st Anniversary and PGFM 50th Anniversary this year nationwide since formation, on Saturday 21/10/2023 with a Thanksgiving Mass at 5pm and bring a plate/dish for dinner in our Hall with fun, games and entertainments.

Contacts: Parish Coordinator: Regina Huning Mobile : 0432 267 557 Email: reginahuning@gmail.com
Group Leader: Candida D'Souza Mobile : 0450 820 002 Email: cocan_d@hotmail.com

R C I A

RCIA provides instructions to people who wish to learn about the Catholic faith. It is particularly for people who wish to become part of the Catholic church, to receive the Sacraments of Initiation and be received into the family of faith. RCIA meets weekly on Thursday evening at 7.30pm. It starts in late August and runs until Easter.

Contact person: Fr Anthony Girolami Phone: 9407 6700 Email: millpark@cam.org.au

ST ANTHONY'S PRAYER GROUP

St Anthony's Prayer Group meets every Tuesday at the Church for St. Anthony's Novena and the Rosary , with Holy Eucharist on every first Tuesday of the month. Every 4 months there is a Get-together at the Hall. We celebrate St. Anthony's Feast in the Church every year, plus dinner and a cultural night in the big hall. We provide financial support to the Church and also support all other general activities of the Parish, with raffle tickets, and a food stall at the Fair.

Contact person: Joy Mathew Mobile: 0415 537 601 Email: joykerala@yahoo.com

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI OUT OF SCHOOL CARE PROGRAM

As educators we provide opportunities for children to become engaged in what they are doing and to feel safe, secure and supported in their endeavours. Together with the Educational Leaders we promote and believe in developing plans and activities that challenge and further children's learning through their own interests and ideas. By documenting their ideas, interests and curiosities we are able to create extensive learning plans. We focus on specific intentional teaching and learning goals that accommodates for spontaneous teaching and learning experiences for the children and educators. We use our interactions with them to govern our learning goals and how we can achieve them. We will actively empower children to become responsible for creating and contributing to a sustainable future by implementing aspects of reducing, recycling, reusing, recovering and upcycling.

Families also play a significant role in the program. We encourage this by including and incorporating their ideas and suggestions into our planning. We accommodate and support all families and their individual needs within our school community.

Before School Care is open from 6:40 to 8.40 am and After School Care is open from 3.30 pm to 6.00 pm each day of the school term.

Vacation care is also available during school holidays 6.40am to 6.00pm.

Pupil free days we are open from 6.40am to 6.00pm

Contact person: Angela Sicari Phone: 9407 3170

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCHOOL PARENTS ASSOCIATION

The Parents Association hold a general meeting twice a term. All Parents of the school are welcome to attend. Meetings are advertised in the School Newsletter. The Parents' Association works to provide a service that enhances the quality of the school life for our children. We achieve this through fundraising & providing support where needed. It's a great way to meet other parents and to make new friends.

Contact: School Principal Mark Basile Phone: 9407 3100 Email: mbasile@sfmillpark.catholic.edu.au

ST FRANCIS SCHOOL OF EVANGELISATION

The School helps develop evangelising parishes. In conjunction with the Melbourne School of Evangelisation we conduct formation courses and provide creative forms of evangelisation by ways of plays, mimes and events to keep sharing our faith with others. For example, the Nativity Play on Christmas Eve and the live drama of the Passion on Good Friday. The use of these methods gives participants a deeper understanding of the basic message of the Gospel.

Contacts: Trish Spiteri Mobile: 0438 010 018 Email: Trish.spiteri@gmail.com

Parish Office: 9407 6700 Email: Ruth.Lees@cam.org.au

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 6.40pm in the Community room. Members of the Society are people who put their Christian faith into action by helping people in need – personally, materially, socially, spiritually. We visit people in their own homes, assessing their needs and acting accordingly. Assistance varies – financial (in the form of vouchers), pharmacy, furniture, clothing, information regarding utility bills, referring on to other agencies. We are mindful of the caller's dignity and aim to help people back onto their feet, so they can decide the direction of their lives.

Callers need to place a call at the Call Centre – 1800 305 330 10am to 3pm, Monday to Friday.

Contact: Paul Spiteri Mobile: 0450 222 316 Email: polton60@yahoo.com.au

Elaine Costanzo Mobile: 0413 465 888 Email: elainejcostanzo@gmail.com

THE MARRIAGE COURSE

The Marriage Course is held annually in July, or on request. Each course is for 8 weeks. Each couple can be assured their attendance at the Marriage Course will be kept completely confidential.

The aim of The Marriage Course is to help couples grow closer and build a healthy relationship that will last a lifetime.

Over eight sessions, the couples learn practical tools to help them invest time in their marriage, heal ways they've hurt each other, discover how their partner feels loved and much, much more.

The Marriage Course is for:

- Any married or cohabiting couple.
- Couples who have been together for one year or sixty one years.
- Those in a strong relationship and those who are struggling.

There is no group work and no one is expected to share anything with anyone other than their partner.

Contact person: Elio De Simone Mobile: 0414 440 812 Email: desimonefamily@bigpond.com

TWO HEARTS PRAYER GROUP

The Two Hearts Prayer Group is a lay movement aimed primarily at the sanctification of the family and the youth as well as the media and clergy. It is a movement born from the writings of Pope St John Paul II on the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, as well as the urgent call of Our Lady of Fatima to obtain peace in the world through the means of prayer and sacrifice, Consecration and the Communion of Reparation to the Two Hearts.

More than a monthly devotion, the Communion of Reparation requested by Our Lady at Fatima forms a Marian-Eucharistic lifestyle of four elements, which can be summed up in the acronym CARE: **Confession, Adoration, Rosary, Eucharist.**

Part of the apostolate includes:

- The 1st Friday / 1st Saturday All Night Vigils (7.00pm - 1.00am).
- Prayer meetings every 3rd Friday (different venues)
- House to House Enthronements (Consecration of Families to the Two Hearts of Jesus and Mary)

The group works closely with the religious brothers and sisters of the Two Hearts communities, and in coordination with the local pastors of the Church.

Contact person: Achilles Garcia Mobile: 0499 575 528 Email: achilles.garcia.sr@gmail.com

WELLNESS ACTIVITY GROUP

St Francis of Assisi Wellness Activity Group provides a space where you can have some personal time in a very friendly, accepting and supportive environment.

Make new friends, discover new interests or rediscover old ones. You may want to share a particular gift or talent you have. Our motto is "we learn from one another".

Everyone is welcome regardless of age, gender, background or physical abilities.

Just come along and enjoy your time with us!

When and Where Do We Meet? Thursdays, 12:30-2:30pm during School Term Time
in the Parish Community Room (next to the school library).

Contact person: Sr Anh Tran Phone: 9407 6720 Email: cequynhanh@yahoo.com

WORD OF LIFE PRAYER GROUP

The Word of Life Prayer Group meets in the Chapel every Friday night at 7.00pm. We begin with Praise and Worship followed by a short session either: Scriptures Discussion, Rosary, Healing Prayers, DVD Talks and Fellowship Dinner. All welcome as we pray for each other, our church, families, friends, community and the world.

Contact person: Nancy D'Cruz Mobile: 0434 559 352 Email: nancy.dacruz@hotmail.com

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Francis of Assisi Parish Primary School is a gospel centred learning community who live out the teachings of Jesus Christ. We believe that our Catholic faith and lifelong journey is interrelated. We are committed to the continual Faith development of our community where we experience Jesus through our faith and daily life, recognising that the Spirit is alive in people.

Learning at St Francis enables the formation of knowledge, capabilities and values. We believe that this fosters meaningful engagement in learning in order to become informed, empowered and active global citizens in a contemporary and connected world.

We value opportunities for learning and reflection that challenge us to aspire to individual excellence, whilst maintaining the dignity and worth of the whole person.

Contact person: Principal Mark Basile Phone: 9407 3100 Email: principal@sfmillpark.catholic.edu.au



PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

O, Divine Master, grant that I may not so much
seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love;
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life.

St Francis of Assisi Parish



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