



# HOMILY

## 6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A THE LAW OF CHRIST

Jesus said in the Gospel of today, (Mt 5:17-37), "do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have not come to abolish them but to complete them". The Law and the Prophets are two of the three corner stones on which the Old Testament hinges. The third being the Writings. The Law is mostly found in the first five books of the Old Testament, known as the books of Moses or the Pentateuch – Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. We have four major writing prophets - Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and Daniel and twelve minor writing prophets which include Amos, Jonah, Hosea, Joel, Micah and Habakkuk. Some prophets do not have a book in the bible ascribed to their name like prophet Elijah. The Writings include the books of Psalms, Job, Wisdom, Ecclesiasticus, (from which the first reading of today is taken), and Proverbs. In the evening of the day of his resurrection, Jesus asked two of his disciples who were on their way to Emmaus to recall "the words" he had spoken to them while he was still with them, that everything written about him "in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms had to be fulfilled" (Lk 24:44). In the above quotation, Jesus used the book of Psalms to represent all the books contained in the Writings.

The Gospel of today is part of Jesus' sermon on the mount which showed him as the new lawgiver. For Jesus, although external observance of the law is important, it is however, grossly inadequate. One ought to be a man/woman of character by nurturing a heart that seeks to do God's will and God's will only. Thus, while calling people to a life of holiness which the first reading demanded, (Sir 15:15-20), and which the Pharisees and the Scribes tried to emulate, he criticised them for being more conscious of external observances, (legalism), than a truly conversion of heart.

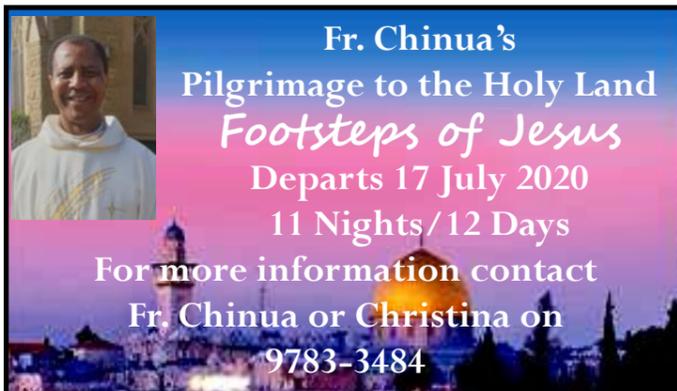
For Jesus, discipleship is a way of life, that is, a habitual attitude toward doing good and being mindful of the needs of one's neighbour. Hence, we must not rest on our oars because we have not slain anyone; we must also ensure that no one is maligned by us. To falsely drag the reputation of someone in the mud may be worse than taking the life of the person. At times, people have taken their own lives because their reputation had been wrongly destroyed. We should be careful about gossips, because words spoken cannot be taken back! However, if you have a hunch that something is not right, especially if it pertains to the safety of a child, you should not keep such hunch to yourself, contact a member of the Parish Child Safety Committee.

A married man may say I have never committed adultery, but if another woman is occupying a space in his heart as much as his wife, there is something wrong. Since little drops of water make an ocean, one should work hard to nip sin in the bud. Love in married life must be renewed. It is not static. Little things like a pat on the back, affirming and forgiving each other can make a huge difference.

When we feel hurt due to a disappointment or betrayal, we should lament as people of hope, because the Lord said that vengeance is His, (Deut 32:35). At times it may be very difficult for us to immediately forgive those who offended us, due to the depth of the hurt. In such circumstances, do not force yourself to forgive. Gradually dispose your heart to forgive and to accept forgiveness when you are ready. Our gaze should remain on our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ who though he experienced betrayal, cried out before his death on the cross, "Lord forgive them for they do not know what they are doing", (Lk 23:34).

The law of Christ draws us not only to the external observances of the law but to a personal relationship with Jesus and respect for our brothers and sisters and to a deeper understanding that what God wants is mercy not merely sacrifices, (Hosea 6:6).

Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp



**Fr. Chinua's**  
Pilgrimage to the Holy Land  
*Footsteps of Jesus*  
Departs 17 July 2020  
11 Nights/12 Days  
For more information contact  
Fr. Chinua or Christina on  
9783-3484



**FR. JUDE'S**  
**EXODUS PILGRIMAGE**  
EGYPT, JORDAN AND HOLY LAND  
"Following the Footsteps of Moses and Jesus"  
**28th SEPT - 14th OCT, 2020**  
14 Days \$4,999 / Upgrade to EGYPT 6 Days \$1,299  
Contact Spiritual Director  
Rev Fr Jude Agorchukwu CSSp.  
Phone:(03) 9789 9672 Mobile: 0400 759 391  
Email: jude.agorchukwu@cam.org.au

## 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A - 16th February 2020



### ST. FRANCIS XAVIER FRANKSTON

60 Davey Street, Frankston 3199



### ST. JOHN the EVANGELIST FRANKSTON EAST

20 Coral Street, Frankston East 3199

**PARISH OFFICE:** 60 Davey Street, Frankston 3199 **Phone:** 9783 3484 **Email:** frankston@cam.org.au

**Web:** www.frankstoncatholic.com.au **Office Hours :** 9.00am - 4.00pm Monday to Friday

**Parish Priest:** **Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp** chinua.okeke@cam.org.au

**Assistant Priest:** **Fr Jude Agorchukwu CSSp** jude.agorchukwu@cam.org.au

**Deacon:** **Rev Kevin Pattison** kevin.pattison@cam.org.au

**Secretary:** Christina Williams & Bethany Plowright



**St Francis Xavier** 9783 3424  
Principal: Stephen Peart



**St Augustine's** 9781 3007  
Principal: Jan de Koning



**St John's** 9789 9794  
Principal: Derek Bruitzman



**John Paul College** 9784 0200  
Principal - John Visentin



**Combined Parish Child Safety Team:**  
0410-715-267

#### St. John's Programme

Sunday Masses Vigil Mass: 7.00pm Saturday Evening

Sunday: 8.30am, 10.00am

Weekday Masses Tuesday - Saturday 9.00 am

Liturgy of Word & Communion Service Monday - 9.00am

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament & Adoration

Wednesday 8.30am-8.55am, Friday after 9.00am Mass

Reconciliation Saturday: 9.30am & 6.15pm

Anointing of the Sick Mass 1st Thursday of month 9.00am

Rosary Before weekday Mass, (except Wed) Sat at 9.30am

#### St. Francis Xavier Programme

Sunday Masses Vigil Mass: 6.00pm Saturday Evening

Sunday: 8.30am, 10.30am, 5.30pm

Weekday Masses Tues - Sat 9.15am Mon - 1<sup>st</sup> + 3<sup>rd</sup> of month

Liturgy of Word & Communion Service Mon - 9.15am 2<sup>nd</sup>,

4<sup>th</sup> + 5<sup>th</sup> Mon of month

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament & Adoration

Wed 8.40am- Fri after 9.15am Mass

1st Fri of month, 24 hour adoration following Mass

Reconciliation Sat: 10am & 5.30pm

Anointing of the Sick Mass 1st Thurs of month 9.15am

Rosary Wednesday after 9.15am Mass Before Mass Tues & Saturday

### GOSPEL : Matthew 5:17-37

Jesus said to his disciples: ' Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.

'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

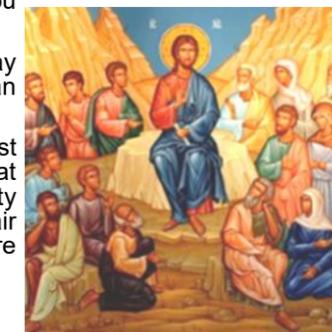
'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

'It has also been said: Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

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



## OFFERINGS

GIVING BACK TO GOD

Thank you for your continued support

St. John the Evangelist		St. Francis Xavier	
Presbytery	\$584.10	Presbytery	\$965
Church	\$660.60	Church	\$934.50

Welcome and thank you for worshipping with us at  
**St Francis Xavier / St John's**  
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: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

† Many Blessings †

## Legion of Mary



**SFX:** Legion of Mary meetings will be held on Fridays at 10.45am in the Quilter Room

**SJE:** Legion of Mary meetings will be held on Thursdays at 5pm in the foyer.



## 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.



## SYRO MALABAR

Regular services:

Every Thursday night - 6pm Mass

First Sunday of month - 4pm Mass

### This Sunday's Readings

#### 1st Reading

Sirach 15:15-20

#### 2nd Reading

1 Cor 2:6-10

#### Gospel

Matthew 5:17-37

### Next Sunday's Readings

#### 1st Reading

Lev 19:1-2,17-18

#### 2nd Reading

1 Cor 3:16-23

#### Gospel

Matthew 5:38-48

## Sacrament of Baptism

1st Sunday of month **DURING** all Masses.

4th Sunday of month **AFTER** 10.00am SJE

/10.30am SFX Masses

### Baptism Preparation @ St. John's

1st Tuesday of month prior to Baptism

### Baptism Preparation @ St. Francis Xavier

2nd Thursday of month prior to Baptism

Please contact the office for an application form.



## FR. JUDE'S EXODUS PILGRIMAGE INFORMATION NIGHT

An information evening will take place on Thursday 5 March at 4.30pm at SFX for those interested in hearing more information on Fr. Jude's Pilgrimage, "Exodus; following the footsteps of Moses and Jesus" to the Holy Land, Egypt and Jordan in September/October this year. This is your opportunity to ask all the questions on your minds regarding this trip. Your commitment needs to be made if you wish to be a pilgrim, so that preparation on the part of the travel agent can be made as soon as possible.

SJE 2020 Rosters -  
Mar-Dec - for Church Ministers  
are now available from Church foyer

## Wanted: SJE Parishioners - Mums - Dads

If you have some expertise in planning events please come forward and be a coordinator for our forthcoming Multicultural Event on 30 August to be held in St John's School Hall Please contact Parish Office / Fr Chinua on 9783 3484.

## SFX: Charismatic Prayer Group

Resumed on 12th February.

Healing Mass this Sunday 16 Feb with Music Ministry at 5.15pm followed by Mass at 5.30pm.

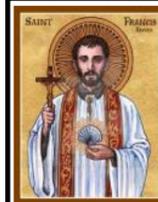
## Cenacle: A group of people gathering to say the Rosary

Venue: 45 Blaxland Avenue, Frankston South.

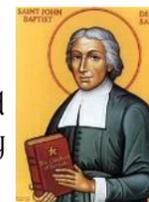
Marlene can be contacted on 0413 841 850 Come and spend some time to pray to "Our Lady." every Tuesday at 2pm

## PARISH OFFICE OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST AND ST FRANCIS XAVIER

With the retirement of Teresa Kren, the Parish secretary at St John's Parish, Frankston East; to harness the human and material resources between the two Parishes, I have made the decision in consultation with St John's and St Francis Xavier Parish Pastoral Councils, the Vicar General of Melbourne and the Archdiocese to have a combined office for the two Parishes. The Parish office at St. Francis Xavier Church, now doubles as the Parish office for St John's Parish, Frankston East.



We welcome and congratulate the members of the Parish Pastoral Council & the staff members of St. Francis Xavier's and St. Augustin's Primary Schools at their annual commissioning.



*May God Bless them in their ministries.*

## COMMISSIONING OF PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS AND SCHOOL STAFF

**SFX:** 16.02.2020 10.30AM MASS

**SJE:** 23.02.2020 10:00AM MASS



**SFX Fundraising sausage sizzle.**  
Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February  
after 8.30am and 10.30am mass

**SJE Fundraising sausage sizzle.**  
Sunday 23rd February  
after 8.30am and 10.00am mass

*Help support your church.*

Your help is asked in donating/contributing towards the supply of BBQ items; sausages, bread, sauce etc all donations, however small, are greatly accepted.

## Fr. Chinua's Holy Land PILGRAME INFORMATION EVENING

We are having an information evening this Sunday 16th February at 7.00pm in the SFX Church for those interested in hearing more information on Fr. Chinua's Pilgrimage, "Footsteps of Jesus" to the Holy Land in July this year. This is your opportunity to ask all the questions on your minds regarding this trip. Your commitment needs to be made if you wish to be a pilgrim, so that preparation on the part of the travel agent can be made as soon as possible.



## Combined Catholic Parishes Raffle

Be in the draw to WIN 1 of 3 CARS & more!!

**Tickets are just \$2 each.**

Tickets will be for sale before and after each Sunday Masses.

If you can, please help by taking a book to sell.

This is a great fundraiser for our Parishes.

**GOOD LUCK!!!!!!**

\*No tickets will be for sale at Church during lent.

## COMMITMENT MASS FOR SACRAMENTAL CANDIDATES FOR RECONCILIATION AND HOLY COMMUNION

**SFX:** 15.02.2020 6.00PM

16.02.2020 10.30AM

**SJE:** 22.02.2020 7:00PM

23.02.2020 10.00AM

*First Communion & Reconciliation*



**PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME**  
This commitment Sunday marks the start of the journey for the year four students as they prepare to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion. They are required to participate in one Sunday Mass (6.00pm, Saturday, 8.30am, 10.30am and 5.30pm Sunday) every week for 6 weeks leading up to the reception of each Sacrament You will see many new faces on the pews and we extend a warm welcome to them and hope they find a new Spiritual growth from joining our Parish.



After 20 years of Service to St. John's and St. Francis Xavier Parishes **Teresa Kren** officially stepped out of the office at the end of last year. Please join us for a Thanksgiving Mass followed by morning tea on Thursday 20th Feb at 9am at SJE Church to give thanks and share memories with Teresa. .



Thank you Teresa for all your dedication and attention to detail.



**HOME VISITATIONS:** As part of the implement of our parish theme of **OUTREACH**, Frs Chinua and Jude would like to embark on home visitations. To enable them plan the home visitations, please write your name, address and phone number on the sheet provided in the foyer or you may call the parish office.

## PALM FRONDS/OLIVE BRANCHES

that were blessed on Palm Sunday last year need to be returned to the church (SFX & SJE) within the week or next Sunday. They are needed for Ash Wednesday ceremonies (26 Feb) Thank you

## Children's Liturgy of the Word

**SFX:** Every Sunday during 10.30am Mass

**SJE:** 2nd & 4th Sunday of the Month during 10am mass



## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

**OUR SICK** - Heinz Boucek, Salih Basic, George Moore, Hilda Clayford, Coral Kellette, Dulce Talty, Victoria Walldock, Maree Hambridge, Teresa Stewart, Peter Summers, Adrian Gobel, Keryn, Aillen, Ross Monterosso, Marie & Jim Bergin

**REMEMBRANCE** - Rob Smith, Jim Wyles, Elizabeth Joseph, Mario, Thomas Chacko, Chris Geeham, Jason Murchie, Douglas Segui, Eiseo Ollada, Elaine Puszka, Celestino Magno, Maria Feenan, Michael Lamb

**RECENTLY DECEASED** - Josie Woods, Sid Dowland, Kevin Maguire, Frank Ranalli, Cathy Bowden, Bernard Stock, John Moore, Michael Hawkins, Craig Cuttins, Rita Vaina, Abdullah children of Sydney, Julie Laws, Moira Mills, Marianito Babass,

**SPECIAL INTENTIONS:** Joben Cia Alicaba, Reggie Lana and Fly's Granddaughter, Ivey Sebastian, Della Pezza



If you would like to have a name published in the bulletin for any prayers please contact Bethany at frankston@cam.org.au or call 9783 3484. No Names will be added past 11am on a Friday