

Please Pray for

OUR SICK - Ross Monterosso, Oliver Cunningham, Betty burns, Ronald Ashcroft, Francisco Alarcon, Carlos Luy, Maureen Hepburn, Len Crowe.

RECENTLY DECEASED - Dorothy Daphne Pitts.

REMEMBRANCE - Josephine Clarke, Michael Powell, Patricia Burns, Varghese Paul, Thomas, Joan Williams, Iris Murial Mc Dowel.

SPECIAL INTENTION - Thomas and Family.

Safeguarding Children and Young People:
Enquires /Complaints: 0426 211 572
Policies:
<https://www.frankstoncatholic.com.au/sfx/policies/>
If you see something, say something

 St John's 9789 9794 Principal Derek Bruitzman	 John Paul College 9784 0200 Principal John Visentin
 St Augustine's 9781 3007 Principal Carrie Rodda	 St Francis Xavier 9783 3424 Principal Stephen Peart

SYRO MALABAR
Regular services :
Every Thursday night - 6pm Mass at SFX
First Sunday of month - 5pm Mass at SJE

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B - 13 June 2021

 ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH 60 Davey Street, Frankston 3199	 ST. JOHN the EVANGELIST PARISH 20 Coral Street, Frankston East 3199
Parish Priest: Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp Assistant Priest: Fr Jude Agorchukwu CSSp Deacon: Rev Kevin Pattison Email: frankston@cam.org.au Web: www.frankstoncatholic.com.au Secretaries: Christina & Hani	
chinua.okeke@cam.org.au jude.agorchukwu@cam.org.au kevin.pattison@cam.org.au Phone: 9783 3484 Office Hours : 9.00am - 4.00pm Mon-Fri	

This Sunday's Readings	Next Sunday's Readings
1st Reading Eze 17:22-24 2nd Reading 2Cor 5:6-10 Gospel Mark 4:26-34	1st Reading Job 38:1,8-11 2nd Reading 2 Cor 5:15-17 Gospel Mark 4:35-41

FLOWERS

Thank you to all generous people who have been giving us donation for fresh flowers. We are very grateful for your donations; which enables our Church looking beautiful for our Lord.

St. Francis Xavier's Programme	St. John's Programme
Sunday Masses Vigil Mass: 6.00pm Saturday Evening Sunday: 8.30am, 10.30am, 5.30pm Weekday Masses Tuesday - Saturday 9.15am; 1st + 3rd Mondays of the month Liturgy of Word and Communion Service Monday 9.15am; 2nd, 4th + 5th Mondays of the month Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Adoration Wednesday before 9.15am Mass, Friday after 9.15 Mass 1st Friday of month until 10.00pm Reconciliation Saturday 10am & 5.30pm Anointing of the Sick Mass 1st Thursday of month 9.15am Rosary Tuesdays before 9.15am Mass and Saturdays after 9.15am Mass	Sunday Masses Vigil Mass: 7.00pm Saturday Evening Sunday: 8.30am, 10.00am Weekday Masses Tuesday - Saturday 9.00 am Liturgy of Word and Communion Service Monday 9.00am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Adoration Wednesday before 9.00am Mass , Friday after 9.00am Mass 1st Friday of month until 12noon Reconciliation Saturday 9.30am & 6.15pm Anointing of the Sick Mass 1st Thursday of month 9.00am Rosary Before weekday Mass, (except Wednesday) Saturday at 9.30am

SFX Online Community (Cells)

The bottom line of a Parish is to deliver all parishioners, at the conclusion of their lives, to the gates of Paradise laden with merit.

The understanding on how to achieve this is clearly outlined in scripture and this understanding needs to be passed on to every parishioner through group discussion with pastors and fellow parishioners. However most are reluctant to leave their homes in order to regularly join these groups.

The answer to this reluctance is to provide every parishioner with access to a "Parish Virtual group" which will allow home based face to face communication. This can be achieved by each parishioner advising the Parish of an email address on which they can be reached. The Parish will then send them an email containing a link to the parish group. Activating the link to join the group is simple.

A Parish support team can visit parishioners who do not have email access and set them up.

What can each parishioner do right now? Advise the Parish of your email address or your request for a visit from the support team.

If you are interested, please contact parish office at 9783 3484 or email us at frankston@cam.org.au.

QR CODE

All participants at mass are required to sign in at the church using the QR Code whether they had pre-booked or not. For those who do not have mobile phones or their mobile phones do not recognise the QR Code, Samsung Tablets have been purchased to sign them in.

Reminder that wearing of masks are still mandatory both outside and inside the church. Let us keep on praying for the end of this pandemic.

Liturgy of the Word for Children

 Liturgy of the Word for Children program scheduled for this Sunday 13 June for both Parishes is postponed until further notice.

 We are taking names for **Confirmation for Year 6 students**

Please contact Parish office to register your child's name at 9783 3484 or email us at frankston@cam.org.au

Gospel - Mark 4:26-34

The mustard seed, the smallest of all the seeds, grows into the biggest shrub of all.

Jesus said to the crowd, 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time; he starts to reap because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.'

Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ





Homily for Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

In today's Gospel, (Mark 4:26-34), Jesus reflected on the mode of existence of the Kingdom of God. He used parables about the planting of seeds and the seed's germination and growth to illustrate the nature of that Kingdom which can also be referred to as the reign of God, because the Kingdom of God is not something physical – it is mystical. Jesus stated during his trial before Pontius Pilate that his Kingdom was not of this world, (Jn 18:36). The people of Israel during Jesus' time were expecting a messiah who would be a warrior-king like King Saul and King David and would help to liberate them from Roman occupation. Just before his Ascension, Jesus' disciples asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?", (Acts 1:6). Jesus had through his life, teaching, death and resurrection instructed the people of Israel that God's plan for a messiah was of one who would lead everyone, including the Romans who were the occupying force, to a conversion of heart.

The Gospel of Mark, chapter four from which the Gospel of today was taken, contains four parables – the parable of the sower, the parable of the lamp, the parable of the seed growing by itself and the parable of the mustard seed. Thus, in three of these parables, Jesus used seeds to illustrate his message. The most known parable about planting seeds is the parable of the sower, however, it is not included in the Gospel reading of today. In the parable about the seed growing by itself after it has been planted by the farmer, Jesus is teaching us that the Kingdom of God has both 'an already' and 'not yet' aspect. He had through his life, preaching, death and resurrection planted the seed of the Kingdom of God which will continue to grow organically. Just as the seed in the parable grew until it yielded a harvest, so would the kingdom of God continue to expound until everyone becomes part of this Kingdom.

In the parable of the mustard seed, (which was the smallest seed the Jews in Jesus' time may have known), Jesus wanted us to reflect on how grace can transform nature. Just as the mustard plant which grows to approximately ten to twelve feet high provides shelter to different kinds of birds, so does the Kingdom of God provide refuge to everyone. Jesus is inviting everyone to come to him so that his grace will transform them.

The first Reading, (Ez 17:22-24,) led a foundation for the Gospel of today. It prophesied about God planting a shoot which grew to provide shelter for the birds. The Lord said:

'From the top of the cedar,
from the highest branch I will take a shoot
and plant it myself on a very high mountain.
I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel.
It will sprout branches and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.
Every kind of bird will live beneath it, ...'

The Church which is at the service of the kingdom of God, had a humble origin like the grain sprouting or the shoot growing. She grew from a handful of Jesus' disciples in Palestine to embrace men and women from all walks of life in the world. The Church which is the Body of Christ, is always in need of conversion of heart. Though the Church is not synonymous with the kingdom of God, it however, mirrors that kingdom. Jesus said that there are other sheep of his that were not yet part of the fold, those sheep need to be brought in the fold, so that there will be one sheep and one shepherd. Just as everyone is invited to become a member of the Church, so is everyone invited to be part of the kingdom of God. No one should exclude oneself from that kingdom by making wrong choices.

Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp

Pastoral Letter

Dear Parishioners,

May the peace of Christ be with you. The acting Premier, James Merlino has announced the gradual reopening of greater Melbourne from 11.59 tonight. From Friday 11th June, up to 50 people can participate in religious activities in person.

In St John's Parish, no booking shall be required for Sunday and weekday masses; whereas in St Francis Xavier parish, booking shall be required for Sunday masses only.

If you wish to participate in Mass in St Francis Xavier church this coming Sunday, send an email to the parish office containing the names and phone numbers of those you wish to register for the mass. Also indicate the mass times. You may also call the parish office on 97893484 to book for mass.

All participants at mass are required to sign in at the church using the QR Code whether they had pre-booked or not. For those who do not have mobile phones or their mobile phones do not recognise the QR Code, Samsung Tablets have been purchased to sign them in.

From Monday 14th June, parishioners of St Francis Xavier church would be able to book for Sunday masses from the parish website.

I wish to bring to the attention of all the families whose sons and daughters have prepared to receive the Sacrament of Eucharist for the first time this year that due to the limited number of people participating at mass at the moment, the First Eucharist is still suspended until further notice. New dates will be announced in the near future. I regret the inconveniences.

Please a gentle reminder that wearing of masks are mandatory both outside and inside the church. Let us keep on praying for the end of this pandemic.

I remain yours in Christ,

Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp,
Parish Priest
10.06.21

International Albinism Awareness Day (Albinos)

Secretary-General's message for 2021 (António Guterres)

On International Albinism Awareness Day, I reiterate my solidarity with persons with albinism. This year's theme is Strength Beyond All Odds.

It reflects the resilience, perseverance and achievements of people with albinism in the face of pervasive misconceptions, discrimination and violence.

Despite these obstacles to well-being and security, leaders of organizations representing persons with albinism continue to work hard to support the most vulnerable.

I am encouraged that persons with albinism are increasingly taking their rightful place in decision-making platforms around the world, leading to meaningful commitments, such as the Plan of Action on Albinism in Africa.

And I welcome the work of the United Nations independent expert on albinism, in promoting the rights of persons with albinism.

Yet, much remains to be done.

There is deep need to demystify the condition and end discrimination.

I take this opportunity to urge all nations and communities to protect and fulfil the human rights of all persons with albinism and provide necessary support and care. (<https://www.un.org/en/observances/albinism-day/messages>)

 **Heart of Life**
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Heart of Life is sponsored by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart

'Mindfulness & Meditation' (via ZOOM), Saturday 19 June 2021, 10am -3pm (AEST). When we are present to the 'now', centredness and relaxation become a natural part of life, and we know how to act from a heart of love. This is a day of reflection in the practice of Mindfulness & Meditation, and we invite you to come prepared to be still and journey within. Facilitated by Paola Cheng.

Cost \$50. Book and pay via website www.heartoflife.melbourne or email info@heartoflife.melbourne.