

Please Pray for

Our Sick - Kim Lord, Leonie Wise, Don Buchanan, Chris Kelly, Hendri Halim, Therese Sutherland, Maria Siketa, Harry Lord, Carolyn Marshall, Sandra Marshall, Allison Joel, Nicole Bigotto.

Recently Deceased - Mathew Jacob, Patricia Kovacic, Gregory Ong, Rack Chye, Ben Agustin, Eileen Betros, Tony Leonardis, Jack Lavery.

In Remembrance - Cash Lipinski, Meg Blanchard, Grazia Panetta.
All the suffering Souls in Purgatory, All Aborted Babies.

Special Intentions -
For the mothers dying in childbirth in PNG.

Reparation for the sins of abortion

Sunday's Readings

1st Reading
Deut 18:14-20
2nd Reading
1 Cor 7:32-34
Gospel
Mk 1:21-28

Next Sunday's Readings

1st Reading
Job 7:1-4, 6-7
2nd Reading
1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23
Gospel
Mk 1:29-39

Feast Days

29/1 -
30/1 -
31/1 St. John Bosco
01/2 -
02/2 The Presentation of the Lord
03/2 St. Blaise, St. Ansgar



OFFERINGS

Giving Back to God

St Francis Xavier
Church \$1,656
Presbytery \$1,021

Thank you for your continuing support.

St John the Evangelist
Church \$712
Presbytery \$555



Assistance : 9769 6060

If you would like to help or volunteer in the good works of the Society, call office 9769 6060.

SFX Vinnies - Geraldine Stanistreet 0438 120 142
Meetings held on 1st & 3rd Mon 4:00pm-5:30pm
SJE Vinnies - Mary Murtagh: 9781 3520
Meetings held on 1st & 3rd Tues 10:00am-11:30am

Welcome, Thank You for worshipping with us at **St Francis Xavier** and **St John the Evangelist** Churches.

Please let us know if:

- You are new to the Parish
- Recently changed your home address
- Need Sacrificial Thanksgiving Envelopes

Please fill in your details and drop it in the collection bag or hand it to the Priest.

Name/Tele: _____

Address: _____

† Many Blessings †

Safeguarding Children and Young People Reporting Abuse or Safety Related Misconduct
All reports are to be directed to: **Safeguarding Unit** 926 5621 / email: safeguardingunit@cam.org.au or contact Victoria Police directly. Remember! Always call 000 if a child or adult is in immediate danger. **Safeguarding Policies:** [https:// www.frankstoncatholic.com.au/sfx/policies](https://www.frankstoncatholic.com.au/sfx/policies)

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 Mass
SFX - Thursday at 6.00pm

Confidential Prayer Request Line
Call: Margaret 0417 535 028 - Kerry 0413 212 057

Frankston Friendship Club
Fun & Friendship for All. New Members Most Welcome.
1st Wednesday of month: 10:30am in Xavier Centre.
Bus Trips: 3rd Thursday of month
Contact : Suzy 0419 367 778 or Mary 0427 783 829

Legion of Mary
Our Lady of All Nations Praesidium, SFX Parish, meets in Quilter Room Saturday, 10:30am
Enquiries: Elizabeth / Parish 9783 3484.
SFX Legion of Mary on recess until 10 Feb.
Our Lady Queen of the Holy Rosary Praesidium SJE Parish, meets in Flower Room Thursday, 1:00pm
Enquires: Jacinta 0429 090 001
All are cordially invited! SJE Legion of Mary Start this week.

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on
3rd Sunday of month **during** Mass, and
4th Sunday of month **after** 10:00/10:30am Mass.
Baptism preparation attendance is required, prep via Zoom, prior to Baptism. Call P/O for more info & form.

Mothers who Pray for their Children
You are invited to join us every Thursday at 4:00pm in SFX Chapel.
With Kids Choir in Church
You are welcome to bring your children.
On recess until 8 Feb.

Adoration of the Holy Spirit Prayer Group
If you hunger to know, love and serve God more, then join our **Eucharistic Adoration of the Holy Spirit Prayer Group** at 1:00pm each Wednesday in the Chapel for Adoration, Prayers and songs followed by Bible study.
On recess until 3 Feb.

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B - 28 January 2024

Parish Theme - *Revitalising our Community in Christ*



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH
60 Davey Street, Frankston 3199.



ST. JOHN the EVANGELIST PARISH
20 Coral Street, Frankston East 3199.

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp chinua.okeke@cam.org.au
Assistant Priest: Rev. Fr Jude Agorchukwu CSSp jude.agorchukwu@cam.org.au
Deacon: Rev. Kevin Pattison kevin.pattison@cam.org.au
Secretary: Christina, Rosita
Phone: 9783 3483
Email: Frankston@cam.org.au
Office Hours: 9:00am - 4:00pm
Monday - Friday
Web: www.frankstoncatholic.com.au

We are a Child-Safe Community .. Safeguarding Unit Tel: 9926 5621

St. Francis Xavier's Programme
(Temporary change of Mass Times)

Sunday Masses

Vigil Mass: 6:00pm Saturday Evening
Sunday: 8:30am, 10:30am, 5:30pm

Weekday Masses

Tuesday - Friday 9:00am

Liturgy of Word and Communion Service

Monday & Saturday: No Mass / Communion Service

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Adoration

Temporary Suspended

Reconciliation

Saturday evening 5:30pm

Anointing of the Sick Mass

1st Thursday of month 9:00am

Rosary

Tuesday before 9:00am Mass and Saturday after 9:00am Mass

St. John the Evangelist Programme
(Temporary change of Mass Times)

Sunday Masses

Vigil Mass: No Evening Mass
Sunday: 8:30am, 10:00am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 am

Liturgy of Word and Communion Service

Monday 10:00am

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Adoration

Temporary Suspended

Reconciliation

Saturday after Morning Mass

Anointing of the Sick Mass

1st Thursday of month 10:00am

Rosary

Before weekday Mass, [except Wed], Saturday at 9:30am

Holy Gospel according to Mark 1:21-28

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the Sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit, and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him.

The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

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





Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Moses was the Law giver. When he promised that God would raise another prophet like himself, it may be interpreted as indicating that this prophet will be the giver of a New Law. This is indeed how we Christians read texts such as this Sunday's first reading (Deut 18:15-20). We manage this also because while the context reveals that more than one prophet is envisaged, probably at different times, the construction is cast in the singular. So, one reading is that there will be a series of prophets, one after another, while the other reading is that there will be a single Prophet, the Christ. There is another christological reading too: the prophet will also be one from among them; he will be born of this people.

Technically, according to the Exodus account, Moses was a Hebrew, but being raised by the class of oppressors of his own people, and having fled to a foreign land, he came to the Hebrews as more of an outsider. The new prophet would truly be one of their own. Jesus was born among them, though in a previously unnamed Galilean backwater, and walked among them, drawing followers to himself from his own compatriots, as we heard last Sunday. From the outset he is seen to be charismatic, for those he encountered and called followed him promptly.

In today's gospel (Mark 1:21-28) Jesus and his disciples reach the fishing village Capernaum, and there he teaches in the synagogue on the Sabbath. Here he is presented as one with a teaching that is new. Here also we find one of the characteristically Marcan structures, where an episode is sandwiched between two parts of another construction. In this case, two synonyms indicate the "sandwich" of this device in v.22 and 27, but the first is weakened in our Lectionary's translation: *exēplēssōnto* (from *ekplēssō*) became "made a deep impression on them" rather than the more direct "they were amazed/astounded", with its counterpart *ethambēthēsan* (from *thambeō*), "they were astonished".

They are first amazed by his teaching, and their astonishment is confirmed when his authoritative teaching is demonstrated in action, the sandwich's filling. In it is a man with an unclean spirit, and such unclean spirits are the first to recognize Jesus for who he really is. But when the man speaks, it is in the plural, "What do you want with *us*? Have you come to destroy *us*?" This sometimes trips people up into thinking of the man as one possessed by many demons who fear what Jesus will do to them. But even the order Jesus gave, "Be muzzled!", is in the singular. So, who is the "us" the man speaks for?

We may approach this by way of the clue of Mark's device: the two things are one thing, or, breaking away from the concrete example of the sandwich we eat, it is the unfolding in time of a twofold manifestation of the same process: Jesus comes to set free. The new teaching that sets people free, which throughout the four Gospels is the remission of sin and debt, is manifested in the man set free from the unclean spirit; Jesus has not come to destroy *us*, certainly not to punish us sinners according to the usual way of law, but to *free us*. The man is set free from that which causes his social isolation and he is restored to society.

But finally a word about the second reading. This one passage does not mean that Christianity has an aversion to marriage, which Paul here likens to a noose or halter, nor even to human love and sexuality. Paul was working from the mistaken belief that the world would soon end, which makes attention to any long-term plan in the world a waste of time. What remains good in what he said is that it reveals the expectation that the duty of marriage is for husbands and wives to be devoted to pleasing each other. Paul finds this so much a necessity that it imposes on their ability to attend to the work of the Kingdom. Another take on it, however, might suggest to Paul that in marriage husbands and wives may better enable and support one another in their work for the Kingdom.

Source: www.Liturgia.com.au



PARISH NOTICES

1 January - 14 February 2024:

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction on Wednesdays and Fridays and 24 hours adoration on First Friday of the month is suspended.

14 February - Ash Wednesday Mass Times:

At SJE : 9:00am
At SFX: 9:15am & 7:00pm

Change of Weekday Mass Times 6 Feb - 5 March

At St. John the Evangelist

February 6 - 10, 12-13: Communion Service.

February 15 - 5 March:

Mass: Thursday & Saturday

Communion Service:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

At St. Francis Xavier

February 6 - 10, 12 - 13: Communion Service.

February 15 - 5 March:

Mass: Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

Communion Service:

Monday, Thursday & Saturday

Reconciliation / First Eucharist Enrolment 2024

We are taking enrolment for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. All children in government primary school who will be in year 4 this year are eligible to enrol. For more information, please contact the Parish office at 9783 3484.

ORDER OF MALTA LOURDES DAY MASS

SATURDAY, 10 FEBRUARY 2024 at 10:30am

At St. Patrick's Cathedral, with Archbishop Peter A Comensoli as the principal celebrant.

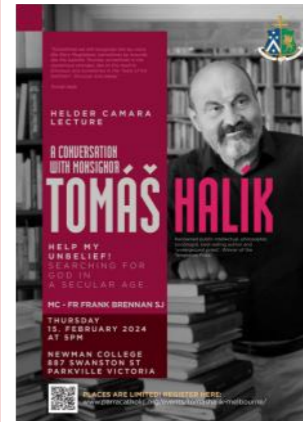
For some years now, the Order of Malta has organised an annual Lourdes Day Mass to provide an opportunity to pray for the sick and infirm particularly for those who would not otherwise have the possibility of visiting Lourdes.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Melbourne, 21-23 February 2024

All those who work, volunteer or have an interest in Catholic community services (and social justice more broadly) are invited to attend the Catholic Social Services National Conference 2024: Commons, Commonality, Common Good. Come along to be inspired in our shared work together – hear from innovative leaders, participate in thought-provoking conversations, and connect with others who share a desire to create true communities out of a common effort for the common good. More information on tickets, the conference theme, speakers and the program is available at: <https://css.org.au/css-national-conference-2024>

Searching for God in a secular age: A Conversation with Monsignor Tomáš Halík



Thursday, 15 February 2024

5:00pm–6:00pm

At Newman College

(887 Swanston St, Parkville)

Places are limited! register here:

Www. Parracatholic. Org/evets/
tomashalik-melbourne/



Now in its 39th year, the next speaker at the [Helder Camara lecture series](#) will be renowned public intellectual, philosopher, sociologist, best-selling author and 'underground priest', Monsignor Professor Tomáš Halík. Monsignor Halík converted to Catholicism as an adult and was secretly ordained a priest in 1978 during the communist rule of then-Czechoslovakia. He is a winner of the [Templeton Prize](#) and will be in conversation with leading academic and priest, Fr Frank Brennan SJ AO.

‘Sometimes we will recognize him by voice, like Mary Magdalene; sometimes by wounds, like the Apostle Thomas; sometimes in the mysterious stranger, like on the road to Emmaus; and sometimes in the "least of the brethren", the poor and needy.’ —Tomáš Halík

REFLECTION CORNER

I may be coming to pray from a need to feel close to the Lord today, or because I feel I ought to or must pray. Whatever my reason, I take some time to slow down. I pause awhile. When I am ready, I read the Gospel passage. It may be familiar, but I spend time with it and read it slowly as if for the first time.

After a while, I may find that the whole scene arises in my imagination. I am there with them. I see the people listening to Jesus, I hear the man shouting, I feel his touch as he tries to grab me to stop himself from falling. I look around me at the faces of the group. What do I notice particularly?

For a few moments, I recall all the sounds, the cries, the words which I've just heard. What are the key words for me? Maybe it's 'Be quiet!' or 'new teaching' or 'authority' . . . or something else? I wonder why these particular words are important to me just now. In what ways do they relate to my own life? I speak to the Lord, and explain how this scene has affected me today. Like the man in the synagogue, perhaps I also want to tell him – though gently and lovingly – 'I know who you are, the Holy One of God, in you I trust'.

Finally, I thank the Lord for being with me in my prayer today, and ask him to help all those around the world who suffer from poor mental health.

Courtesy of St Beuno's Outreach in the Diocese of Wrexham, UK

Source: www.australiancatholics.com.au