

Please Pray for

Our Sick - Paul O'Meara, Ivor Phillips, Daniel Kilpatrick, Bernadette, Linda Baxter, Bernard Walshe, John McCready, David Fyss, Kennet Lanes, Vivianne Gowan, Brian Brookes, Harry Lord.

Recently Deceased - Sr. Anita Le Clercq, Paul Bouker, Jim Brassil, Jacques Garnier, John Goullet, Anne Boucher, Jake Ingatiman, George Coleclough, Felix Weinman, Patrick Joachim, Daphne Joachim, Helen Boundy.

In Remembrance - Leonard Pendzialek, Margaret Black, Bill Gormley, Roman Neubacher, Erika Roedel, Thelma Hunter, Lydia Stella.

All the suffering Souls in Purgatory.

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>

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.
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!

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.

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.
All welcome!



Second Sunday of Advent, Year C - 8 December 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
Assistant Priest: Rev. Fr Jude Agorchukwu CSSp
Deacon: Rev. Kevin Pattison
Email: frankston@cam.org.au
Web: www.frankstoncatholic.com.au
Secretary: Christina, Rosita

chinua.okeke@cam.org.au
jude.agorchukwu@cam.org.au
kevin.pattison@cam.org.au
Phone: 9783 3484
Office Hours: 9:00am - 4:00pm
Monday - Friday

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

St. Francis Xavier's Programme

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

Weekday Masses
Tuesday - Saturday 9:15 am; 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
1st Friday of month 24 hours

Reconciliation
Saturday 10:00am and 5:30pm

Anointing of the Sick Mass
1st Thursday of month 9:15am

Rosary
Tuesday before 9:15am Mass and Saturday after 9:15am Mass

St. John the Evangelist Programme

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 at 8:30am and Friday after 9:00am Mass
1st Friday of month until 10:30am

Reconciliation
Saturday 9:30am and 6:15pm

Anointing of the Sick Mass
1st Thursday of month 9:00am

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

Holy Gospel according to Luke 3:1- 6

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness.

He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a Baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

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

Sunday's Readings
1st Reading
Baruch 5:1-9
2nd Reading
Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11
Gospel
Luke 3:1- 6

Next Sunday's Read 15/12
1st Reading
Zeph 3:14-18
2nd Reading
Is 12:2-6
Gospel
Luke 3:10-18

Feast Days

9/12 Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary
10/12 Our Lady of Loreto
11/12 St. Damasus I
12/12 Our Lady of Guadalupe
13/12 St Lucy
14/12 St. John of the Cross

Sacrificial Giving
Thank you for your continuing support

St Francis Xavier		St John the Evangelist	
Church	\$1,347.55	Church	\$958.00
Presbytery	\$850.81	Presbytery	\$645.00

Vinnies good works 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 †



Homily for Second Sunday of Advent, Year C

The first Reading taken from the Book of Baruch (Ba 5:1-9), is full of optimism. It called on Jerusalem to take off her, “dress of sorrow and distress” and “put on the beauty of the glory of God forever”.

The people of Israel were in mourning because they were in captivity in Babylon. The Lord is assuring them that he would bring them back to the promised Land (represented by Jerusalem). “Though they left you on foot with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal Princes carried back in Glory.” As a sign that the Lord has remembered the people of Israel and visited her, she was given a new name, “peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness.” The change of name symbolises a new beginning as the Lord stated through Prophet Isaiah, “you will be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will bestow.” (Is 62:1-2).

To ease the journey of the returnees from captivity, the Lord ordered the flattening of high mountains and hills and the filling in of valleys. John the Baptist would later apply this preparation of the highway to the preparation for the arrival of the Messiah.

The Gospel (Lk 3:1-6), presents us with John the Baptist, the precursor of Jesus Christ. John was a man of integrity who devoted himself to the mission entrusted to him by God. He was baptised in the womb of Elizabeth during the visitation of Mary to Elizabeth. Luke 1:41 narrates that when Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with Holy Spirit. Jesus made us understand, in Matthew 21:25, that baby John's baptism occurred in this incident.

John the Baptist was a prophet who came to prepare the people of Israel for the coming of Christ and to make Christ known to the world. He came in the spirit of Elijah, a great icon of Old Testament prophets. The Book of Prophet Malachi (3:1, 4:5-6), prophesied about the return of Prophet Elijah before the coming of the Messiah. Jesus, in responding to his disciple's question, made them understand that John the Baptist was the fulfiller of the prophesy of Malachi about the second coming of Elijah. (Mt 17:10-13). In John 1:29, he stared at Jesus and declared before his disciples, “Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.”

John the Baptist lived and received the message of God in the wilderness. Psalm 46:10 states, "be still and know that I am God". In the fast and bustling life of today, we still need to take sporadic time off from our busy schedule to be attuned to the voice of God.

John the Baptist prepared the way of the Lord by his truthfulness and being a voice for the voiceless. He proclaimed “a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins and all people of Judaea made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, they confessed their sins.” We too, like the repentant Israelites, have rejected Satan and sin through our Baptism into the life, death, and resurrection of Christ.

The Advent period invites us to recommit ourselves to Christ by reconciling ourselves with God, ourselves, and our neighbours. There may be some mountains or hills in our lives which we may need to level or some valleys that we may need to fill in. These mountains, hills and valleys may include living a false life, excessive gambling, addiction to drugs, laziness, gluttony, not having time for God, pride, unwillingness to seek for pardon, unwillingness to pardon others, being an agent of division in your family, victimising others, etc.

During this holy time of Advent, though the Mass reconciles us with God and our neighbours, we are all invited to have a one-on-one conversation with God about our spiritual journey. We are called to present to God our successes, struggles and failures.

I end this Homily with the Franciscan Hymn:

Lord Make me a Channel of Your Peace
*Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
Oh, Master grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console
to be understood as to understand
to be loved as to love with all my soul.*

Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp

PARISH NOTICES



SFX Children's Choir Practise
11:00am to 1:00pm: 14/12, 21/12, 24/12



SFX Children's Choir
Last Children's Mass for 2024 & Christmas Party on 15 Dec after 10.30am Mass. Parents, please bring your children to Church at 10.00am for a quick rehearsal before Mass. Please bring a plate to share.

The raffle will also be drawn.

SFX Nativity Drama

Children who would like to participate in the Nativity Drama on Tuesday, 24 December at 6.30pm please write your name on the sheet in the foyer / call Parish Office 9783 3484.

A Memorial Mass for Sr Anita Le Clercq and Fr Alistair MacLellan will be held on Wednesday, 11 December, at St John the Evangelist Church, Frankston East.

SFX Readers & Eucharistic Ministers

Please contact Maureen Sharpe about your availability for Advent and Christmas Services.
Maureen Sharpe 0428835445
Email: mnrsharpe@yahoo.com.au

Advent Programme

Join us to explore, reflect and pray on the importance of our Christmas Nativity Scene.
SFX 9 and 10 Dec 7.00pm
SJE 11 and 12 Dec 9.30am

St Francis Xavier

2024 Christmas Time Table

24 December Christmas Vigil Family Mass, 6.30pm
24 December Christmas Night Mass 9.00pm
25 December Christmas Day Masses 8.30am, 10.30am 5.30pm
31 December Eucharistic Adoration 10.00pm
31 December New Year's Eve Mass 11.00pm
1 January 2025 New Year Day Mass 10.00am

Please join us 30 minutes prior to Christmas Mass for Christmas Carols. Looking forward to celebrating this Christmas with you all.

Fr Chinua



SIMBANG GABI 2024

Nine Days Novena Dawn Mass
Monday 16 - Tuesday 24 December
at 5.00am at St Francis Xavier's Church
For more info pls contact :
Maina 0401 101 428 or Fe Gillies 0418 592 944

Simbang Gabi (Filipino for “Night Mass”) is a Devotional series of nine day Masses in the anticipation of the Birth of Jesus Christ and to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary

Columban Calendars for 2025 and Christmas Card available from Piety Store

SFX Church Loan Repayment
Target : \$120,000.00 - Received to Date : \$4,950.00
SJE Church Renovation
Target : \$50,000.00 Received to Date : \$5,000.00
Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp

Christmas Reconciliation

SJE - Thursday, 19 December at 7:00pm
SFX - Friday, 20 December at 7:00pm

Mass - Solemnity of Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
SFX - Monday, 9 December, 2024 at 9:15am
SJE - Monday, 9 December, 2024 at 9:00am

Sacramental Program

An invitation for public school students in Grade 4 in 2025. Children to register for Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

SFX- Healing Mass on Friday, 13 December, 7.00pm

St John the Evangelist

2024 Christmas Time Table

24 December Christmas Vigil Family Mass 7.00pm
24 December Christmas Midnight Mass 12.00 midnight
25 December Christmas Day Mass 8.30am, 10.00am
31 December New Year's Eve Mass 7.00pm
1 January 2025 New Year Day Mass 9.00am

Please join us 30 minutes prior to Christmas Mass for Christmas Carols. Looking forward to celebrating this Christmas with you all.

Fr Chinua