

SUNDAY MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God. Turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye. Hide me in the shadow of your wings.

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:8-13.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 121.

RESPONSE:

Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

1. I lift up my eyes to the mountains; from where shall come my help? My help shall come from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. **R**
2. He will keep your foot from stumbling. Your guard will never slumber. No, he sleeps not nor slumbers, Israel's guard. **R**
3. The Lord your guard, the Lord your shade at your right hand. By day the sun shall not smite you, nor the moon in the night. **R**
4. The Lord will guard you from evil; he will guard your soul. The Lord will guard your going and coming, both now and forever. **R**

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia. The word of God is living and active, discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Luke 18:1-8.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

Those who pray the Perpetual Novena in honour of Our Mother of Perpetual Help will easily recognise this familiar, pocket-sized booklet, so beloved of countless thousands of people across the world.

R40
plus delivery



Order from our website www.rpp.org.za or email orders@rpp.org.za. Enquiries: 082 667 3857.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Live the Word

Mon 20 Oct (Bl Daudi Okelo & Jildo Irwa, Ms)

Romans 4:20-25; Resp: Luke 1:69-75; Luke 12:13-21
These two young Ugandan catechists are given to the entire Christian community as examples of holiness and virtue and as models and intercessors for catechists throughout the world.

Tue 21 Oct Liturgy of the Day

Romans 5:12.15.17-21; Psalm 40; Luke 12:35-38
A "me-first" attitude sometimes gives temporary satisfaction, but we only find lasting happiness and delight when our hearts are joined in union with God. The power of God's love in us urges us to love.

Wed 22 Oct (St John Paul II, P)

Romans 6:12-18; Psalm 124; Luke 12:39-48
Pope John Paul II emphasized the transformative power of love, especially in the face of evil. He said, "Freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought."

Thu 23 Oct (St John of Capestrano, Pr)

Romans 6:19-23; Psalm 1; Luke 12:49-53
"Those who are called to the table of the Lord must glow with the brightness that comes from the good example of a praiseworthy and blameless life." – St John of Capestrano

Fri 24 Oct (St Anthony Mary Claret, B)

Romans 7:18-25; Psalm 119; Luke 12:54-59
"Lord, by the words of consecration the substance of the bread and wine is converted into the substance of your Body and Blood. All powerful Lord, say over me the word which will change me into You." – St Anthony

Sat 25 Oct Liturgy of the Day

Romans 8:1-11; Psalm 24; Luke 13:1-9
What does it mean to be compassionate? The compassionate person lives: "I am your brother; I am your sister; I am human, fragile and mortal, just like you. I understand your tears and your pain. I too have wept!"

Sun 26 Oct 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sirach 35:12-14.16-18; Psalm 34; Luke 18:9-14
Often we speak negatively of others. "God's goodness dares us to do the braver and riskier thing: to hold out for the hearts of those who belong to God, whether we like them or not." – Debbie Thomas

KEY: SOLEMNITY: FEAST; Memorial; (Optional Memorial)
Ms=Martyrs; P=Pope; Pr=Priest; B=Bishop

Catholic Link

NICENE CREED 1700 years

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year C
Divine Office: Week I • 19 October 2025

... one baptism for the forgiveness of sins



Most have heard the expression, "hatches, matches and dispatches." These words are, of course, shorthand for baptisms, weddings and funerals. And for not a few people, the main significance here is some kind of social event and rite of passage, something governed by Instagram or other social media. How do the photographs look, how many likes did they get?

True enough, human beings need ritual. Increasingly though, when it comes to baptisms, weddings and funerals, there is a deviation away from the Church's liturgy towards more self-designed rituals. Some pastors try to be accommodating and flexible, but don't forget, we're talking about faith-based events. What do we mean when we say, for example, "I believe in one baptism for the forgiveness of sin"?

Baptism is recognised as the first of what are called the three sacraments of initiation, the other two being Confirmation and Eucharist. There is a profound theological meaning to the word initiation, with the word insertion probably more accurate when it comes to baptism. A person is inserted into the Christian mystery of salvation at baptism. In the early Church many people were baptised as adults. By confessing their faith in Christ and being baptised, not only did they become Christians, but at that moment all their past sins were forgiven.

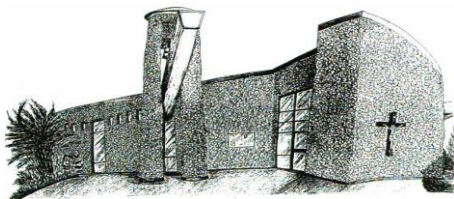
One of the fruits of the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) is the rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. To see adults baptised during the Easter Vigil is inspiring. However, in Tradition, with Scripture in support, Catholics

uphold the dignity of infant baptism too. This also proclaims forgiveness of sin. Infants are freed from "original sin". Humanity as a whole is in a sinful state.

The promise of baptism's power is evident in Scripture. In Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus commands His disciples to go and make disciples of all nations, "baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." In Acts 2:28, Peter instructs, "Repent and be baptised, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins."

Imagine if Christians took more seriously their baptismal dignity and identity! We would shift from a very privatised interpretation of our faith (my sins are forgiven, so I'm OK) to a wider collective one, drawing us together as the body of Christ that we are inserted into in baptism. In that way we would be able as a community of faith to act more in unison, indeed, to act in the name of Christ and as the unity of all believers. Irrespective of denominational differences, baptism is universally acknowledged as immersing us, inserting us, initiating us, into the One Body of Christ.

As we celebrate one baptism for the forgiveness of sin, let us celebrate it not just as a private grace, but also as a task for the salvation of the world. As one parable of Jesus teaches, do not bury your talents, but use them and increase them. And if we see baptism as the moment of receiving these talents, we are guaranteed to have the Holy Spirit work with us in continuing the mission of Christ in the world.



St Francis Xavier Catholic Parish

Father Michael Foley, OMI (Parish Priest)
C: 072 968 3394

Deacon Malcolm Wright H: 031 466 4524
Deacon Carl Emmanuel C: 082 493 8668
TBA (PPC Chairperson)

Chrystal Ally (Finance Chairperson)
Office Telephone: 031 467 0524

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mon, Wed & Fri 8.30am to 3.30pm
(Secretary is at Mass from 8 to 8.30am)
Thursdays 8.00am to 12.30pm

Email: secretary@stfrancisxavier.org.za
or bluff@aod.org.za
Website: www.stfrancisxavier.org.za

*Guided by the Holy Spirit, we strive, as a
Parish, to grow into disciples of Jesus Christ,
Reaching out in Faith into a wider Community.*

Prayer of the Church (Divine Office):

15 minutes before weekday Masses.

Prayer Circle:

Contact Cay Loader 0314664474 / 0789216797

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Our long-term Seriously Sick
whose names are on the noticeboards, and or our
currently –

Seriously Sick:

Tashnim Dos Santos, Michael Tunley, Fr Chris
Neville, Merlyn Oakes and Andy Rossell.

CONFESSIONS: Please note that Fr Mike is
available for Personal Confessions on Saturday
afternoons from **16.00 - 17.00.**

ONLINE MASS: Live-streamed on Facebook
at the **Sunday 9:00am Mass**

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS:

Sat 18 Oct 5.30pm

Holy Souls & Deceased Members of FOSS [Gaë]
Desmond Pierce R.I.P. [Family]
Ethnie Hodnett R.I.P. [Leonie Jacobs]

Sun 19 Oct 7.00am

Elizabeth Kirk-Fuller's Thanksgiving for Blessings
Received

Alison Buss R.I.P. [Rosemary Squier]

Sun 19 Oct 9.00am

All Parishioners

Mon 20 Oct 8.00am

Alison Buss R.I.P. [Rosemary Squier]
Laverne Figg's Thanksgiving for Blessings
Received [Ewan & Laverne]

Tue 21 Oct 5.30pm

Oblate Provincial

Wed 22 Oct 8.00am St John Paul II

Annette Newman's Special Intention [Leonie]
Maria Sissing's Special Intention [Leonie]

Thu 23 Oct 5.30pm

Oblate Provincial

Fri 24 Oct 8.00am

Alison Buss R.I.P. [Rosemary Squier]
Monique Seale's Special Intention
Carl Seale R.I.P. [Family]

Sat 25 Oct 5.30pm

Lizelle Buckley's Birthday [Jooman Family]
Alister Luke Hurri's Birthday [Ma & Pa Breda]
Sherwin & Pamela Hurri's Wedding Anniversary
[Janet & Gerald Breda]

Sun 26 Oct 7.00am

All Parishioners

Sun 26 Oct 9.00am

Deacon Brother Patrick Regnard's Birthday [Firmin
Family]

Nelson Hudson R.I.P. [Family]
Shona & Myron Snyman R.I.P. [Family]

THIS WEEK'S DIARY:

**2ND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND FOR
WORLD MISSION SUNDAY**

Sun 19 Oct REPOSITORY OPEN

10.30am Junior Catechism – Hall Complex

10.30am Grade 4 GIFT Program – Boardroom

5.00pm Senior Catechism – Hall Complex

Tue 21 Sep

6.30pm S S V P Meeting – Hall

Wed 22 Oct

8.30am St Monica's Prayer Group – Church

Thu 23 Oct

6.30pm General Choir Practice – Church

7.00pm RCIA 2026 Topic: The Sacraments:
An Introduction – Hall

Fri 24 Oct

7.00pm Senior Youth – Hall

Sun 26 Oct

10.30am Infant Baptism – Church

NOTICES:

PARISH ASSETS: Parishioners are once
reminded that no parish assets are to be loaned out
for personal use. The only assets that leave the
parish are the white SFX and black ACTS
tablecloths, which would be taken away to be
washed after a function. Two white damask cloths
marked as No. 12 & No.13 are missing, as well as
Six black ACTS tablecloths. Those who have taken
cloths away for washing in the past year, please
check and return any outstanding cloths.

ST ANNE'S PARISH CHESTERVILLE: In order to
assist them with completing their new parish
church, parishioners are asked to assist with the
purchase of a window. or two, or part thereof. The
windows are of various sizes and costs. Please see
the sheet with options on the noticeboards, and
contact SFX parish office with your details if you
would like to participate.

**MUSICIAN/S URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR
SUNDAY 9AM MASS CHOIR:** Please contact
Desiree Manuel 0730660055 if you can assist.

CARE GROUP: This long-running parish group
disbanded a few years ago, and we would like to
recruit new members to reform the Care Group,
which engaged in Social Welfare work within the
parish. Please contact the parish office if you would
like to get involved.

RETROUVAILLE / HELP YOUR MARRIAGE: The
next program for 2025 starts with Phase 1 on the
weekend of Oct 31 to Nov 2. Please see the
posters on the noticeboards.

WORLDWIDE COMBONI MAGAZINE: Orders for
the first edition of the magazine, placed with Fr
Rafael on 17th August, (and paid for), have arrived
at the parish. Please check for your name, and
collect your copy from the church entrance, and
sign receipt thereof in full (including your contact
number) on the collection sheet.

CONGRATULATIONS: To our 16 teenagers who
were confirmed by Bishop Zondi last weekend.

Responsorial Psalm Response: (Sun 9.00am)

Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

