

SUNDAY MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice. Turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

FIRST READING: Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 34.

RESPONSE:

The lowly one called, and the Lord heard him.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times, praise of him is always in my mouth. In the Lord my soul shall make its boast; the humble shall hear and be glad. **R**
2. The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth. when the just cry out, the Lord hears, and rescues them in all their distress. **R**
3. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save. The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. All who trust in him shall not be condemned. **R**

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 4, 6-8, 16-18.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia. God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Luke 18:9-14.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

We will ring out our joy at your saving help, and exult in the name of our God.

In his book **"O Mother Blest"**, Fr Seán Wales highlights the role of Mary in our lives. Taking us on a tour through icons and feasts of Mary, inspiring explanations of the Marian prayers we know so well, and other Marian themes, he offers us a spiritual gem that will not only deepen our devotion to Mary, Mother of God and our Mother, but will also lead us closer to Jesus, her Son.

O Mother Blest



Seán Wales CSaR

R150
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 27 Oct Liturgy of the Day

Romans 8:12-17; Psalm 68; Luke 13:10-17

"Sometimes the most important thing in a whole day is the rest we take between two deep breaths, or the turning inwards in prayer for five short minutes." – Etty Hillesum

Tue 28 Oct SS SIMON & JUDE, As

Ephesians 2:19-22; Psalm 19; Luke 6:12-19

"Jesus washes the feet of the Apostles. Are we ready to serve others like this?" – Pope Francis. Greatness is achieved not through domination or control, but through selfless service and meeting the needs of others.

Wed 29 Oct Liturgy of the Day

Romans 8:26-30; Psalm 13; Luke 13:22-30

"When Scripture is read through the eyes of vulnerability – what Catholics call the 'preferential option for the poor' – ... it will always be liberating and transformative." – Fr Richard Rohr OFM

Thu 30 Oct Liturgy of the Day

Romans 8:31-39; Psalm 109; Luke 13:31-35

Especially when things seem to be against you, always focus on the truth that God is for you. Nothing can take God's love away from you. It is, however, essential that you practice believing this.

Fri 31 Oct Liturgy of the Day

Romans 9:1-5; Psalm 147; Luke 14:1-6

"Darkness is a mentor of what it means to carry the light we ourselves have brought to blaze into the unknown parts of life so that others may also see and take hope." – Joan Chittister

Sat 1 Nov Liturgy of the Day

Romans 11:1-2.11-12.25-29; Psalm 94; Luke 14:1.7-11

It is our thirst to find God that calls, sustains and energises us throughout life. Desire less the excitement of the material world and yearn for union with God, which comes only through aloneness with God.

Sun 2 Nov ALL SAINTS

Revelations 7:2-4.9-14; Psalm 24; Matthew 5:1-12

"The reason for our existence is to quench the thirst of Jesus. When he asked for water, the soldier gave him vinegar to drink – but his thirst was for love, for souls, for you and me." – St Teresa of Calcutta

KEY: SOLEMNITY; FEAST; Memorial; (Optional Memorial) As=Apostles

Catholic Link

NICENE CREED 1700 years

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year C
Divine Office: Week II • 26 October 2025

The resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come



When we say we believe in the resurrection of the body, we are not suggesting that the body is resuscitated. Logic alone would support this. How does one resuscitate a body that had been buried in the earth, for even hundreds of years, to say nothing about bringing back to life a body that has been cremated? What then, do we believe about the resurrection of the body?

As with our approach to Scripture in general, recognising that it is not a history book, nor a science manual etc., we need to look for the deeper underlying truth behind what we are saying. In a word, the theological truth about the "resurrection of the body" is that in some divine and mysterious way after physical death on earth, everyone retains personal identity. You are still you. Your "body" identifies you. You are not absorbed anonymously into the ether. St John, in his first letter, asserts that in the life to come, we shall see God as God really is. And seeing God face to face, "we shall become like him as he really is" (1 John 3:2-3). So, believing in the resurrection of the body is an act of faith in a continuity of existence and personal identity from the moment of conception on earth. Yet we need to be honest and admit that we have no idea what this means. Admitting this, we are in good company. St Paul himself could not have put it more bluntly: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor has the human heart imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him" (1 Corinthians 2:9).

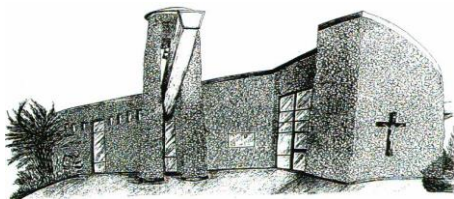
One theologian jokingly said that even paper the size of a postage stamp would be too big for writing down all we know about the afterlife. For many people it is so beyond our imagination that they describe themselves as "afterlife agnostics".

In the face of this; before such a profound mystery, the best thing we can do is invoke the timeless theological principle, "lex orandi, lex credendi". Simply stated in English, what we pray is what we believe, and what we believe is what we pray. What exactly do we pray in our Masses for the dead? Here, in prayer, we will find the best distillation of our faith, most especially in the Preface for the dead.

One of the most encouraging phrases is that in death, "life is changed, not ended". From the perspective of the bereaved, the life of a loved one does indeed appear to be ended. There is the final breath, the mourning, the funeral, and gradually picking up the pieces of life without the deceased being around. Their life, as we know it, has ended. But our faith professes a reality unseen, namely, that it has not ended but simply changed. It continues in a different way in the life to come. Our earthly dwelling, made of dust and returned to dust, is exchanged for an eternal dwelling which God has made ready.

Central to this profession of faith is, course, our faith in the resurrection of Christ himself. Baptism makes us full participants in his risen life (see Romans 6:3-4).





St Francis Xavier Catholic Parish

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Cathy Frankson (PPC Chairperson)

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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

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*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 outside noticeboard, and
our currently –

Seriously Sick:

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

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 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]

Roy Houston R.I.P. [Belinda Weiach]

Mon 27 Oct 8.00am

Julian Thompson's Birthday

Adele Colbeck R.I.P. [Family]

Tue 28 Oct 5.30pm Ss Simon & Jude

Julian Thompson's Special Intention

Wed 29 Oct 8.00am

Yvonne Soudom's Birthday [Family]

Thu 30 Oct 5.30pm

Juliam Thompson's Special Intention

Fri 31 Oct 8.00am

Estelle Firmin's Birthday [Family]

Joseph Chakanyuka's Birthday [Family]

Sat 01 Nov 9.00am

Lucy & Maneul de Gouveia R.I.P. [John de
Gouveia]

Clinton Ogle's Birthday [Family]

Sat 01 Nov 5.30pm ALL SAINTS

Rosemary Johnson R.I.P. [Julian]

Sun 02 Nov 7.00am ALL SAINTS

Elizabeth Oberholzer's Special Intention [Betty]

Paulson Family's Special Intention

Sun 02 Nov 9.00am ALL SAINTS

All Parishioners

THIS WEEK'S DIARY:

Sun 26 Oct

10.30am Infant Baptism – Church

10.30am Junior Catechism – Hall Complex

10.30am Grade 4 GIFT Program – Boardroom

5.00pm Senior Catechism – Hall Complex

Mon 27 Oct

7.00pm Mens' League Meeting – Hall

Wed 29 Oct

8.30am St Monica's Prayer Group – Church

6.30pm Women of Faith Group – Hall

Thu 30 Oct

6.30pm General Choir Practice – Church

7.00pm RCIA 2026 Topic: The Sacrament:
Of Baptism – Hall

Fri 31 Oct

6.00pm RCIA 2026 Group Meeting – Hall

7.00pm Senior Youth – Big Classroom

NOTICES:

NOVEMBER PIOUS LISTS: It is customary to
remember our deceased relatives and friends in the
Masses during the month of November. **Pious List
envelopes are available at the entrance of the
church entrance.** Bring with you to the **All Souls
Mass** or deliver to the parish office, or place in the
weekend Collection baskets, together with your
donation, in the envelope provided. Your
contributions will be given to the Oblates of Mary
Immaculate.

ALL SOULS MASS: Monday 3 November at

6.00pm Please note the change of Mass time.

There will be **NO 8.00am morning Mass on
Monday 3rd.**

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.

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

**ST ANNE'S PARISH CHESTERVILLE WINDOW
SALES DRIVE:** Please see the sheet with options
on the noticeboards to donate towards the
purchase of the windows, and contact SFX parish
office with your details if you would like to
participate.

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:
These have now been delivered to 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.

Responsorial Psalm Response:
(Sun 9.00am)

**The Lord hears the
cry of the poor.**

