

SUNDAY MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and authority for ever and ever.

FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 5:1-3.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 122.

RESPONSE:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

1. I rejoiced when they said to me,
'Let us go to the house of the Lord'.
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. ✠
2. It is here that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord.
For Israel's witness it is to praise
the name of the Lord.
There were set the thrones for judgement,
the thrones of the house of David. ✠

SECOND READING: Colossians 1:12-20.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is coming! Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

The Lord sits as King forever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Live the Word

Mon 24 Nov Ss Andrew Dung-Lac, Pr & Comps, Ms Dan 1:1-6,8-20; Dan 3; Luke 21:1-4

St Andrew Dung-Lac highlights the need to depend on God's grace to face hardships and to know that God is present in difficult situations. Suffering for one's faith is a blessing and to be counted as such.

Tue 25 Nov (St Catherine of Alexandria, VM)

Daniel 2:31-45; Daniel 3; Luke 21:5-11

"O Jesus, good King, I await the sword for thy sake; do thou deign to receive my spirit, and to show mercy to those who honour my memory." – St Catherine of Alexandria's famous final prayer.

Wed 26 Nov Liturgy of the Day

Daniel 5:1-6,13-14,16-17,23-28; Daniel 3; Luke 21:12-19

Today we are reminded to look for what is of worth in situations we deem worthless, to find the good in what we think ought to be discarded and to find something to thank God for, even if the day seems dismal.

Thu 27 Nov Liturgy of the Day

Daniel 6:12-28; Daniel 3; Luke 21:20-28

There's an old saying: *what you take without gratitude makes you a thief*. Perhaps there's a little thief in each of us! What do we take for granted, for that which we take for granted cannot truly bless us?

Fri 28 Nov Liturgy of the Day

Daniel 7:2-14; Daniel 3; Luke 21:29-33

Every act of compassion and service, every prayer, or every healing is an emphatic statement that Jesus is alive and in our midst. May we live what we believe!

Sat 29 Nov Liturgy of the Day

Daniel 7:15-27; Daniel 3; Luke 21:34-36

Today Jesus urges us to slow down, and to look within. Create room for stillness, silence and solitude in your life and experience God's presence in a real way.

Sun 30 Nov 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Matthew 24:37-44

"Perfection is not the elimination of imperfection, as we think. Divine perfection is, in fact, the ability to recognize, forgive, and include imperfection! – just as God does with all of us." – Fr Richard Rohr OFM

KEY: SOLEMNITY; FEAST; Memorial; (Optional Memorial)
M=Martyr; V=Virgin

Catholic Link

CHRIST THE KING

Solemnity of Christ the King • Year C
Divine Office: Week II • 23 November 2025

Jubilee Year Crowned

One of the most well-known artists in South Africa was the late OMI priest from Belgium, Fr Frans Claerhout. Even while he was alive his art was worth a fortune. As a missionary he would sometimes say that he needed to build a new church, or provide borehole water somewhere, so he'd better sell some more paintings! One year I preached a mission in Bloemfontein where he lived, at the parish of Christ the King. Claerhout's painting in this church depicts Christ as a king who wears sandals, walks through a field, and reigns as a king through humble service to people and closeness to the earth. As Christ himself said, his kingdom is not of this world.



Washing of the Feet, a fresco in the Capella del Scrovegni, Padua, Italy by Giotto, 1305 AD

Somehow, we have to discard our worldly images of what a king looks like, and recall that our King was arrested and scourged, wears a crown of thorns, and was crucified.

This is the Christ that Pope Francis wanted us to get to know during this Jubilee Year, when he made history by opening several Holy Doors apart from the traditional one at St Peter's Basilica. He declared as a Holy Door the one in the chapel of Rebibbia, Rome's largest prison, as a sign of hope for the inmates there. This made him the first pope to open a Holy Door in a prison. In doing so, he was being true to Jesus' own mission agenda, when he stood up in the synagogue in Nazareth and proclaimed:

The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight,

to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour. (Luke 4:18,19)

What better way to put hope into action than by being united to Christ in carrying out his own mission? What better way to be "Pilgrims of Hope"? Pope Francis picked up on this when he urged us during this Jubilee "to discover hope in the signs of the times that the Lord gives us" and "to recognize the immense goodness present in our world, lest we be tempted to think ourselves overwhelmed by evil and violence."

Pope Francis listed different ways in which we can be agents of hope in today's world. These ways are reflections of the Kingdom where Christ reigns over all. They are listed in the Preface of the Eucharist for today's feast, which proclaims

... an eternal and universal kingdom,
a kingdom of truth and life,
a kingdom of holiness and grace,
a kingdom of justice, love and peace.

On this feast of Christ the King, we draw to a close Jubilee Year 2025, a year in which we also commemorated the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed. It is also the year when Pope Francis passed the baton to Pope Leo XIV. Pope Leo likes to highlight the image of the Holy "Door". He urges us, in a world marked by division, to reject walls of separation and embrace Jesus as "a door that unites", an "open door" who enables us to enter his Kingdom with hope, in freedom and full confidence.

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

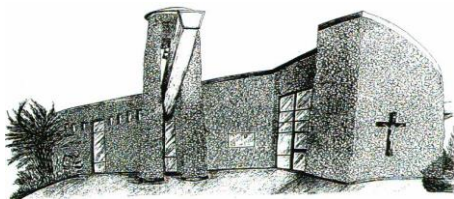


Seán Wales CSsR

R150
plus delivery



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



St Francis Xavier Catholic Parish

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Cathy Frankson (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 outside noticeboard, and
our currently –

Seriously Sick:

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

The Repose of the Soul of: Lulama Mnyani

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 22 Nov 5.30pm CHRIST THE KING

All those on the Pious Lists

All Deceased Members of the Catholic Women's
League

Quewan King's Birthday [Family]

Sun 23 Nov 7.00am CHRIST THE KING

All those on the Pious Lists

All Parishioners

Sun 23 Nov 9.00am CHRIST THE KING

All those on the Pious Lists

All 2025 First Holy Communicants

Maria & Manuel Marcelino R.I.P. [Family]

**Mon 24 Nov 8.00am Ss Andrew Dung-Lac
& Companions**

All those on the Pious Lists

Veronica Thompson [Family]

Tue 25 Nov 5.30pm

All those on the Pious Lists

Wed 26 Nov 8.00am

All those on the Pious Lists

Kyro Meth's Birthday [Family]

Thu 27 Nov 5.30pm

All those on the Pious Lists

Candice Green's Birthday [Mum & Blake]

Andrew Emmanuel R.I.P. [Family]

Fri 28 Nov 8.00am

All those on the Pious Lists

Michael & Yolande Hudson R.I.P. [Bronwyn &
Kids]

Sat 29 Nov 5.30pm ADVENT 1

Mrs Jenny Surry's Special Intention [Sr Pru]

Laura Ogle's Birthday [Family]

Sun 30 Nov 7.00am ADVENT 1

Leonard & Olivia Ryan's 34th Wedding Anniversary
[Ryan & Hansen Families]

Lawrence & Dawn Colbeck's 44th Wedding
Anniversary [Family]

Sun 30 Nov 9.00am ADVENT 1

All Parishioners

THIS WEEK'S DIARY:

Sun 23 Nov FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

9.00am First Holy Communion Mass (Gr 4)

10.30am Junior Catechism – Hall Complex

5.00pm Senior Catechism – Hall Complex

Mon 24 Nov

7.00pm Ministers of Holy Communion Meeting –
Hall

7.00pm Men's League Meeting – Big Classroom

Wed 26 Nov

8.30am St Monica's Prayer Group – Church

6.30pm Women of Faith Group – Hall

Thu 27 Nov

6.30pm General Choir Practice – Church

7.00pm RCIA 2026 Topic: Living Advent in our
Lives – Hall

Fri 28 Nov

7.00pm Senior Youth - Hall

NOTICES:

NOVEMBER PIOUS LISTS: Pious List envelopes
are still available at the church entrance.

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.

ST MICHAEL'S PARISH FUNDRAISER: Tickets at
R100 each, to win an AMAROK truck, will again be
available after all the weekend Masses.

SPRINGS OF CARMEL 2026 BIBLE DIARIES:

Pre-ordered copies available from the parish office
during normal working hours, as well as from the
Proof of EFT pre-payment (emailed to the parish
office) is required before collection. A list of those
who have already paid by EFT or in cash, to date,
is noted at the office.

SOUTHERN CROSS: November issue are
available at the church entrance @ R40 each.

PARISH GROUPS 2026 DATES: All parish groups
are reminded to submit their 2026 meetings, events
and requests for fundraising dates, to the parish
office by the end of November, for collation into the
2026 Year Planner.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT: 18H30 to 20H00 on
Thursday 27 November at St Henry's Marist
College, Please bring a donation of non-perishable
food or toy, in exchange for a candle. See posters.

MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE CONFERENCE:

Saturday 29 November from 8am at Immaculate
Conception Parish, Pinetown, hosted by the
Archdiocese of Durban. See posters for program
and further details.

JUBILEE CELEBRATION: All parishioners are
invited to a series of special events to close out the
Jubilee Year 2025. There will be a Prayer Evening
each Wednesday of Advent at 6.30pm in the
church, followed by a special event in the hall.
Further details to follow.

Responsorial Psalm Response: (Sat 5:30pm)

**Let us go
rejoicing to the house
of the Lord.**

