



**ST FRANCIS XAVIER LURNEA
THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR C
23RD & 24TH JANUARY 2016**

Jubilee Year of Mercy - Dec. 8, 2015 - Nov. 20, 2016
Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Luke 6:36

Parish Priest: Fr Thu Nguyen
pp@sfxlurnea.org.au

**Office Manager &
Sacramental Co-Ordinator**
Mary-Ann Laoulach
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Parish Council Chairman:
Enda Scully
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Parish Mobile: 0420 800 194
Web Site:
www.stfrancisxavierlurnea.org.au

Office Hours:
Tuesday to Friday
9.30am – 5.30pm
*Bulletin notices to be in by Thurs. 12pm.
(Please type/print your message clearly).*



St Francis Xavier Catholic School
School Principal Mrs Fran Bonanno
School No: 9607-3130 School Fax: 9608-2650
Web Site: www.stfxlurnea.catholic.edu.au

St Catherine of Siena Catholic School
School Principal Mr David Parawa
School No: 9607-3888 School Fax: 9607-6405
Web Site: www.stcosprestons.catholic.edu.au

Weekend Mass Times:
Saturday Vigil.....5.00pm
Sunday.....8.00am, 9.30am &
.....6.00pm

Weekday Mass Times:
(See bulletin for changes)

Reconciliation:
Saturday.....4.00pm - 4.30pm

Baptisms: By Appointment
1st & 3rd Sundays of the month at 11.00am

Marriages: By Appointment

St Vincent De Paul 9823 1222

Care Group
Anne Hobbs: 9601 - 7061

We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand. We walk on a land once occupied by the Darug Clan, the Cabrogal, a sub group of the Gandangara tribe who lived in this area for over 30,000 years. May we continue to love and respect the land as they have.

Reflection

In both the reading from Nehemiah and the Gospel passage, we see the dynamic power of the word of God. Paul's teaching originated as oral proclamation, and like the texts read by Ezra the priest and the one interpreted by Jesus himself, it was first proclaimed aloud. Only later were these proclamations written and handed down from one community to another, from one generation to the next.

The word of God elicits various responses. In the first reading, the people cried out in response: 'Amen, amen! So be it! We hear and we will obey!' From the verses contained in today's gospel, we do not know how those who heard Jesus' interpretation reacted to it. We do know that both audiences listened intently to the sacred words of Scripture. Can we do less? Are we eager to obey? Do we view the law as a treasure, as life-giving? Have we learned to live with each other as members of one body, each member being important and contributing to the total health of the entire body?

Both Ezra and Jesus proclaimed the word of God within the context of a liturgical celebration, a setting similar to the ones wherein most people today hear God's word proclaimed. According to the teaching of Vatican II, the liturgy is described as the source and summit of our lives, and the liturgy of the word is an essential part of that celebration. With the people of Ezra, we are invited to respond: 'Amen, amen! Thanks be to God!'

Weekday Mass Times

Monday - No Mass
Tuesday - 9:00am Mass
Wednesday - 9:00am Mass
Thursday - 9:00am Communion Service
Friday - 9:00am Mass

Emergency Parish Contact

Mobile: 0420 800 194.

Please leave a clear message and a return call will be given.

Parish office opened: 4th - 29th January:
Tuesday and Wednesday Only - 9.30am - 5.30pm.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Parishioners the have requested receipts for the Vinnies Christmas Appeal may collect them from the Piety Store. Thank you for your support!

Lurnea Parish Care Group

First Activity for 2016 so come along and join us!

BINGO – with a Valentines theme

Friday 19th February - 10am

\$5 – covers the cost of all games and refreshments

All Welcome.

Celebrating Australia Day at the Cathedral

St Mary's Cathedral will celebrate Australia Day 2016 with a host of activities, including: Organ Recitals; Light Opera Recitals; Guided History Tours; Crypt Tours and a Harp Recital. Mass will be celebrated at 12 noon to pray for God's blessing on all Australians. Tours and Recitals are Free.

ALL WELCOME.

For more information please ring 9220 0400.

National Association of Catholic Families

The 'National Association of Catholic Families' will be hosting a Weekend Family Conference/Retreat April 8-10, 2016, at Merroo Christian Centre, Kurrajong, NSW.

Talks and activities for all ages - come and enjoy the excellent speakers and like minded company of other Catholic families. Includes (chaplain) Bishop Peter Comensoli, Fr Thomas McFadden, Dominican Srs - daily Mass, family catechesis and prayer, outdoor activities, plus evening social entertainment .

For copy of flyer or further information contact: nacf.sydney@hotmail.com or phone: Mary: 0298753664, or Karen: 0413539378 .

Registration & Bookings
www.trybooking.com/159690

2016 PIETY STORE OPERATING HOURS

**1st and 3rd Tuesday and Friday of each month
(Full Week) - 8:00am**

Saturday - 4:45pm

Sunday - from 7:30am to 11:00am

Closed for Sunday night Mass.

*If there is anything in particular you require,
please contact the Parish Office.*

***Prayer for the return to health of the
Archbishop of Sydney the
Most Rev Anthony Fisher OP***

Almighty and Eternal God, You are the source of everlasting health for all who believe in You.

We ask the aid of Your tender mercy and healing grace for Archbishop Anthony so that he may be fully restored to bodily health and further serve Your Church.

Through Christ our Lord, Amen

Men's Weekend

The menALIVE Men's Weekend is an opportunity for men to explore what makes them feel fully alive. The experience of the weekend is powerful and dynamic and many men are inspired and encouraged with a new sense of purpose and mission. The weekend is organised by men in your local community and conducted by an experienced team of menALIVE leaders.

It is suitable for all men from 18 years of age.

20 - 21 February 2016

St Joseph's Parish Moorebank
231 Newbridge Road

For more information contact:-

Stuart Brady - 0447 093 044 - stuart@sbind.com.au

John Ryan - 0408 209 672 -

jmryan68@bigpond.com

Registration forms are available in Church foyer.

Catholic Weekly issue of 24 January

- Future belongs to those with children, says cardinal
- Relic, historic Mass: a modern Canterbury tale
- From New York with love ... a charism of life
- Interview with Pope Francis: A reminder of the tender mercy of God
- Rosemary – the hidden Kennedy
- Archbishop's homily: An epiphany with each newborn child we see
- Facing up to Homo Sovieticus!: Church leaders at centre of Ukraine solidarity
- Bishop asks and answers: what do we mean by 'God'?
- A Church that lives and grows and is here for the long stretch
- What can we do about irregularities in the celebration of the Mass?
- Vista: what's on in your parish and diocese



May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

Recently Deceased

Marcel Baini

Deceased

Peter Lo Cascio
Salvina & Carmenu Galea
Maria & Carmenu Sammut

We pray for those who are sick, especially:

Fr Bill Davis	Baby Nguyen
Pat Lord	Kelvin Huitt
Margaret McKenna	Vincent Alvaro
Lauren Channon	Joyce Mifsud
Noah Rewa	Fr Stiven Ledinich
Joseph Fakhoury	Saulius David Balsys
Patricia Kearns	Romualdo Sansor
Dominic Mullen	Joey Alano
John Bell	Mavis Freeburn

Please note: Names will be removed after 2 months, unless office is notified.

Mass Rosters

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C - 23rd & 24th January 2016

	SATURDAY 5pm	8.00am	SUNDAY 9.30am	6.00pm
Reader Psalm	Christina Acitelli Domenic Acitelli	Arnel Isidoro	Aaron Alphonso Eugene Alphonso	Kristina Williams
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Agnelo Andrade Rosa Andrade Jean Brendish Mary Grace Francisco Garry Lejarde Volunteer Minister	Jane Colley Antoinette Moussallem Volunteer Minister Volunteer Minister	Alfia Busa Angie Clarkson Bev Strauss Lia Newhouse Melinda Melham Volunteer Minister	Tracie Richardson Greg Richardson Volunteer Minister Volunteer Minister
Altar Servers	Lucas Tran Aidan Andrade Christina Acitelli	Anthony Bui	Fridurik Nickel Ina Nickel Karl Nickel	Jordan Varghese Kirsten Bilog
Acolytes	Joe Mancini	Graeme Freeburn	John Nickel	Annette Flanagan
Altar Society	Souad Dagher & Marlein Abou Fram			
Counters	Brian & June Baker			
Children's Liturgy	No Children's Liturgy through School Holidays.			

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C - 30th & 31st January 2016

	SATURDAY 5pm	8am	SUNDAY 9.30am	6pm
Reader Psalm	Solange Fegatilli Shannon Pestana	Maureen Wright	Angie Clarkson Manulele Minute	Greg Richardson
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Domenic Acitelli Frances Acitelli Jacqueline Scully Donald Lobo Volunteer Minister Volunteer Minister	Carol Campanella Karen Misquitta Volunteer Minister Volunteer Minister	Rosa Zappia Rosetta Zaccagnini Neta Griffith Eugene Alphonso Yvonne Alphonso Volunteer Minister	Joe Andary Laura Andary Deborah Absalom Volunteer Minister
Altar Servers	Jonathon Giso Julian Giso Kiara Liu Darren Liu	Anthony Bui	Joshua Bui Stephanie Anderson Phillip Roncevic Alyssa Harris	Liam Flanagan
Acolytes	Graeme Freeburn	Martin Ryan	Martin Manche	Phil Coleman
Altar Society	Judith Paglia, Patsy Cham & Charlie Casha			
Counters	Doreen & Catherine Coleman			
Children's Liturgy	No Children's Liturgy through School Holidays.			

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Nehemiah

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people – since he stood higher than all the people – Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered Amen! Amen!; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah – His Excellency – and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, ‘This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep’. For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, ‘Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.’

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

RESPONSE: Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. **(R.)**
2. The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes. **(R.)**
3. The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just. **(R.)**
4. May the spoken words of my mouth,
the thoughts of my heart,
win favour in your sight, O Lord,
my rescuer, my rock! **(R.)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink. Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts. If the foot were to say, ‘I am not a hand and so I do not belong to the body’, would that mean that it stopped being part of the body? If the ear were to say, ‘I am not an eye, and so I do not belong to the body’, would that mean that it is not a part of the body? If your whole body was just one eye, how would you hear anything? If it was just one ear, how would you smell anything? Instead of that, God put all the separate parts into the body on purpose. If all the parts were the same, how could it be a body?

As it is, the parts are many but the body is one. The eye cannot say to the hand, ‘I do not need you,’ nor can the head say to the feet, ‘I do not need you.’

What is more, it is precisely the parts of the body that seem to be the weakest which are the indispensable ones; and it is the least honourable parts of the body that we clothe with the greatest care. So our more improper parts get decorated in a way that our more proper parts do not need. God has arranged the body so that more dignity is given to the parts which are without it, and so that there may not be disagreements inside the body, but that each part may be equally concerned for all the others. If one part is hurt, all parts are hurt with it. If one part is given special honour, all parts enjoy it.

Now you together are Christ’s body; but each of you is a different part of it. In the Church, God has given the first place to apostles, the second to prophets, the third to teachers; after them, miracles, and after them the gift of healing; helpers, good leaders, those with many languages. Are all of them apostles, or all of them prophets, or all of them teachers? Do they all have the gift of miracles, or all have the gift of healing? Do all speak strange languages, and all interpret them?

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him.

He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written: The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring the 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.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, ‘This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

The scripture quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, 1966, 1967 and 1968, Darton, Longman and Todd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and are used by permission of the publisher. The English translation of the Psalms Responses, Alleluia Verses, Gospel Verses and Lenten Gospel Acclamations from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL. All rights reserved.

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