



## **St Francis Xavier Parish**

6 Church Street (GPO Box 450) Goodna, Qld. 4300

**Office Hours: Monday - Wed 9.00am — 4.00pm**

**Friday 9.00am — 4.00pm Closed Thursdays**

Website: [stfrancisxaviergoodna.org.au](http://stfrancisxaviergoodna.org.au)

Ph: 3818 0111 Fax 3818 1420 Email: [goodna@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:goodna@bne.catholic.net.au)

**Parish Clergy: Fr Roger Burns PP.**

**Parish Secretary: Mrs Marie Hodges**

**(Local Safeguarding Children Representative: Marie Hodges)**

St Vincent De Paul: For Assistance Please call 1800 846 643 - Weekdays only .

Meetings: Fortnightly on Tuesday 7.00pm. Call 0427 663 118

**29th Sunday**  
**in**  
**Ordinary Time**

**22nd October**  
**2017**

Embracing the suburbs of Goodna, Bellbird Park, Camira, Carole Park, Collingwood Park, Ellen Grove. Gales, Kruger, Redbank, Redbank Plains, Wacol and beyond.

### **GOOD NEWS: The Sacred and the Secular**

This is the age of the Christian faithful, who are called to be bright witnesses to Christian values in a world where many are trying to make God redundant by separating the secular world from the sacred.

The opponents of Jesus knew that when politics and religion overlap, the mixture is potentially explosive and clever minds can exploit the tension. But Jesus used this occasion to reaffirm the absolute dominion of God in all areas of life.

In today's world this dominion of God is obscured by the concerted efforts to have the secular area of life stand on its own without any recognition of the sacred: it wants politics with no religious dimension; the state as an entity totally separate from God.

Secularism is a movement of thought, attitude and behavior which seeks to render God irrelevant to the way individuals or in society. It spawns a type of humanism which is not fully human since it disregards the restless thirsting of the soul for God.

It sets human life as the centre of the universe. It repeats the mistake of Adam, who was beguiled by the tempter's promise of moral autonomy and divine status: 'On the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' (*Gen 3:5*)

The recognition of God's place in life, that is the sense of the sacred, is under constant attack today. There is perhaps more danger from hidden propaganda than from open conflict. The secularistic culture which is beamed into our homes from television, magazines, newspapers and fiction will inevitably erode all sense of the sacred in allowed unchecked access.

What is as soft as a drop of water? Yet a constant flow of drops can wear away and crack open a hard rock if given time. In the average viewer's quota of TV over a year, how many deaths are seen with no reference to one's entry into eternity? How many acts of adultery, violence or theft are portrayed as if there were no moral implications? Immorality is bad enough: but what is more dangerous is amorality, or the attitude that moral principles are utterly irrelevant. There is no such word as sin in the vocabulary of secularism. Little wonder then if the sacredness of conceived life and the sanctuary of marriage vows are not appreciated. Nor is there any clear belief in life after death, or any understanding of the ultimate failure of suffering the loss of one's soul.

Secularism, when it totally disregards the sacred dimension of life is a crude and unsophisticated form of atheism.

The secular and sacred dimensions of life necessarily overlap because they are parts of one life. True religion cannot be confined to a sort of prayer that is separated from what goes on in the rest of life.

The Holy Spirit is leading the church to recognize that today's area of conflict is the secular world and that the troops in this area are the laity.

For centuries past the principal area of conflict was the field of doctrinal heresy. Since the Council of Trent the church has been well served by a strong clerical leadership and expertise on matters of doctrine. But the principal area of conflict has now shifted and this is the age when the church depends more on dedicated lay faithful.

The light that is needed for today's world must shine especially in those areas of life which belong to the laity. They are to uphold a Christian conscience in politics, preserve healthy moral standards

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**Family Mass** On the first Sunday in November, the 9.00am Mass will be celebrated in the School Hall and families of children attending St Francis Xavier School will be invited to take part. The last hymn of the Mass is one that the children know, but we have not used. Starting this week, we will practice the new hymn at all masses using a CD.

**New Ministers.** We are still looking to supplement the minister's roster for weekend Masses. Since our last training session, a couple of people have expressed an interest. If you are considering becoming a Minister of the Word or a Communion Minister, please let Father Roger or the Parish Office know. As soon as we have a reasonable number of people interested, a training session will be arranged.

**Youth Group** Next get together will be today Sunday 22nd October at 1.00pm in the Parish Centre.

**Baptism Preparation Sessions** are scheduled for the last Friday of the month. The session last one hour during which the expectations of the church on the parents are explained. The church now insists that for any reception of a Sacrament, there must be some form of preparation.

The process is quite simple. The parents complete a Baptismal Request form which is available from the sacristy. This is returned with a copy of the child's Birth Certificate, the baptismal certificates of the Parents and at least one of the godparents who is a Catholic. The parents then attend the preparation session. Parents must book a place on the Preparation Session and not just turn up on the night.

It is only after the attendance at the Preparation Session and the completion of the paper-work that a date for the Baptism can be arranged.

**November—Month of the Holy Souls** November 1st is All Saints Feast Day and 2nd November All Souls Feast Day. In order to celebrate the feast of All Souls there will be an evening **Mass at 6.30pm**. You are able to offer Mass intentions for your deceased relatives and friends. Envelopes are available at the door of the church. Place your contribution in the envelope and list the names on the back of the envelope. In the weeks following the masses for the people will be celebrated. Any masses which are left unsaid at the end of the year will be handed over to Fr Tuong.

**Fr Richard Leonard SJ *On Mission with Christ***. Christianity is not a private feel-good collective. We are sent out to live and proclaim our spirituality. What does the world look like to which we are sent? What question is the world posing to us and what responses do we have as we go out?

A lecture by Fr Richard on **Thursday 2nd November 6.30pm** for 7pm at Holy Spirit Church, Harriet Street, Auchinflower. Gold coin entry (for Jesuit Mission) followed by light supper. Richard is a Queenslander and a well-known author, speaker and Jesuit priest.

**Funeral of Andrew Belo Phonsavathdy** a Funeral Service will be held on Monday 23rd October beginning 11am at Centenary Memorial Gardens, Wacol. Andrew was a loyal member of the parish and one time Parish Pastoral Council member, regular at the 7.30 Sunday mass, he will be sadly missed.

**Women's Discernment Retreat** Vocations Brisbane is running a weekend retreat for young women who are keen to explore more about a vocation to religious life. All young women 18-40yrs old are welcome to come along and discover more about where God is calling them.

Date: Saturday 25th-26th November 2017. Time 9am Saturday—5pm Sunday

Venue Canossian Spirituality Centre, 169 Seventeen Mile Rocks Rd Oxley.

For more information or to RSVP contact Sr Melissa 0484 007 508

**Landscape of Prayer** A retreat opportunity for women of all ages.

Friday 8 Dec 6pm—Sunday 10 Dec 3pm Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Wellington Street, Ormiston.

Cost: \$350 (\$320 pensioners and full time students) To register or enquire: Contact Grace on 0409 524 283 or [grace@dragonflyministries.net.au](mailto:grace@dragonflyministries.net.au).

#### **I've learned ....**

That the Lord didn't do it all in one day. What makes me think I can?

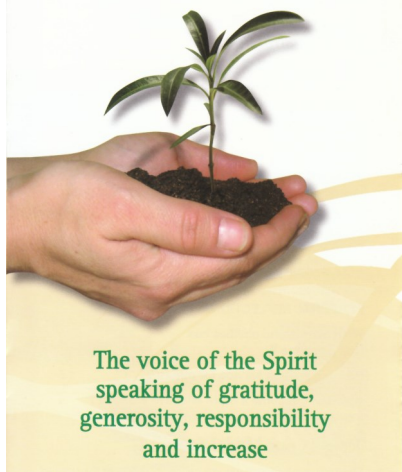
I've learned .... That to ignore the facts does not change the facts

I've learned .... That love, not time, heals all wounds

I've learned .... That everyone you meet deserves a smile

I've learned .... That life is tough, but I am tougher

## Spirituality for Life



***Each one of you has received a special grace, so, like good stewards response-able for all these varied graces of God, put it out at the service of others.” (1 Peter 4:10)***

### **October 15th 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*“Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.” - MATTHEW 22:21* Everything we are and everything we have belongs to God. We aren’t “owners” of anything, we are merely “stewards” of the gifts God has given each of us. All God is asking is that we give back a portion of what He gave us. This is the essence of Stewardship. God should be our first priority in everything. All else comes second. Accessed from <http://archstl.org/stewardship/page/bulletin-inserts> on 13th October, 2017)

### *The Sacred and the Secular (continued)*

in entertainment: and serve the truth in charity through the news media.

They are called to be images of God’s unchanging love by their fidelity in marriage. They show the sacredness of life by maintaining the sacred dignity of procreation. They use their talents by developing the world’s resources through science and technology. They are generous with their possessions, and wherever possible, seek to generate employment. They reflect the beauty of God by enriching the world through art and works of adornment.

The gospel image of salt, light and yeast apply in a particular way to the life of lay Christians in the midst of society. They are the salt which preserves what is good and adds the sharp taste of Christian challenge in society. They are the light which brings the teaching of Christian morality in the confused judgements of conscience. They are the leaven or yeast which gives the lift of hope to the depressing pessimism of the age.

‘Give back to God what belongs to God.’

We must answer God in every area of life ... for where can we go from his spirit or where can we flee from his face?

In all things we must give back to God the world that belongs to God.

Silverster O’Flynn O.F.M. Cap—the Good News of Matthew’s Year.

This reflection of Silvester O’Flynn was written some 28 years ago, but it describes what we are experiencing in the world today. The Second Vatican Council changed the vision of the Church from a hierarchical structure with the Pope at the top and the laity at the bottom, to the Church being ‘the people of God centered on Jesus Christ.’

By the sacrament of Baptism we are made sharers in the mission of the Church and called by Christ to fulfill that mission. Whenever we cast a vote for a political decision, what we decide should be directed by our Christian belief.

The present marriage debate, many say is ‘just about equality’. The Church has always stressed equality, but at the same time stressing that there are differences. As the Archbishop has repeatedly stated, not all love is the same, society dictates that people in certain circumstances are treated differently.

Our religious views based on the teaching of Jesus Christ, passed on by his disciples, results in a different view to those who belong to a secular society. Anarchy can easily stem from a feeling that “I deserve what ever I want, and no one can have a different view to mine”.

Thank God that he has made us unique and individual, but also that he has given us others to share our world with. If we are not concerned about the other person, then their rights may be abused by the demand of others for their rights.

The difficulty that we face as a church is in keeping the balance, respecting the views and choice of others and at the same time not watering down Christ’s teaching so as to lose sight of the sacredness of life that we have been entrusted with.

‘In all things we must give back to God the world that belongs to God.’

# PARISH NOTICES

## Dates for your Diary



(Vigil Sat 6.00pm Mass) Sun 7.30 & 9.00am Mass  
 Mon 23rd Oct. Divine Mercy Prayer Group 6.00pm  
 In English.  
 Wed 25th Oct. Rosary 6.30pm  
 Fri 27th Oct Baptism Prep 7.00 (Booking required)  
 Sun 29th Oct 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

## Collections For Last Week

First	☹ ↓	
Second	☹ ↓	
	☺ ↑	= Income up on last week.
	☹ ↓	= Income down
	☺ ☐	= Income steady.

**Welcome to our Community!** Have you moved into our parish lately? We would love to hear from you. Please give the Parish Office a call on 3818 0111. If you call at the information point after Mass, a member of the Parish Council will give you a welcome and information pack. We hope that you will enjoy your time in the parish and join in our activities.



**For the Sick and housebound.** If you know of anyone who is sick or housebound and would like a visit from a priest or to receive Holy Communion, please let the parish office know and a visit can be arranged.



### 22nd Oct 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 45:1, 4-6; 1 Thess 1:1-5; Mt 22:15-21

Psalm Response: I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

### 29th Oct 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ex 22:20-26; 1 Thess 1:5-10; Mt 22:34-40.



### Services times this week:

**Saturday** Vigil Mass 6.00pm  
**Sunday** 7.30am Mass  
 9.00am Mass

### Weekdays

Monday	No Mass
Tuesday	9.00am Mass
Wednesday	9.00am Mass
Thursday	9.00am Mass
Friday	9.00am Mass
Saturday	6.00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday	7.30am & 9.00am Mass

### **Cleaning: 27.10.17 Peter & Kyung**

If you would like to help out on this roster, please contact Pam Dodrill on 3288 4594. (Roster approximately once every eight weeks) The current Roster is available from the Sacristy. If you cannot honour your commitment please let Pam know.

**Help with Church cleaning is desperately needed please phone Pam for more information or to offer your help.**

### We Pray for the Sick:

Audrey Congreve, Colin Jackson, Sr Helen Stanley, Breda O'Sullivan, Rose Logan, Edna May Tourney, Keith Auld, Kathy McMonagle, Kevin Ward, Matthew Berwick, John Ward, Allan Peterson, Kathleen Doherty. Rachel Scriben, Stan Brown, Carmon Z, Nancy McCarrick, Kath McGrath, Maria Vink, Claire Curry, Phil O'Dwyer, William Ryan, Hudson McHardy, Hini Habchi, Jaiden Madasferi, Maureen Shackleton, Macey Ingram, Nada Payne, Carmel Vig, Sr Carmel, Marge & Tom Robin, Lillian Morrison, Hans & Ursula Rennett, Bill McCarthy, Valerie Chew, Robert Combes, Barbara Wakelin, Marianne Bergel, John Appleman. (Some names have been removed from this list, so please contact us if you need these names back on. If you know someone who can come off the sick list please contact us)

### Anniversaries: 21– 28 October

David Moloney, Lorraine Barker, Veronica Murphy, Gerard Laird, Antonia Pua, Margaret Steiner, David Laird.

**Recently Deceased:** Andrew Phonsavathdy.

### **LOOP SYSTEM**



The church Sound System at St Francis Xavier's is fitted with a Loop System. If you wear a hearing-aid set the control to the "T" setting to obtain a clear sound.

**A gift in your Will** can provide support for the many ministries of your Parish and ensure a legacy of faith for future generations. A gift in your will is a wonderful way to express your Catholic faith. After you have provided for your loved ones, please consider a lasting memory to your parish. Booklets available from Parish Office.

### Newsletters by Email.



If you would like this newsletter sent to you by email each week, simply send an email to good-na@bne.catholic.net.au title it 'newsletter' and the next week you should receive the email.