



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

Ph: 3818 0111 Fax 3818 1420 Email: goodna@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Clergy: Fr Roger Burns PP.

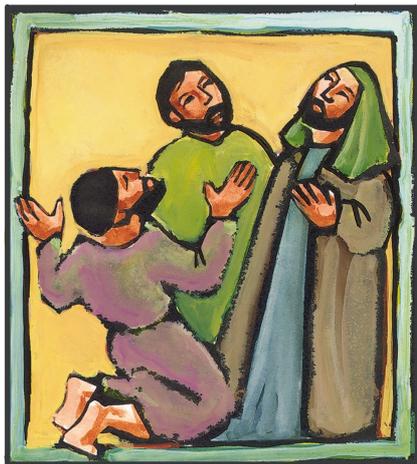
Parish Secretary: Mrs Marie Hodges

St Vincent De Paul: For Assistance Please call 3010 1096 - Weekdays only . Meetings:
Fortnightly on Tuesday 7.00pm. Call 0479 163 335

The Ascension of the Lord

**8th May
2016**

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



GOOD NEWS: Heads in the Air, Feet on the Ground

There is much to celebrate today: to make us lift our hearts in the air, raise our vision heavenwards and sing for joy.

Jesus Christ is glorified, made the ruler of everything and given all authority in heaven and on earth.

After his humiliating death on the cross was raised on high and given the name which is above all other names. All beings, on earth and in the underworld should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (*cf Phil 2:9-11*)

The ascension of Jesus Christ is a source of great hope to us in the words of the preface of the feast:

...he ascended, not to distance himself from our lowly state but that we, his members, might be confident of following where he, our Head and Founder, has gone before.

The Christian hope is expressed by Luke in Acts as Christ coming back to us again: 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.' (*Acts 1:11*)

While we are raised up in hope and hold our heads high in the air, yet we do not spend our days looking at the sky. The eye of the Christian disciple scans humanity's landscape. The feet of the disciple are firmly planted on the ground. Not standing still, but stepping forward on the mission of claiming the world for the authority of the risen Lord.

As we wait for the coming of the lord to take us to himself in glory, we must not be found in idleness. We are to work in his name to claim the world for justice, peace and joy. For these, according to Paul, are the qualities of the kingdom.

If religion were regarded only in marking time until one is called home to heaven, then it would be a dangerous opium: which is what Karl Marx rightly criticised.

But if love is the essential ingredient of religion, then it is no opium for idleness but a power-packed programme for action. And the source of this power is the divine energy or Emmanuel, God-with-us.

As long as we love one another God will live in us and his love will be complete in us. (*1 Jn 4:12*)

God's love is seen on earth in the countless Christian works of service.. Nursing, caring, providing, educating, peace-making and reconciling. A million hearts burn with his love, a million hands to perform his works with a million feet to travel with his message to the ends of the earth.

But there are people and places that can only be reached when one more apostle is added to the million.

And that apostle of Christ is you.

Brother/Sister in Christ, the Ascension Day hold your head high in the hope of heaven, but set your feet firmly on the road wherever the call of Christ directs you.

And remember, he will be with you,

Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap

Fr Paul Leaving: Some parishioners have asked why Fr Paul was appointed to another place, and will he be replaced?

The simple answer is that the Archbishop makes decisions with regards to the placement of priests, taking into account factors such as the needs of the parish and the financial health of the parish.

There is not a great body of priests that the Archbishop can call upon, the demands for some areas are more than can be met. The bottom line is that in Goodna, there is not sufficient work to justify two priests. Secondly the parish income is not sufficient to sustain two priests. Over a period of time, the Archdiocesan Sustainment Fund has helped us out. This means for the future, there will only be one priest serving here in St Francis Xavier's.

Please keep in your prayers Fr Paul as he begins his new venture. Pray for vocations to the priesthood, and if possible increase your financial contribution to the parish.

Farewell for Fr Paul will be held on Saturday 4th June at 1.00pm. The farewell will be a BBQ of which Fr Paul is really looking forward to. Any contributions towards a farewell gift please put in an envelope marked Fr Paul and put on the collection plate any weekend.

The condition of the Church found by cleaners is quite concerning.

It is not unusual for the cleaners on Friday morning finding used tissues, chewing gum and food particles lying around the pews. If you are wanting to keep your children amused during Mass, then feeding them biscuits may help you, but particles left behind are attractive to vermin. We often find evidence of rat and mice droppings in church and have to set traps. Please help us by not bringing food into the Church.

How would you like to find soiled tissues lying around your house after a visitor has left or chewing gum stuck to the bottom of your chairs? If you see someone doing anything which lowers the condition of the Church, please lovingly challenge them.

Ministers of the Word and Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist

We are in need of more ministers to assist us with either Reading at Mass or helping to distribute Holy Communion. For a reader it is essential that the person has not too strong an accent, and that they can be clearly heard. For this ministry there would be the need for a trial reading. For a Minister assisting with communion, what is required is someone who is steady on their feet, able to negotiate the steps up to the altar and someone with a devotion to the Blessed Sacrament.

In both cases, training will be made available. A yearly afternoon of reflection is a must for all ministers. Because you are working within the Eucharist, we would require you to complete a set of forms and you should obtain a Blue Card, the parish office can help you with these. If you are interested, contact Fr Roger.

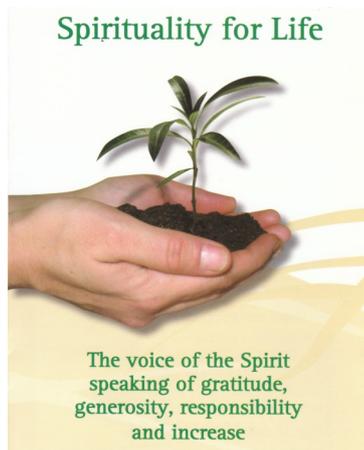
Rosary Group will be holding a Novena on Wednesday evenings during the month of May to honour Mary. Start time will be the usual 6-30pm start.

National Mass Attendance Count. Beginning at the Vigil Mass on Saturday 30th April, we will be counting the number of people attending each Mass in the month of May. This information is required for the Catholic Church of Australia. It usually coincides with the National Survey which will soon be undertaken.

Parish Youth Group Last Sunday at the meeting of parents involved in the Sacramental Programme, I made a suggestion that we could start a Parish Youth Group. The group would be able to meet after the Sacramental session at 11.30am on Sundays. One parent has declared an interest in forming a group. We would welcome anyone who has had experience in running a Parish Youth Group or any parent interested in helping. As with all volunteers, there are forms which have to be completed and regulation laid down by the Archdiocese. **If YOU can help please contact Fr Roger.**

Marian Valley Canungra All are invited to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia, at Marian Valley, Canungra on Saturday 21st May 2016 commencing 10am with Exposition, Rosary, Confession, Holy Mass (lunch avail). Eucharistic Procession and Divine Mercy Chaplet—Mass Celebrant: Most Rev Robert McGuckin, Bishop of Toowoomba. For those not wishing to drive a bus will leave from St Francis Xavier Goodna at 8.00am. Fare \$20—bookings and info Ann 3282 0321 or Pam 3288 4594

Congratulations to Frank & Phemie Keppel—68th marriage anniversary.



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

STEWARDS OF THE CHURCH: SOLIDARITY AND STEWARDSHIP

The most basic and pervasive obstacle is sheer selfish lack of love, a lack which people must acknowledge and seek to correct when they find it in their own hearts and lives. For the absence of charity from the lives of disciples of Jesus in itself is self-defeating and hypocritical. . . Extreme disparities in wealth and power also block unity and communion. Such disparities exist today between person and person, social class and social class, nation and nation. They are contrary to that virtue of solidarity grounded in charity . . .

Stewardship – A Disciple’s Response. A Pastoral Letter on Stewardship.

For if a man with gold rings on his fingers and fine clothes comes into your assembly, and a poor person in shabby clothes also comes in and you pay your attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say ‘sit here please’ while you say to the poor one ‘stand there’ or ‘sit at my feet’ have you not made distinctions among yourselves . . . ? James 2:2-3

Like many people, I’ve reacted negatively to the various statements by the Pope and Bishops and even my pastor and parish leadership against capital punishment, or nuclear weapons, or other matters. Why don’t they just mind their own business!? But then I think about all those times in the Gospels that Jesus said things that the crowds didn’t like. And of course I realize that the Pope and Bishops aren’t minding their own business because the Gospels tell them – and us – to speak out in solidarity with all humanity, especially the poor and powerless and persecuted. And while I still don’t agree with all they have to say, I know they spend their whole careers focusing on what Jesus says. So I do pay more attention and consider more carefully what they are saying, reminding us that we are all brothers and sisters, all of us children of God.

Question:

What can you do to make your community (neighborhood, parish, work or school) feel a sense of unity – a sense that those who are part of your community are more alike than unlike?

My real discovery of the gift of life is accepting the gift that anonymous people offer to me without condition and no strings attached. . . . Every three weeks or so, I go to Providence Hospital for a transfusion of blood . . . I go into a room, and a nurse brings me a gift of blood. It is an anonymous gift that comes from an African-American, a Native American, an Asian, Hispanic, an Anglo – an anonymous person who gives me a gift with no string attached, no conditions. It is the gift of life that sustains my life and I am grateful.

Archbishop Thomas Murphy.

PARISH NOTICES

Dates for your Diary



Sun 8th May The Ascension of the Lord.
 Sacramental Preparation 10.15am
 Mon 9th May Divine Mercy Prayer Group
 In English 6.00pm
 Wed 11th May Rosary Group 6.30pm
 Sun 15th May Pentecost Sunday.

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.

8th May The Ascension of the Lord.

Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1:17-23; Lk 24:46-53

Psalm: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

15th May . Pentecost Sunday

Gen 11:1-9; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39



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 Vigil 6.00pm
 Sunday 7.30am & 9.00am

Reconciliation Sat 5.00 – 5.30pm

Cleaning: 13th May Sandra Doricott

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.

We Pray for the Sick:

Audrey Congreve, Colin Jackson, Sr Helen Stanley, Breda O'Sullivan, Ellen Parker, 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, John Doherty, William Ryan, Hudson McHardy, Hini Habchi, Jamie Teal, Jaiden Madasferi, Maureen Shackleton, Macey Ingham, Nada Payne, Carmel Vig, Rebecca Habraken, Sr Carmel, Wendy Marshall, Eileen Monaghan, Betty Douglas. (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: 8–13 May

Alfonso Deniega, Boel Blom, Ralph Burke, Lillian Quickfall, Emma Crocker, Terrence Gallagher, Annie Atwood, Martin Coogan, Steven Wood, William Meredith, Alma Rose, Zofia Rojek, John Kalksma, Tim Shrum, Frankie La Rocca, Alfonsas Navickas, Denis Marrinan.

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.