

St Francis Xavier Church

Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C - 14th July 2019

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Parish Clergy:

Fr Francis McGachey

Deacon Jim Aitken

Mass Times



Monday—Friday	10.00 am
Monday—Thursday	1.00 pm
Saturday	10.00 am 5.00 pm
Sunday	9.00 am 11.00 am

Confessions

Monday to Thursday	1.45—2.00 pm
Saturday	4.15 - 4.45 pm



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament In the Glass Chapel

Monday to Friday	10.30 am to 6.00 pm
Friday	10.30 am to 4.00 pm
Saturday	10.30 am to 4.30 pm
Sunday	12 noon to 4.30 pm

The Xavier Centre

For enquires contact 07581 239872 or email:
xaviercentre@gmail.com

Parish Collection

Thank you for your contributions to last week's collection which totalled 1545.00

Feasts This Week

Tuesday 16th Our Lady of Mount Carmel

This is the title given to the Blessed Virgin Mary in her role as patroness of the Carmelite Order. The first Carmelites were Christian hermits living on Mount Carmel in the Holy Land during the late 12th and early to mid-13th century.

Saturday 20th St Apollinaris

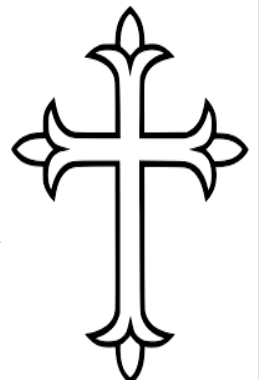
According to tradition, he was a native of Antioch in Roman Province of Syria. He was the first Bishop of Ravenna, appointed it is said by St Peter himself, though this is not certain. He faced nearly constant persecution and he and his flock were exiled from Ravenna during the persecutions of Emperor Vespasian. He was later tortured and martyred.

THIS WEEK WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Those who are sick – Please remember all those in our parish and community who are ill or in hospital.

Those who have recently died – Charles Ferrie, Sandy Stewart, Sharon Anne Baxter, Mary Currie, Ellen Skeffington, Graham Fraser, James Jameson, Michael Thomas, Colin Stewart, Ian McWilliams, Josephine Goldie, Mary Buggy, Charlie Moggridge, Michael Keneley, Mary Cowie, Frank Fullerton, Madge Robertson, Catherine Carney, Veronica Gallacher, Brian McCarthy, Morag Murphy, Susan Callaghan, Bell Gaughan and Cathy, Michael Bolger, Richard Stark, Gerard Murphy, Hugh McKenna, Rose Doolan.

The months minds and anniversaries of those we wish to especially remember – James Cullen, Anne, Mark and Gerald Heffernan, Cathie and John Dolan, Angela Heffernan, Patrick Heffernan, Eddie McMahon, Emily and Jim Mackay, Katrina and Karreen Stuart, James, Mary and Hugh Cullen, Jim Robb, Joe Fletcher, Bridget Donnelly, Charles, Kate and Charles Cullen Jnr., the Cassidy family, Margaret Hillis, Kevin and Martin McGuigan, Liam Canavan.

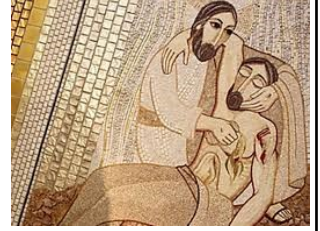


THE GOSPEL THIS WEEK

This week we read the well-known parable of the Good Samaritan. It may seem to be a straightforward story of charity but to the Jewish listener of the time the story is full of challenges and difficulties.

The victim The robbers strip their victim and leave him half dead. Now, no one can identify the victim's ethnicity by his garments or his accent, two very common ways of identifying a stranger those days. Helping him carries a risk.

The Priest The priest, riding a donkey in accord with his elite status, notices the victim and ponders. If the victim is dead or is a non-Judean, the priest would be defiled by touching him and have to return to Jerusalem for purification. Those who just saw him gloriously fulfilling his priestly role would now see him returning in shame for purification. The risk is too great.



The Levite The Levite may have come even closer to examine the victim. Even though the road is not straight, the Levite very likely saw the priest's response to the victim from afar. If the priest did not give first aid, why should the Levite? That would be a challenge to the priest, an insult. The Levite, too, passes on.

The Samaritan He offers the first aid (wine, oil, and bandages), which the Levite could have done but neglected to do. The Samaritan's risk is that this victim might hate him upon re-gaining consciousness. Samaritan wine and oil were considered impure and would have made the (very likely) Judean victim impure too! Finally, the Samaritan, in contrast to the robbers, promises to return and pay any additional expenses. If the victim should die, his family, who will not be able to find the robbers, may kill his benefactor instead. Or if the victim survives, he may rage at this Samaritan for making him impure with Samaritan wine and oil. In a certain sense, the Samaritan in this story will be "damned if he does, and damned if he doesn't."

The lawyer The point of the parable is not lost on the lawyer. Now Jesus thrusts the final shaming question: "Which of the three *became a neighbour* to the victim?" The astute lawyer immediately recognises this new, impending shame. The lawyer's question was: "Who is my neighbour?" Jesus' question is: "To whom must you become a neighbour?" The lawyer realizes that one must become a neighbour to anyone and everyone in need. One must reach out with compassion to all people, even to one's enemies.

I WANT TO BE A TV

A primary school teacher asked her pupils to write an essay on **A wish you want from God**. At the end of the day, the teacher collected all the essays given by her pupils. She took them to her house, sat down and started marking while watching the TV.

Whilst marking the essays, she sees a strange essay written by one of her pupils. That essay made her very emotional. Her husband came and sat beside her and saw her crying. The husband asked her, "What happened?" "What's making you cry?" She answered "Read this. It is one of my pupil's essay."

"Oh God, Make me a Television. I want to live like the TV in my house.

In my house, the TV is very valuable. All of my family members sit around it. They are very interested in it. When the TV is talking, my parents listen to it very happily.

They don't shout at the TV. They don't quarrel with the TV. They don't get angry with the TV. So I want to become a TV.

The TV is the centre of attraction in my house. I want to receive the same special care that the TV receives from my parents. Even when it is not working, the TV has a lot of value.

When my dad and mom come home, they immediately sit in front of the TV, switch it on and spend hours watching it. The TV is stealing the time of my dad and my mum. If I become a TV, then they will spend their time with me.

While watching the TV, my parents laugh a lot and they smile many times. But I want my parents to laugh and smile with me also. So please God make me a TV.

And last but not the least, if I become a TV, surely I can make my parents happy and entertain them. Lord I won't ask you for anything more. I just want to live like a TV. Please turn me into a TV.

The husband completed reading the essay. He said "My God, poor kid. He feels lonely. He did not receive enough love and care from his parents. His parents are horrible."

The eyes of the teacher filled with tears. She looked at her husband and said, "Our son wrote this essay."

