



**ST FRANCIS XAVIER & ST CLARE
CATHOLIC PARISH OF
GREATER BOX HILL**

Entrance

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

Mystery of Faith

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

Communion

When the Lord appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

11 October 2026

First Reading Is 25:6-10

The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.

On this mountain,
the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people
a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine
wines,
of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.
On this mountain he will remove
the mourning veil covering all peoples,
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,
he will destroy Death for ever.
The Lord will wipe away
the tears from every cheek;
he will take away his people's shame
everywhere on earth,
for the Lord has said so.
That day, it will be said: See, this is our God
in whom we hoped for salvation;
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.
We exult and we rejoice
that he has saved us;
for the hand of the Lord
rests on this mountain.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 22. R. v.6

*(R.) I shall live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life.*

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. *(R.)*
2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your
staff;
with these you give me comfort. *(R.)*

3. You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. *(R.)*
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall
follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. *(R.)*

Second Reading Phil 4:12-14.19-20

I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.

I know how to be poor and I know how to
be rich too. I have been through my initiation
and now I am ready for anything anywhere:
full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or
plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with
the help of the One who gives me strength.
All the same, it was good of you to share
with me in my hardships. In return my God
will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as
lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our
Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation See Eph 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!

**May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart
that we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.**

Alleluia!



Gospel Mt 22:1-14

Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out onto the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

Reflection by Greg Sunter

Who you ate with in Jesus' time was very important – it reflected your own status. To share table with people who were regarded as 'lesser' by nature of their lifestyle or illness was seen to lessen the status of other participants. Sharing table was as much a political action as it was a social one. This week's gospel is an important one for understanding Jesus' message of an inclusive kingdom. The king invites all the 'right' people to attend his son's wedding banquet but they shame him by refusing his invitation and murdering his messengers. This would have been an extraordinary action in Jesus' time. An invitation to the table of your social superior would not be rejected lightly. To try to save face and regain some honour, the king sends his servants to bring in people off the street – the poorest and least socially acceptable people. The invitation to the people off the street, 'bad and good alike', is a reflection of Jesus' own attitude to sharing table. Jesus ate with those who were regarded as unworthy: tax collectors, prostitutes and sinners. It was one of the harshest criticisms of Jesus made by the Pharisees and Scribes: 'He eats with tax collectors and sinners!' One of Jesus' strongest messages was about the inclusive nature of the kingdom and he lived it day to day. His inclusive table fellowship was a powerful statement about the fact that the kingdom is an invitation to all – rich and poor alike, regardless of status in this world. This parable highlights the invitation to join in the kingdom of God that has been rejected by the Jewish leaders but taken up by the 'lesser' people of society. The wedding banquet is a metaphor for the kingdom of God.

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St Francis Xavier Church

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St Clare Church

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Box Hill North 3129

Telephone **9401 6371**

Email: boxhill@cam.org.au

Website:

<http://www.melbocatholic.org/s/boxhill>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/GBHparish>

Parish Priest: Fr Phuong Vu

Assistant Priest: Fr Ignatius Tan

Pastoral Associate: Gemma Alsawalha

St. Francis Xavier Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9.30am - 4.00pm

Parish Secretary: Katrina Pirrie

Parish Admin Officer: Alicia Cleary

MASS TIMES:**St Clare****Weekend Mass Times**

Sunday: 9.00 am

Italian 11.00 am

Vietnamese Mass 5.00 pm

Weekday Mass Times

Wednesday: 9.00 am

Thursday: 7.00 pm

Saturday: 9.00 am

Reconciliation: Saturday: 9.30 - 10 am

St Francis Xavier**Weekend Mass Times**

Saturday: Vigil 5.30 pm

Sunday: 7.30 am

10.15am

5.30pm

Weekday Mass times

Monday—Friday: 12 noon

Reconciliation: Saturday 4.00 -5.00 pm

Marriages: By appointment

Baptisms:

SFX - 1st & 3rd Sundays only at 11.30am

St Clare - during 9.00am Mass

Preparation Session - 1st Wednesday of the month at 7 pm in Parish House

Presentation Mass - 2nd Sunday of each month at 10.15am Mass at SFX.

Please ring Parish Office to arrange.

ST FRANCIS XAVIER PRIMARY SCHOOL

Phone: 9890 1108

www.sfxboxhill.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mary Jones

Our Parish community of Greater Box Hill is committed to the Victorian Child Safety Standards and acknowledges that Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

The Parish of Greater Box Hill acknowledges that we are on the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Country in the City of Whitehorse, home of the traditional custodians of the land. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Develop sustained self-reliant futures in overseas communities!

Join Palms International Volunteering for a special session where you'll learn about our [diverse assignments](#) suited to your qualifications and time of life. Meet past volunteers Wendy and Mick who will share their adventures of life and laughter in PNG and Timor Leste, leaving a lasting positive impact on communities. Scan below to register or see palms.org.au/events

Date: Monday 19 October 2026

Time: 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm AEDT

02 9560 5333

palms@palms.org.au

**CAN YOU HELP PEOPLE WHO HAVE SUFFERED CHURCH-RELATED ABUSE?**

For fourteen years, the Lifeboat Geelong Foundation has been assisting victims of church-related sexual abuse from all over Australia. In recent years, generous supporters have donated a number of motor vehicles of varied value (from \$500 to \$20,000!), including cars from deceased estates or which are no longer required. Some have been directly gifted to a victim/survivor in need, while others have been sold to generate funds required to assist victims in a multitude of ways e.g. counselling, rent, utilities and other domestic and personal necessities.

You could help this important work both simply by bringing it to the attention of people who might consider donating a **motor vehicle, if possible in roadworthy or near-roadworthy condition** and which for whatever reason is no longer required.

Please contact: Fr Kevin Dillon Mob: 0421 777 360

Email: frkdillon@outlook.com.au or

Damian Coyne Mob: 0400 170 374

Email: dkcoyne@hotmail.com

TO CONTRIBUTE FINANCIALLY TO**ST FRANCIS XAVIER-ST CLARE PARISH**

(Catholic Development Fund is the legally registered name)

Church: Name: Parish of Box Hill Church Account

BSB: 083-347 Acct No: 662202656

Presbytery: Name: Parish of Box Hill Presbytery Account

BSB: 083-347 Acct No: 837114640

**VOLUNTEER SIGN UP ROSTER****OCTOBER 2026**

PLEASE USE THE LINKS BELOW TO SIGN UP FOR OUR MINISTRY ROSTER.

LINKS ALSO FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE.

volunteersignup.org/J3QPM

YOUR ASSISTANCE IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

THANK YOU

SOUTHERN STARS SOCIAL CLUB OVER**28'S PARTY NIGHT FOR SINGLE****CATHOLICS (28-60yrs)**

SATURDAY 24 OCTOBER

7.30PM

ST BENEDICT'S PARISH HALL

Central Ave Burwood

COST: Members \$7, Non members \$13
includes lucky door prizes and supper
Enquiries: Peter Ph: 9885 2167

WALKING ROSARY PRAYER

FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER

Please join Fr Phuong and Fr Ignatius for walking rosary as part of the Whitehorse Churches Care Interfaith Network Day

Depart: SFX at 10am

Walk down to the Box Hill Hospital and return via Thames St

All welcome

**Synod 2026**

For further information please visit:
[Melbourne Synod 2026 | Melbourne Catholic](#)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Alice Mackay, Dr Denis Rebic, Pat Cleary, Darren Ford, Tina D'Andrea

ANNIVERSARY: Francie McNamara, Ronald Herbert

RECENTLY DECEASED:

*Please submit any items for the newsletter, including sick, recently deceased and anniversaries, by **Thursday morning** latest. Names on the sick list will remain only for four weeks. Thank you.*



WHAT'S ON IN OUR PARISH

SUNDAY 11 OCTOBER	TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A 11.30AM BAPTISM AT SFX
MONDAY 12 OCTOBER	12.30PM CHARISMATIC PRAYERS GROUP AT ST CLARE NARTHEX — PRAYER MINISTRY AVAILABLE 1.30PM WEDDING AT SFX 6.45PM CHOIR REHEARSAL AT ST CLARE
TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER	9.15AM LITTLE FRANNIE'S PLAYGROUP – SFX PRIMARY SCHOOL STAFFROOM
WEDNESDAY 14 OCTOBER	8.00PM MOTHERS AND FATHERS PRAYER GROUP AT SFX
THURSDAY 15 OCTOBER	7.00PM RCIA IN THE FRIARS ROOM
FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER	10.00AM WALKING ROSARY PRAYER SFX – BOX HILL HOSPITAL 7.00 CONTEMPLATION OF THE GOSPEL WITH FR PHUONG AT ST CLARE
SATURDAY 17 OCTOBER	
SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER	TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

UPCOMING EVENTS:



ALL SOULS' DAY REMEMBRANCE MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED AT ST CLARE ON

THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER AT 7PM

ALL SAINTS DAY WILL BE CELEBRATED ON **SUNDAY 1 NOVEMBER** AT ALL MASSES

AND THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED ON MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER AT MIDDAY MASS

NOVEMBER MASS ENVELOPES & REMEMBRANCE BOOK

During November, we offer parishioners the opportunity to have Mass offered for their deceased relatives and friends.

Envelopes will be available at each church from next weekend. Envelopes can be placed in the collection baskets or submitted to the Parish Office. Canon Law suggests a donation of \$10

The Remembrance Book will be placed at the front of the Churches and families are encouraged to list loved ones. Masses will be offered daily for those listed.

As you plan for the future, we invite you to consider making a lasting gift to SFX-St Clare Parish through your will. Your bequest will help support the mission and ministries of our parish, ensuring that future generations experience the love, faith, and community we cherish today.

INFORMATION FOR ALL OUR PARISH GROUPS MAY BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE

<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/boxhill> (click on Parish Groups)

****Please check the church notice boards for further updates****

PHOTOS

Please be advised that photographs may be taken during Social Events and/or Masses at Greater Box Hill Parish. Please advise if you not want your photo to appear in the Parish Bulletin or any other form used by the Greater Box Hill Parish. *Thank you*



PARISH *Christmas* LUNCH

DECEMBER

6

11:30 AM

St Clare Hall

Cost: \$27 per adult, \$20 per child

MEAT & VEGETABLES | SALAD | DESSERTS | SOFT DRINK

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Contact the Parish Office by Monday 23 November

Phone: 9401 6371

Email: boxhill@cam.org.au

No payments on the day or refunds



PAYMENT OPTIONS:

CREDIT CARD VIA WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.MELBCATHOLIC.ORG/S/BOXHILL](https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/boxhill)

CLICK ON "DONATE"

BANK DEPOSIT: BSB. 083 347 ACC. 662202656. INCLUDE NAME IN REFERENCE

COME ALONG AND ENJOY THE FESTIVITIES