



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

Entrance

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

Acclamation

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

Communion

The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

4 October 2026

First Reading Is 5:1-7

The vineyard of the Lord God of hosts is the House of Israel.

Let me sing to my friend
the song of his love for his vineyard.
My friend had a vineyard
on a fertile hillside.
He dug the soil, cleared it of stones,
and planted choice vines in it.
In the middle he built a tower,
he dug a press there too.
He expected it to yield grapes,
but sour grapes were all that it gave.
And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and men of Judah,
I ask you to judge
between my vineyard and me.
What could I have done for my vineyard
that I have not done?
I expected it to yield grapes.
Why did it yield sour grapes instead?
Very well, I will tell you
what I am going to do to my vineyard:
I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on,
and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on.
I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug;
overgrown by the briar and the thorn.
I will command the clouds
to rain no rain on it.
Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the House of Israel,
and the men of Judah
that chosen plant.
He expected justice, but found bloodshed,
integrity, but only a cry of distress.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 79:9. 12-16.19-20. R. Is 5:7

**(R.) The vineyard of the Lord is the
House of Israel.**

1. You brought a vine out of Egypt;
to plant it you drove out the nations.
It stretched out its branches to the sea,
to the Great River it stretched out its shoots.
(R.)

2. Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field. (R.)
3. God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. (R.)
4. And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name.
God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be
saved. (R.)

Second Reading Phil 4:6-9

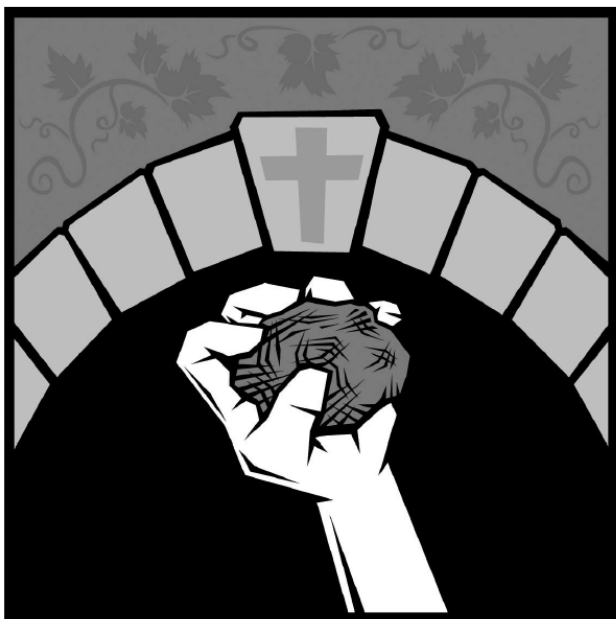
Do these things and the God of peace will be with you.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

Gospel Acclamation See Jn 15:15

Alleluia, alleluia!

***I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!***



Gospel Mt 21:33-43

He leased his vineyard to other farmers.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders
that became the keystone.
This was the Lord's doing
and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

Reflection by Greg Sunter

This week's gospel must be read in conjunction with the first reading (Isaiah 5:1-7) and the responsorial psalm, because the message of these passages is implicit in the parable told by Jesus. As soon as Jesus began to describe the vineyard – fenced around, a winepress dug and tower built – his audience would have immediately known that he was reflecting the Isaiah description of Israel as the vineyard of the Lord. Isaiah's condemnation of Israel in that passage is so strong that one can almost imagine Jesus' audience cringing in anticipation of where this story was leading.

The imagery Jesus used would have been so familiar to his audience that it was almost mundane, and yet Jesus, as usual, gives the image a twist. He describes a vineyard owner whose tenant farmers rebel, beat and murder his servants. Any one of these acts was punishable by death and the audience may well have expected the story to end there. And yet the landowner sends further messengers – hopeful of a change of heart from the tenants and allowing them the opportunity to do what is right. After these messengers are also murdered, the landowner sends his own son to collect the harvest from the tenants.

Jesus, of course, is drawing on the familiar image of Israel as the vineyard of the Lord. God, the landowner, has entrusted this beautifully prepared land to the people of Israel and yet they have taken ownership for themselves and forgotten their Lord. Messengers, in the form of prophets, have been sent to call the people back to God but they were ignored and even murdered. Now, the Son has been sent to the people and received much the same response. When Jesus asks his audience of chief priests and elders what the landowner should do, they are acutely aware that he is asking them how God should deal with them.

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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.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS IN AUSTRALIA



Daylight Saving commences this weekend. Move your clock forward an hour on Saturday night!

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



SFX-ST CLARE PARISH TENNIS CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY 8 OCTOBER, 7PM

ST CLARE HALL

(carpark entrance off Killara St, Nth Box Hill)

ALL WELCOME

Come and share your faith in

"Word of Life"

We welcome all of you to join us on Tuesday evenings to read the scriptures and share your faith and your relationship with God.

Mr Ian Hamilton from the Focolare Community will be hosting in their community house on the

4th Tuesday of the month

Our next meeting is on

27th October 7:30pm

at

7 Mersey Street, Box Hill North

All welcome



PARISH LADIES DRINKS IN THE FRIARS ROOM

GOLD COIN DONATION

EVERY 2ND FRIDAY OF THE MONTH 5.00PM



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: Mabel Lau, Beatrice Patrick, Giuseppe Gioia, Rosario S Payumo

RECENTLY DECEASED: Elizabeth May Coombes, Silvana Ursini

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 04 OCTOBER	TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A DAYLIGHT SAVINGS COMMENCES <i>SVDP BOX HILL CONFERENCE MONTHLY COLLECTION AT BOTH CHURCHES</i> 11.45AM SVDP BOX HILL CONFERENCE MEETING IN THE FRIARS ROOM
MONDAY 05 OCTOBER	12.30PM CHARISMATIC PRAYERS GROUP AT ST CLARE NARTHEX – PRAYER MINISTRY AVAILABLE 6.45PM CHOIR REHEARSAL AT ST CLARE
TUESDAY 06 OCTOBER	9.15AM LITTLE FRANNIE'S PLAYGROUP – SFX PRIMARY SCHOOL STAFFROOM
WEDNESDAY 07 OCTOBER	9.30AM FUNERAL AT SFX – SILVANA URSINI RIP 7.00PM BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION IN THE PARISH HOUSE MEETING ROOM 8.00PM MOTHERS AND FATHERS PRAYER GROUP AT SFX
THURSDAY 08 OCTOBER	7.00PM PARISH TENNIS CLUB AGM AT ST CLARE HALL 7.00PM RCIA IN THE FRIARS ROOM
FRIDAY 09 OCTOBER	5.00PM PARISH LADIES DRINKS IN THE FRIARS ROOM
SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER	
SUNDAY 11 OCTOBER	TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A 11.30AM BAPTISM AT SFX

UPCOMING EVENTS:

THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER 7.00PM ALL SOULS' DAY REMEMBRANCE MASS AT ST CLARE

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*