



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

Entrance

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

Acclamation

Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

Communion

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

6 September 2026

First Reading Ez 33:7-9

If you have not warned the wicked man, then I will hold you responsible for his death.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 94:1-2.6-9. R. v.8

*(R.) O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.*

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)

3. O that today you would listen to his voice!

'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.' (R.)

Second Reading Rom 13:8-10

Love is the fulfilment of the Law.

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

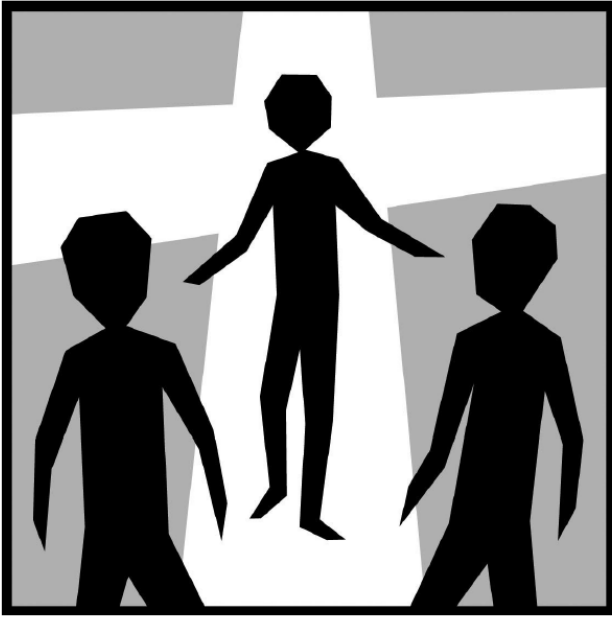
Gospel Acclamation 2 Cor 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;

and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

Alleluia!



Gospel Mt 18:15-20

If your brother or sister listens to you, you will have won that person back.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

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Reflection by Greg Sunter

This week's gospel provides us with a lesson that could be well heeded in our contemporary world. Matthew relates a discourse on dealing with a grievance or sin between two 'brothers' – community members; fellow disciples. Matthew advises his audience that the first step is to try to resolve the matter privately between the offender and the one offended. This is a practice that seems to have almost disappeared today. When one person feels offended or hurt by another, it seems the last thing they do is to go and speak to the person, confront them with the hurt and try to resolve it. Soap operas and TV sitcoms promote avoidance of issues. The sub-text of so many TV shows is about lying to cover up a mistake; seeking revenge for some perceived (usually incorrect) insult; or working through others to try to deal with some hurt. If characters on these TV shows were to confront one another with a perceived hurt and seek to resolve the difference between them, then there would be no 'drama' to play out in the show. Admittedly, it doesn't make for great television, but it does make for much better relationships!

Matthew advises his community that only after a failed attempt to address an issue face to face should other members of the community become involved to further confront the offender through witnessing to their fault. The third step is to bring the person before the church community to be confronted with their actions and only after these three attempts to challenge the person fail should they be shunned. There is a very strong message of reconciliation that comes through this process. The person is given every chance to face their error and to seek amends with the one they have hurt. The whole process works towards bringing the community back together in harmony, not to seek revenge and punishment.

St Francis Xavier Church

1087 Whitehorse Road
Box Hill 3128

St Clare Church

138 Woodhouse Grove
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.

Nepal Floods Appeal

Stand with communities affected by devastating flash floods.

Your donation can help provide emergency shelter, food, safe drinking water, healthcare and protection support.

Donate now

caritas.org.au/nepal | 1800 024 413



EMERGENCY ACTION ALLIANCE Caritas AUSTRALIA

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
22nd September 7:30pm
at
7 Mersey Street, Box Hill North

All welcome

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Heavenly Father,
you entrusted your Son Jesus,
the child of Mary,
to the care of Joseph, an earthly father.
Bless all fathers
as they care for their families.
Give them strength and wisdom,
tenderness and patience;
support them in the work they have to do,
protecting those who look to them,
as we look to you for love and salvation,
through Jesus Christ our rock and
defender.
Amen

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

SEPTEMBER 2026

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

LINKS ALSO FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE.

<https://volunteersignup.org/M8J88>

YOUR ASSISTANCE IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

THANK YOU



iSTAND Camp: An opportunity for Year 8-12 students (Ages 14-18)

You are invited to Youth Mission Team's iSTAND Camp, STEADFAST; a two-day retreat for high school students. This is a great opportunity for young people to dive deeper into their faith, meet new friends and take some time out during the school holidays.

You can expect:

Games, team-building and fun, inspiring talks and testimonies, particularly reflecting on the Letter of St Paul to the Philippians,
Time for prayer and reflection,
Live music and great food.

Contact us with the information below or take a flyer from the church foyer or Scan QR Code.

DATE: Wednesday 23rd & Thursday 24th September (10.30am-8.30pm each day)

LOCATION: St Timothy's Parish Hall
17 Stevens Rd, Forest Hill Vic 3133

CONTACT: Anthony Bolling, YMT Manager –
0419 103 511 or melbourne@ymt.com.au



Synod 2026

For further information please visit:

Melbourne Synod 2026 | Melbourne Catholic

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Alice Mackay, Neville Large, Luke Chong, Robert Boyce

ANNIVERSARY: Antonio Paterra, Biagio and Carmela Mazza, Albert Giuliani, Maria Ratnawati P. Widjaja, Premalal Jayasuriya, Rosemary & Christobel Jayasuriya, Asoka & Srimathie Ratnayake

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 6 SEPTEMBER	TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A FATHER'S DAY LEAVING COLLECTION - NEPAL FLOOD DISASTER <i>SVDP BOX HILL CONFERENCE MONTHLY COLLECTION AT BOTH CHURCHES</i>
MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER	12.30PM CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP AT ST CLARE NARTHEX – PRAYER MINISTRY AVAILABLE
TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER	9.15AM LITTLE FRANNIE'S PLAYGROUP – SFX PRIMARY SCHOOL STAFFROOM 6.45PM CHOIR REHEARSAL AT ST CLARE
WEDNESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER	4.00PM SACRAMENTAL FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES AT ST CLARE NARTHEX 8.00PM MOTHERS AND FATHERS PRAYER GROUP AT SFX
THURSDAY 10 SEPTEMBER	7.00PM RCIA IN THE FRIARS ROOM
FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER	7.00PM CONTEMPLATION OF THE GOSPEL WITH FR PHUONG AT ST CLARE
SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER	
SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER	TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY 10.15AM SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION (PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 1.00PM PAST & PRESENT PARISHIONERS AFTERNOON TEA - ST CLARE NARTHEX

Afternoon Tea at St Clare Church
In the Narthex
27th September 2026
Commencing at 1.00pm

Everyone welcome and please pass on to past parishioners as we would love to catch up with them. There is no need to book but we do ask to please bring a small plate to share. Please contact the office for further details on Ph: 9401 6371

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*