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

Entrance	Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.
Mystery of Faith	When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.
Communion	The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of bread.

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A ***8 November 2026***

First Reading Wis 6:12-16

Wisdom is found by those who look for it.

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim.
By those who love her she is readily seen,
and found by those who look for her.
Quick to anticipate those who desire her,
she makes herself known to them.
Watch for her early and you will have no trouble;
you will find her sitting at your gates.
Even to think about her is understanding fully grown;
be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you.
She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her
and graciously shows herself to them as they go,
in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 62:2-8. R. v.2

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you,
O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. *(R.)*

2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary.
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. *(R.)*

3. So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. *(R.)*

4. On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. *(R.)*

Second Reading 1 Thes 4:13-18

Those who died as Christians, God will bring to life with Jesus.

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 24:42. 44

Alleluia, alleluia!
Be watchful and ready:
you know not when the Son of Man is coming.
Alleluia!



Gospel Mt 25:1-13

Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five of them were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone of to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said, "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

Reflection *by Greg Sunter*

The three gospel accounts from the final three weeks leading up to the season of Advent all come from Chapter 25 of the Gospel of Matthew. They can be seen together as an extended treatise on living life in response to Jesus' message and preparing for the end of time. This week's gospel starts out as a Kingdom parable and becomes a bit more of a metaphor for living a Christian life.

The gospel parable relates to ten bridesmaids – five foolish and five wise – who are participating in a wedding ritual that involves meeting the bridegroom and escorting him the last part of his way to the wedding reception. The foolish bridesmaids have not brought sufficient reserves of oil for their lamps and have to leave at the critical time to try to obtain more. When they eventually arrive at the reception hall they are turned away because they have shamed themselves as well as the bride and groom by not fulfilling their duty.

Some of the original audience of Matthew's gospel, along with many of the early Christian followers, had an expectation that Jesus was going to return and usher in the end of the world in their lifetime. The message of this gospel is captured in Jesus' final words, 'So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.' The timing of Jesus' coming cannot be predicted and so all Christian believers, like the bridesmaids, need to continue to act with hope and expectation; being prepared for the fact that it may be further off than anticipated. Many early Christians were living their lives as though the world would end at any time. The gospel warns them, and us, to continue to follow the example of Jesus and not to become complacent – expecting that everything is about to come to an end.

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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.



Our elderly parishioners are warmly welcome to the lunch. Volunteers will be available to assist with buffet service.



Parish Ladies Drinks in the Friars Room
Every second Friday of the month
Gold coin donation

Every 2nd Fri of the month 5.00pm



VOLUNTEER SIGN UP ROSTER

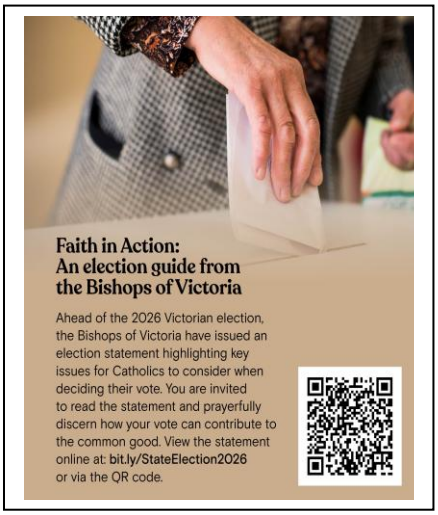
NOVEMBER, 2026

PLEASE USE THE LINKS BELOW TO SIGN UP FOR OUR MINISTRY ROSTER.
LINKS ALSO FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE.

volunteersignup.org/3MED8

YOUR ASSISTANCE IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.
THANK YOU





Synod 2026

For further information please visit:
Melbourne Synod 2026 | Melbourne Catholic

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

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

The Sick:

ANNIVERSARY: Kum Mary Lam, Ong Boe Kee, Shui Peter Lam, Dr Samuel Stephens, Marie Christine, Mr Charles Moraes, Jim Stockigt, Peg Stagg. Joyce Young, M J Mathew

RECENTLY DECEASED: Giuseppe Di Guilmi, Eduardo Loayza, Juan Alberto Rosas

*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 08 NOVEMBER	THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A 11.30AM WEDDING CEREMONY AT SFX
MONDAY 09 NOVEMBER	12.30PM CHARISMATIC PRAYERS GROUP AT ST CLARE NARTHEX – PRAYER MINISTRY AVAILABLE 6.45PM CHOIR REHEARSAL AT ST CLARE
TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER	9.15AM LITTLE FRANNIE'S PLAYGROUP – SFX PRIMARY SCHOOL STAFFROOM
WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER	8.00PM MOTHERS AND FATHERS PRAYER GROUP AT SFX
THURSDAY 12 NOVEMBER	10.30AM FUNERAL AT SFX - GIUSEPPE DI GUILMI RIP 7.00PM RCIA IN THE FRIARS ROOM
FRIDAY 13 NOVEMBER	10.00AM PARISH ROSARY AT THE BOX HILL CEMETERY WITH FR PHUONG 5.00PM PARISH LADIES DRINKS IN THE FRIARS ROOM 7.00PM CONTEMPLATION OF THE GOSPEL WITH FR PHUONG AT ST CLARE
SATURDAY 14 NOVEMBER	1.00PM WEDDING CEREMONY AT SFX 5.30PM SFX PRIMARY SCHOOL YR 5/6 FAMILY MASS
SUNDAY 15 NOVEMBER	THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER 11.30AM PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT ST CLARE HALL

Box Hill Historical Society
History of St Francis Xavier Primary School
Guest Speaker – Patsy Crotty
Sunday 15 November 2026 at 2pm

Box Hill Library, 1st Floor, 1040 Whitehorse Road Box Hill
Our special guest Patsy Crotty will inform us about the history of the St Francis Xavier Primary School at Box Hill, 1928-1974
Books will be available for sale $30

A lovely gift for anyone; past students or those interested in the earlier history of St Francis Xavier Primary School

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*