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

Entrance	The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.
Mystery of Faith	When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.
Communion	To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A ***15 November 2026***

First Reading Prv 31:10-13.19-20.30-31

Give her a share in what she has worked for.

A perfect wife – who can find her?
She is far beyond the price of pearls.
Her husband's heart has confidence in her,
from her he will derive no little profit.
Advantage and not hurt she brings him
all the days of her life.
She is always busy with wool and with flax,
she does her work with eager hands.
She sets her hands to the distaff,
her fingers grasp the spindle.
She holds out her hand to the poor,
she opens her arms to the needy.
Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty;
the woman who is wise is the one to praise.
Give her a share in what her hands have
worked for,
and let her works tell her praises at the city
gates.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 127:1-5. R. v.1

(R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord.

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper. ***(R.)***

2. Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table. ***(R.)***

3. Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
in a happy Jerusalem
all the days of your life. ***(R.)***

Second Reading 1 Thes 5:1-6

The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night.

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it. But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 15:4. 5

Alleluia, alleluia!
Live in me and let me live in you,
says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 25:14-30

Because you have been faithful over a few things, enter into the joy of the Lord.

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Now a long time after, the master of



those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir", he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."'

Reflection *by Greg Sunter*

This week's gospel is a very familiar parable and one that is often used with students and young people. It is generally used as an encouragement to make the most of the gifts and skills that the listeners possess. It is rarely, however, placed in its context as part of the full Chapter 25 lesson about the time of waiting and preparation for the coming of the Lord and the Christian life.

Again, the story is presented as a parable of the Kingdom – a glimpse into the right order of things in the realised Kingdom. A very wealthy master entrusts his considerable assets to his servants to manage in his absence. The three servants were allocated money, 'each in proportion to his ability'. The emphasis of the parable is on what each servant did with the funds they were allotted. They were charged with managing the money in the place of their master; acting in their master's place to further develop his wealth.

Like all of Jesus' parables, this one has a sting in the tail. Although the third servant has done nothing illegal or corrupt, he is very harshly dealt with. His crime is laziness! He was given a great opportunity to demonstrate his abilities and yet he shied away and returned to his master exactly what had been entrusted to him, unimproved. The author of Matthew's gospel uses this parable to shock the audience out of complacency. They cannot rely solely on the promised return of the Lord, they must continue to act on Jesus' message and work to bring about the Kingdom in their own lives. Those who fail to act, leaving everything to the work of God, are as bad as the lazy servant who failed to grasp an extraordinary opportunity.

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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

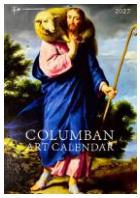
Preparation Session - 1st Wednesday of the month at 7 pm in Parish House
Presentation Mass - 2nd Sunday of each month at 10.15am Mass at SFX.
Please ring Parish Office to arrange.

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.

CHRISTMAS CALENDARS AND CARDS





St Vincent de Paul Christmas cards and 2027 calendars are now available. **We have limited supplies so be quick!** Available after 9am mass at St Clare and the Parish Office.

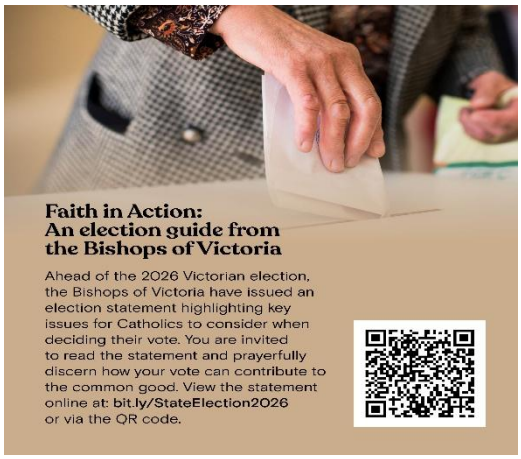
Purchase from Parish Office during office hours

- Christmas cards (5pk) $ 5.00
- Columban calendar $10.00
- Franciscan calendar $10.00

Red November: Pray for persecuted Christians

Aid to the Church in Need invites all Catholics to remember, pray for and support persecuted Christians throughout Red November. Register today and receive a **free prayer card** and **complimentary pair of Rosary beads**, handmade by Christians in Syria.

To join us in prayer, scan the QR code, or visit rebrand.ly/RedNovemberRosary



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

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



Sunday 15 November after 9am mass at St Clare & 10.15am mass at SFX

VOLUNTEER CHRISTMAS DRINKS 2026

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers for your time, energy, and dedication. Your contribution makes a real difference to our Parish.

Please join us for Christmas refreshments and finger food in the

FRIARS ROOM
FRIDAY 18 DECEMBER
4 - 6PM

RSVP: Parish Office Ph: 9401 6371

Synod 2026 4 – 6 December

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

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Audrey Kuang

ANNIVERSARY: Mr Dennis Harris

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 15 NOVEMBER	THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A
MONDAY 16 NOVEMBER	12.30PM CHARISMATIC PRAYERS GROUP AT ST CLARE NARTHEX – PRAYER MINISTRY AVAILABLE 6.45PM CHOIR REHEARSAL AT ST CLARE
TUESDAY 17 NOVEMBER	9.15AM LITTLE FRANNIE'S PLAYGROUP – SFX PRIMARY SCHOOL STAFFROOM
WEDNESDAY 18 NOVEMBER	8.00PM MOTHERS AND FATHERS PRAYER GROUP AT SFX
THURSDAY 19 NOVEMBER	7.00PM RCIA IN THE FRIARS ROOM
FRIDAY 20 NOVEMBER	7.00PM CONTEMPLATION OF THE GOSPEL WITH FR PHUONG AT ST CLARE
SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER	
SUNDAY 22 NOVEMBER	OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE, YEAR A WORLD YOUTH DAY

UPCOMING EVENTS:

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

SATURDAY 12 DECEMBER 10AM THE GIFT OF LIFE RETREAT AT ST CLARE WITH FR PHUONG

FRIDAY 18 DECEMBER 4PM VOLUNTEER DRINKS IN THE FRIARS ROOM

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

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

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.

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

CLICK ON "DONATE"

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

COME ALONG AND ENJOY THE FESTIVITIES

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

Christmas Mass Times 2026



ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH

CHRISTMAS EVE

Seniors' Mass 4.00pm

Carols 6.00pm
Family Mass 6.30pm

Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY

Mass 11.00am

ST CLARE CHURCH

CHRISTMAS EVE

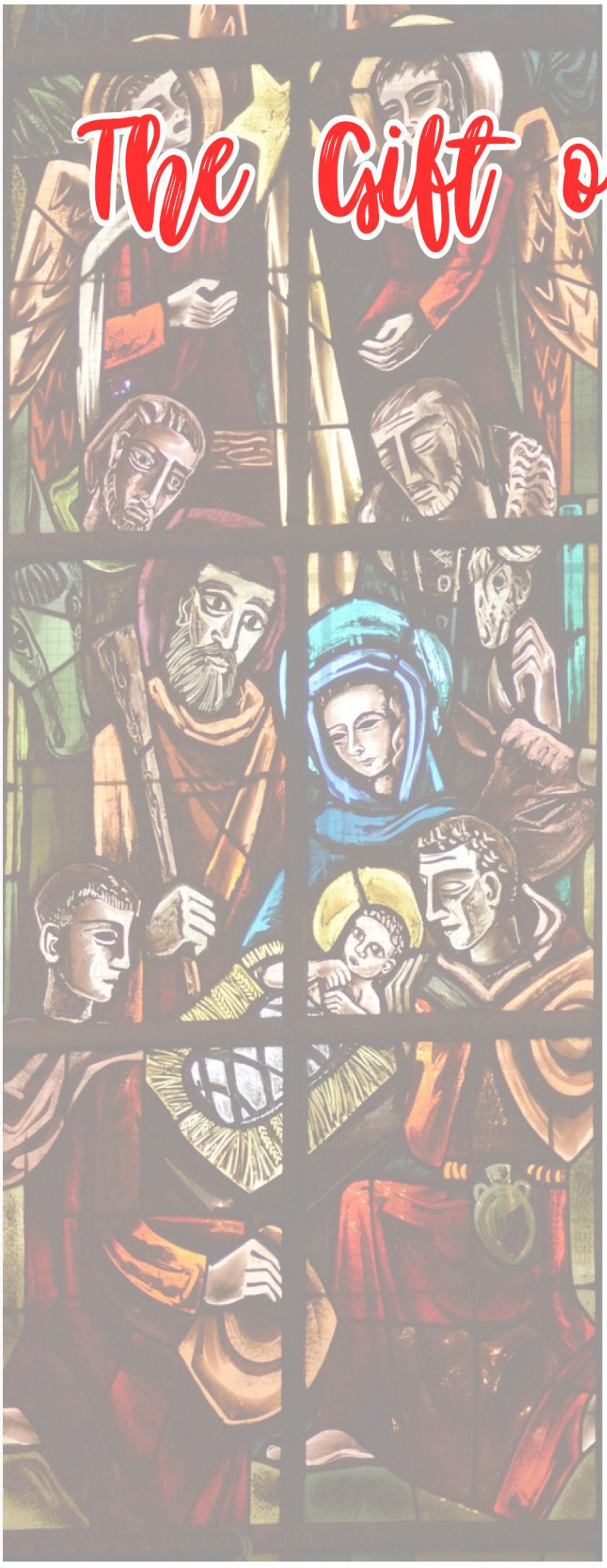
Carols 8.30pm
Mass 9.00pm

CHRISTMAS DAY

Mass 9.00am

Italian Mass 11.00am

Vietnamese Mass 5.00pm



The Gift of Life

Parish Advent Retreat

12th December 2026

St Clare Church
10am to 3pm
By Fr Phuong Vu

Lunch is included:
$15 per person

RSVP to Parish Office by:
9th December 2026