

**Saint Francis Xavier Church  
Cnr Whitehorse & Dorking Rds  
Box Hill VIC 3128**



**Saint Clare Church  
138 Woodhouse Grove  
Box Hill North VIC 3129**

15 October 2020

Dear Parishioners,

We anxiously await the alterations to Covid-19 restrictions in the Melbourne metropolitan area predicted to be announced next Sunday. It is difficult to plan ahead when the details of the changes are unknown. It is clear that **Mass in Masks** is to be expected well into the future. Mass outdoors for five persons has proved even more impractical than the unfathomable restriction to five persons for indoor live streaming. These arbitrary numbers without accompanying reasoning leaves us scratching our heads. Nevertheless, we will continue to comply and do only what is permitted, however illogical, impractical and inconvenient.

The online petition asking the Premier to address the inequality towards places of worship and people of faith in the Victorian government's 'Roadmap for Reopening' has nearly 11,000 signatories. The petition can be found on: <https://www.equalityforfaith.com.au/> . There is still time to sign and distribute the petition to people you know and encourage them to do the same. The petition has received wide support, notably from the Victorian Council of Churches, and support from various multi-faith peak bodies through the Faith Communities Council of Victoria. It is endorsed by the Knights of the Southern Cross, The Australian Confraternity of Catholic Clergy, the Catholic Women's League and the Australian Catholic Medical Association.

The Reconciliation session from 4-5pm on Saturdays, for which St Francis Xavier Church is renowned, has resumed and is attracting increasing numbers. The outdoor Reconciliation structure on the East Porch of the Church is weather protected and affords anonymity commensurate with the dignity of the sacrament.

The Funeral Mass for Fr Charles McBride was celebrated at St Clare's Church last Tuesday. You can view it at <http://tobin.5stream.com/webcast/60070> . The homily by Bishop Les Tomlinson, Fr Charlie's seminary classmate (at 16:20), the post communion reflection, "Dieterich Buxtehude's Magnificat for Soprano and Organ" performed by Merryn Hughes and Asher Watters-Cowan (48:30) and the recessional tribute "Amazing Grace" and "Going Home" by Piper John Houghton (1.05:10) are certainly viewing highlights in this webcast.

"The celebration of World Mission Day this Sunday is an occasion for reaffirming how prayer, reflection and the material help of our offerings are opportunities to participate actively in the mission of Jesus in his Church". So said Pope Francis. Please support this year's Catholic Mission appeal for Cambodia. Your donation can make a difference for young people with disability by

**Greater Box Hill Parish**

St Francis Xavier & St Clare Parish Office  
1087 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill VIC 3128 Australia  
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providing them with critical care and support to help them reach their goals. You can choose to give a tax-deductible gift online via this link: <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/donate/your-donation?id=wmm20-cambodia-appeal> The other option to make a donation to Catholic Mission is by using your mobile phone. The process is simple: one only needs to send the word "GIVE" to the number: 0488 854 436. This prompts an immediate reply which provides a link to a platform to make a donation.

The eSafety Commissioner has recently published a free e-book resource 'Online safety for grandparents and carers' which provides advice about online safety issues that children and young people may experience. This resource provides "key advice about online safety issues that can affect children and young people" including practical tips to help grandparents and carers to talk about these issues with children and young people and manage them. Helpful topics include: setting up devices safely; managing time online; preventing unsafe contact from strangers as well as a guide to some of the most popular sites and apps. Grandparents and carers can order a hard copy or download and view the resource online: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/seniors/online-safety-grandparents-carers>

Until next time, stay positive and test negative,

Yours in Jesus Christ,



Fr Tony Kerin EV PP  
Parish Priest

Important Links and Direct Deposit Account details are:

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**

You can also contribute via CDFPay via this link - [CDFpay for Greater Box Hill Parish](#).

Parish *Facebook* page <https://www.facebook.com/GBHparish>.

*YouTube* Channel. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCF7pNUOT1tfuoz6Fu3VwPvg>

Parish **ZoomRoom**: <https://zoom.us/j/2886463871> open Friday 5pm for Friday drinks and Sunday at 11.10am for virtual morning tea.

**Correspondence to Parish Office**

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