

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



Saint Clare Church
138 Woodhouse Grove
Box Hill North VIC 3129

7 October 2021

Dear Parishioners,

The Premier has advised that all workers across Victoria who are on the Authorised Worker list that permits them to work on site rather than from home, will require their first COVID-19 vaccine dose by Friday, 15 October in order to continue working onsite during the lockdown. They will also need to be fully vaccinated by 26 November.

This applies to all ministers and participants rostered to be on site for our live streaming Masses. They need to have had at least their first vaccination. Unvaccinated persons cannot attend on site and may only work from home. So we will have to withdraw the work permits for those who are unvaccinated from that date. All have to be double dosed by Nov 26.

This week I have had the privilege of attending the Plenary Council. The morning session is being live streamed and is available for later viewing on You Tube. I even managed to feature on the home screen at [Wednesday morning's session](#). I am hoping to be selected to make an intervention at Friday morning's session. This morning's Mass was celebrated in the [Maronite Rite](#) and is well worth watching for its prayerfulness.

Today's sessions were heart wrenching and most touching as we prayed with and listened to survivors while reflecting on questions about seeing through the eyes of those who have been abused in the Church and reaching out to those on the peripheries. You can watch the Live Streamed Masses and Public Sessions of the Council by means of the [Plenary Council You Tube Channel](#) and the [Plenary Council's Facebook Page](#).

The demand for mental health services is becoming more prominent across the State, and for many regions, waiting lists to access services are becoming overwhelmingly long. As a response to the increased need for mental health support, Catholic Care have recently commenced a new state-wide mental health service with minimal wait times, called the [Psychological Wellbeing Service](#) (PWS). Using evidence-based therapies, their PWS clinicians provide parenting support and mental health support focused on self-help skill learning to aid in recovery, such as problem-solving skills, progressive muscle relaxation, and traditional cognitive behavioral therapy as a more intensive support. Spread the word to those in need.

This weekend we celebrate Life Marriage and Family Sunday within the Archdiocese of Melbourne and, in doing so, we recognize the central role that marriage and family play in

Greater Box Hill Parish

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building flourishing homes, parishes and societies. Many couples will tell you that a joyful marriage does not just 'happen'. It requires the concerted effort of both spouses to grow, heal, forgive and pursue each other in order to fully live out and experience the vocation of marriage. We pray this weekend for all families in our parish in their many different configurations.

I was [interviewed recently by Fiona Basile](#) about the developing project in the Archdiocese called "Take the Way of the Gospel". This mission oriented approach to parish collaboration is finding great support in our Parish, in no small measure due to the generosity of so many parishioners with Whitehorse Churches Care and many other initiatives which take us beyond ourselves.

I would like to thank Frances Burnet, who creatively used her daily exercise time last week to hand deliver Stewardship Envelopes around our parish. People like Frances make the most of lockdown restrictions and in doing so greatly benefit the rest of us.

This Sunday night I will lead the Whitehorse Churches Care On Line Prayer Service at 7.30pm. It is a commissioning prayer for our Prayer Walk Week, where at the same time as Christians from many different congregations in Whitehorse, we can take our daily exercise by walking the streets praying for the residents. For details <https://whitehorsechurchescare.org.au/prayer/>

Please stay safe and take care. I can't wait to see you back in person.

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/c/GreaterBoxHillParish>

Correspondence to Parish Office

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