

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



Saint Clare Church
138 Woodhouse Grove
Box Hill North VIC 3129

9 December 2021

Dear Parishioners,

The advertising boards with details of our Christmas Service times have now been set up and next week we will celebrate the communal Reconciliation Services at St Francis Xavier (7pm Tuesday 14th) and St Clare (7.30pm Thursday 16th). We also have reconciliation at 9.30am on Saturdays at St Clare's Church (after the 9.00am Mass) and Saturdays at 4.00pm at St Francis Xavier Church.

Because the attendance at our weekday Masses does not exceed 50 persons, we no longer require to check vaccination status for these Masses. However, even for unknown status Masses it remains essential that everyone register or be registered with the QR App. If you add our Churches to Favourite Check-ins on the Services Victoria App, you do not need to scan each time, you can simply press on the *favourite* to check in. Weekend and Christmas Masses will exceed the fifty person limit and these Masses are for fully vaccinated persons only. We have designated the 7.30am Mass on Christmas Day and on Sundays as unknown status Mass.

We will be live streaming the 4.00pm Senior's Mass on Christmas eve, the Carol Service at 5.30pm and the 10.15am Mass on Christmas Day.

This past week (December 3rd) we've been celebrating our patronal feast of St Francis Xavier, the great Jesuit missionary who brought the good news of Jesus to Asia and the Far East. After such a long time of gathering restrictions, it was wonderful to have the whole school together for Mass on Monday Morning. The students delighted in the story of St [Francis and the Crab](#).

This evening at 5pm we will celebrate the Grade Six Graduation Mass for St Francis Xavier Parish School. This remarkably resilient cohort of students completed their primary schooling with two considerably disrupted years of remote learning, yet their bright disposition and encouraging accomplishments are a testimony to their own solid efforts, the devotion of their teachers and the support of their parents. We wish them well.

We will also celebrate the annual memorial Mass for the Box Hill branch of the Knights of the Southern Cross. This Mass at St Clare's at 7pm will be offered for all deceased members of the branch and their families.

Next Tuesday we have the School end of year Mass at 9.15am. This is an opportunity to give thanks for our safety and success during the academic year. Also next Tuesday at St Patrick's

Greater Box Hill Parish

St Francis Xavier – St Clare Parish Office
1087 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill VIC 3128 Australia
Telephone: (03) 9401 6371 Email: boxhill@cam.org.au

Cathedral the funeral Mass for Maureen Lynch will take place. Maureen contributed at Box Hill for many years with Esme van der Westhuizen with children's liturgy and catechetical sacramental programs. I had the privilege of ministering the last rites to her in the presence of her family at Epworth Eastern hospital last week.

We have honoured the contributions and commended to the Lord a number of parishioners in the past week. These include Henk Hermans, a founding stalwart at St Clare's, Luigi Scarano, the brilliant baker and pastry chef at Lucchini Continental Cakes and Jim Moynihan, a former St Vincent De Paul Conference president, Ozanam House volunteer and charming Irish singer.

Please stay safe and take care.

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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