## ST THOMAS MORE PARISH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE DANDENONG RANGES

TELEPHONE: (03) 9754 2141



## **PARISH FIRE POLICY:**

- Each individual is responsible for their own safety and we refer to directives given by civil authorities as to how you should act in the event of high fire risk.
- On days when the fire danger has been declared as <u>Code Red</u>, no Mass will be celebrated in any of the church centres of the Parish and nor will any planned meeting or social activity proceed.
- Once a day is declared as <u>Code Red</u> the decision not to celebrate Mass at the church centres of the Parish will not change regardless of improvements in the weather to avoid confusion.
- Parish employees must not attend for duty on days when the fire danger has been declared as <u>Code</u> Red.
- Parishioners should visit the CFA website at <u>www.cfa.vic.gov.au</u>, call the 24 hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on 1800 240 667, or listen to their local ABC radio station for up-to-date information.
- When the celebration of Sunday Mass is impossible because of the threat to life by impending bushfire, parishioners are encouraged to spend some time in private prayers to the extent that this is feasible.

This Policy was ratified by the Vicar-General of Melbourne prior to its adoption by the Parish in 2012.

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