



CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH
DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

7th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

19 February 2023. YEAR A.

Parish Priest: Fr Hien Vu

Assistant Priest: Fr Simeon Anthony

The Parish Office open hours are Tuesday - Friday 9am-4pm

Parish Secretary: Margaret Stanford [Tues & Fri: 9am – 4pm]

Sacraments: Contact Parish Office [9412 8493]

Finance/Admin: Monique Heckmann Tue, Wed, Thur [9412 8493]

Parish Office: 2-20 Fir Street, Whittlesea 3757

Postal address: P.O. Box 221, Mernda 3754

Phone Number: 9412 8493

Mobile Number: 0448 101 401

Email: merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au

Website: www.christthelightparish.org.au

Nazareth Centre, Mernda (St Joseph's Primary School)

44 Mernda Village Drive Mernda 3754

Confession/Reconciliation: Saturday 4pm

Weekend Masses: Saturday 5:30pm

Sunday 8am and Sunday 10:30am

St Mary's, Whittlesea

2-20 Fir Street Whittlesea 3757

Weekday Mass: Tuesday & Thursday 9:15am

Confession/Reconciliation after

Tuesday & Thursday 9:15am Mass at 10am.

Weekend: Sunday 10am

St Mary's, Kinglake

124 Whittlesea-Kinglake Rd Kinglake 3763

Weekend Mass Sunday 8:30am

St Joseph's, Mernda

1490 Plenty Rd Mernda 3754

Weekday Mass: Wednesday & Friday 9:15am

Weekend: Sunday 5pm

We pray for those who have died recently: Maryanne Phelan, Vanessa Murphy, Anton de Silva

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Antonio Mercuri, Ravi Yesudasan, Susan Jacintha, Annete Maureen, Mary Murin Perera, Lionel Gamlath, Giovanni DiCola

We pray for those who are ill in our community: Vincent Orchard

Entrance Antiphon: O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

First Reading:
Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18

Responsorial Psalm:
The Lord is kind and merciful.

Second Reading:
St Paul to Corinthians 3:16-23

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia. Whoever keeps the word of Christ, grows perfect in the love of God. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48

Next week: 8th Sun Ord Time. Year A.

First: Isaiah 49:14-15

Second: St Paul to Corinth 4:1-5

Gospel: Matthew 6:24-34

GOSPEL REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

At times it seems we have rewritten the 'Golden Rule' to say: Do unto others before they can do unto you! In saying this we are not encouraging each other to do good, but to be defensive. Jesus tells us to go the extra mile, turn the other cheek, outdo ourselves in generosity and rise above the fray. He is not suggesting that we allow ourselves to be abused, but that we not perpetuate the antagonism out of which the mistreatment arose. He is not advocating passivity, but he is saying that we should not retaliate. Jesus is describing what we today would call active non-resistance, the attitude taught by Gandhi and Martin Luther King.

We are familiar with the answer to the question: Who is my neighbour? We usually interpret it to mean those we do not particularly like. It is important to love them, to be kind to them, to help them when they are in need. But these are not the people whom Jesus is talking about in today's reading. He tells us that the neighbours whom we are to love are those people who do not like us. We are to love those who deliberately exclude us from their social circles, who talk about us behind our backs. We are to love those who make us feel that we are not good enough for them, those who resent us for our accomplishments. We are to love those who exploit us or do us harm. This is indeed a radical teaching.



We are a Child Safe Parish. We hold the care, safety and well-being of children, young people and vulnerable adults as a central and fundamental responsibility of our community.



CHRIST THE LIGHT PARISH PRESENTS

SOCIAL GATHERING & FUNDRAISER TO SUPPORT THE NEW CHURCH BUILDING

ORGANISED BY THE SRI LANKAN COMMUNITY

AN EVENING FILLED WITH PRESENTATION OF THE NEW CHURCH DESIGN SRI LANKAN CULTURAL SHOW FUN ACTIVITIES ENTERTAINMENT DELICIOUS SRI LANKAN CUISINE ATTRACTIVE RAFFLE PRIZES

SATURDAY, 18TH MARCH 2023 AT 6.30 PM TO MIDNIGHT **ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL HALL** 2-20 FIR STREET, WHITTLESEA, VIC 3757



MUSIC BY **EJ RHYTHMS** DRESS: CASUAL

ADULT TICKET PRICE: \$30 CHILD TICKET PRICE: \$15 (AGE BETWEEN 5-11YRS) CHILDREN BELOW 5YRS ARE FREE

Tickets also available via www.trybooking.com/CGBTL



Ash Wednesday

ASH WEDNESDAY: 22 February 2023

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, PLENTY ROAD, MERNDA Mass at 7am, 8am, 9:15am ST MARY'S CHURCH, WHITTLESEA Mass at 9:15am

LENTEN REGULATIONS

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fasting and Abstinence from meat. More information can be found on the notice boards or please visit our website.

Family Visitation Cards are at all Mass Centres.

Our Priests are available to visit your home for a house blessing or a friendly chat and cuppa. Please return the completed card to the Priest or the cards can be put on any collection plate or hand in at the parish office.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE UPDATE
CHRIST THE LIGHT PARISH
FEAST DAY CELEBRATION.

Thank you all so much for the wonderful work that was put in to make last Saturday night a success. It was so pleasing to see so many parishioners gathering together to celebrate our community Feast Day. The new Eftpos machine was a success with us taking \$129.00 worth of electronic payments. Overall, we will be able to bank a profit of \$1,142.25. Traditionally this event has always focussed on the social side, more than the fund raiser side. It wouldn't have been as good as it was without everyone's assistance and we have had the largest number of volunteers that we have ever had at an event. There are so many people we would like to acknowledge, but there are too many of you, so thanks everyone.

WHITTLESEA MINISTRY INCORPORATED

WMI has resumed its regular monthly meetings in February. Each of the local churches operating in Whittlesea have representatives who attend these meetings and help in whatever way possible with the traditional provision of service and Christian witness within the township. You may recall some of the activities supported by WMI... Ecumenical Christmas and Easter celebrations and observances, Annual Memorial Service, etc.

- ◆ Fr Simeon has joined our committee this year.
- ◆ A very significant part of our service is the Foodshare Program that runs out of the Uniting Church's premises on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Hard working volunteers from all churches ensure the success of this outreach program.
- ◆ New volunteers are always welcome.

LOLLY BAGS
Large Bags \$5
Small Bags \$2



ALL PROCEEDS GOING TO CHRIST THE LIGHT CHURCH BUILDING FUND.

Bunnings Mernda Sausage Sizzle

Saturday 11 March 2023



This is a fundraiser and an outreach initiative. If you can help, please write your name on the roster sheet at each Mass. All money raised will go to the Church Building Fund.

SYRIAN EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

Please see the notice board for details. Contributions can be made by donating to: MCF DGR Account Ref: Syrian Appeal BSB 062784 Account: 100011493 Donations are tax deductible and for a receipt please email : mcf@melkite.org.au or contact 02 9750 5514.

NEXT WEEK Roster: 25/26 February

[W] Welcomer [L] Leader [R] Reader [E] Eucharist [LT] Laptop

5:30pm [W] Ray R, Paul N [L] Lanka E [R] Chris B [E] Paul N [LT] Liz B
8am: [W] Charles F, Anneston A [L] Ajith D.S [R] Lucy F [E] Roy J [LT] Ryan J
10am: [W] Mary W, John S [L] Mary S [R] Matthew M [E] Grace M [LT] Barry K
10.30am: [W] Shevan F, Aeshan F [L] Lasith F [R] Vanessa C [E] Juliet P [LT] Al & choir

NAZARETH CENTRE SET UP. 4:30pm on Saturday 25 February: Chris B, Bill F, Ajith D.S



Account Details:

If you would like to make a Direct Deposit DONATION to the New Church Building account.

BSB: 083 - 347
Acct No: 135 263 131
Name: New Church Building