

# Nazareth Centre (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 9:15 am
Confession/Reconciliation after
Tuesday & Thursday 9:15am Mass at 10am.
Weekend: Sunday 10 am

## St Mary's, Kinglake

124 Whittlesea-Kinglake Rd Kinglake 3763 Weekend Mass Sunday 8:30 am

# St Joseph's, Mernda

1490 Plenty Rd Mernda 3754 Weekday Mass: Wednesday & Friday 9:15 am Weekend: Sunday 5pm

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT. 27 November 2022, 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: <a href="merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au">merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au</a>
Website: <a href="merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au">www.christthelightparish.org.au</a>

### We pray for those who have died recently:

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

We pray for those who are ill in our community: Vincent Orchard, Paddy & Eileen Fitzgerald, Mary Harvey, Fr Brendan Dillon, Margaret

Carter, Pat Rye, Elizabeth Miller, Vincent Ah-Kiau

Entrance Antiphon: To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

## First Reading:

Isaiah 2:1-5

<u>Responsorial Psalm</u>: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

#### **Second Reading:**

St Paul to Romans 13:11-14

#### **Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia. Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44

Next week: 2nd Sun Advent. Year A.

First: Isaiah 11:1-10

Second: St Paul to Romans 15:4-9

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

# **GOSPEL REFLECTION by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart**

Heaven is surely the place without war and tools of destruction. Why can't earth also be such a place? Why can't swords and spears and tools of war and violence be turned into ploughshares and pruning hooks and tools for growing things and cultivating life? It would be the best way to get ready for Jesus.

Name some personality traits that could be thought of as 'swords and spears', such as gossiping or using sarcasm and put-downs. Are there 'swords and spears' in your personality?

How can you cultivate spiritual life and growth in your own personality? The world seems to be getting more violent. We see it all the time on television.

Why is the world such a violent place?

What do you think are the contributing factors to the attitude that violence is an acceptable way to respond to conflict?

How can a group of young people concerned about violence affect their neighbourhood or school?



## PARISH EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS.

#### **CHRIST THE LIGHT TEEN GATHERING**

Christ the Light parish would like to welcome all the teens (Grade 8 to Grade 11) from our parish to spend an evening together in prayer and fellowship. We will have some pizza to wrap the night up. Parents are welcome to stay back for the session.

When - Saturday 26th November 6:30pm (after 5:30pm Mass)
Where - Nazareth Centre at St Joseph's Primary School Mernda

#### ST MARY'S WHITTLESEA. FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH – 4 DECEMBER 2022.

The Trading Table and morning tea is on every first Sunday of the month, straight after the 10am Mass at St Mary's, Whittlesea. Come along and pick up a bargain while you have a cuppa. Everyone is welcome.

## MULTICULTURAL DINNER—THANK YOU

Christ the Light Social and Fundraising Committee would like to thank everyone that assisted and participated with our Multicultural evening. With the circumstances of no power on the night, the parish community all worked together and managed to make the evening such a success. It was fantastic to see so many parishioners gathered together to celebrate and socialise. We will advise the total of money raised when we finalise our costings and takings.

Winner of the Raffle: Ray Rosales

Winner of the Stop The Clock: Virgie Mendoza

## A MIRACLE NIGHT —A REFLECTION FROM FR SIMEON

On 19<sup>th</sup> November 2022, Christ the Light parishioners gathered to celebrate a multicultural evening – our first gathering at St Mary's Whittlesea after many Covid lockdowns. This evening was held to acknowledge the richness of our multicultural community, and to support our New Church Building fund. The evening commenced with a vigil Mass in St Mary's Church, after which we were invited into the Anawim Centre.

Before our celebrations we were challenged by a power outage through one of Melbourne's mighty storms. However, the spirit of our community was stronger than the winds. Christ the Light showed us the way, sparking the Light within us. We came together with what was in our hands. We were reminded of Jesus' multiplication of the loaves and fishes, and the miracle of his feeding the five thousand.

We were shown how God is able to take something small, and stretch it into something incredible.

We delighted in an evening filled with music, games, dance, with delicious and varied dishes from different cultures. We listened and laughed, in our being the loving, caring and helping community we know. It became a miracle night. We experienced the darkness, but came to know that "the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome." (John 5:1)



<u>Sacrament of Reconciliation</u>. The year 3 children from St Paul the Apostle Doreen, St Joseph's Mernda and St Mary's Whittlesea, have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the very first time. As they continue to learn more of God's forgiveness and mercy, let us pray for them and their families.

<u>Foundation 2023 Mass</u>. We welcome our 2023 Foundation (Prep) students from St Joseph's Primary School Mernda to our Sunday 10:30am Mass at the Nazareth Centre today.

RCIA Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens. They will publicly declare their intention to the Catholic Church at 10am Mass today. They have borne witness to the first stirrings of conversion and repentance and calling upon God in prayer. Please welcome them and keep them in your prayers as they continue their journey to full communion with Jesus Christ at the Easter Vigil.

<u>Combined Churches of the Kinglake Ranges</u>. An invitation to join in a service of thanksgiving and prayer for the Emergency Services personnel at the beginning of the fire season. St Peter's Anglican Church, Kinglake on <u>Sunday 4 December at 6pm</u>. There will be a 'pass the hat around' collection to be divided amongst the various Services. Enjoy a cuppa afterwards.



**2023 Columban Calendars** are \$10 each and can be purchased from all Mass Centres.

#### **NEXT WEEK Roster: 3/4 December**

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

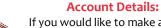
5:30pm [W] Chris B, Trish B [L] Chris B [R] Paul N [E] Trish B [LT] Liz B

8am: [W] Carmel W, Terry W [L] Katherine A [R] Presencea A [E] Roy J [LT] Ryan J

10am: [W] Mary S, John S [L] Tracey K [R] Xander B [E] Karen H [LT] Barry K

10.30am: [W] Bella T, Anna T [L] Juliet P [R] Vanessa C [E] George T [LT] Al & choir

NAZARETH CENTRE SET UP. 4:30pm on Saturday 3 December: Carmel A, Mick A, Clare A





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