



CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH
DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

Third Sunday of Advent Yr B 17 December 2023

Parish Priest: Fr Hien Vu

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

Pastoral Worker: George Thommana
Finance/Admin: Monique Heckmann [Tue, Wed, Thur: 9am – 4pm]
Sacraments: Contact Parish Office [Phone 03 9412 8493]
Parish Office: 2-20 Fir Street, Whittlesea 3757
Postal address: P.O. Box 221, Mernda 3754
Phone Number: 03 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
Children's Liturgy EVERY 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.
Weekend Mass: 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 Mass: Sunday 5pm

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

And for those whose **anniversaries** occur at this time: Suhashini Jeyakumar, Mary Anne Rae

We pray for those who are **ill in our community:**

Vincent Orchard, K.P Abraham, Indika Fernando, Rose Vaas, Lalaka Peiris, Carlo Carleo, Maria & Joseph Ah Kiau, Paddy Fitzgerald, Baselisa Malusu Gina Wherrett, Oliver Gordon

Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice in the Lord
always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.

First Reading:
Isaiah 61:1-2. 10-11

Responsorial Psalm:
My soul rejoices in my God.

Second Reading:
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. **Alleluia!**

Gospel:

John 1:6-8. 19-28

Next week: Fourth Sunday Advent Yr B

First: 2 Samuel 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16

Second: Romans 16:25-27

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

A reflection...

Traditionally, the third Sunday of Advent is called *Gaudete* Sunday, the Sunday of Joy. The joy of this Sunday comes both from the message of the readings and from the anticipation that Christmas is nearing. As described in the Isaian passage, the Messiah is the one imbued with the spirit and with the power of the prophet, the one who will fulfill the promises of God. It becomes obvious in the Gospel that the Messiah is the one proclaimed by the Baptist. John cleared a path for the coming of the anointed one, and from that time on the lives of believers have been the path-way through which the Messiah has entered the world.

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'Weekly Quote'

**The Prayer of the
Frog**
by Anthony de Mello
Page 65

Weary traveler:
"Why in the name
of heaven did they
build the railway
station three
kilometres away
from the village?"

Helpful porter:
"They must have
thought it would
be a good idea to
have it near the
trains, sir."

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve, Sunday 24th December

6.00pm Mernda (Nazareth Centre)

8.00pm at Whittlesea (Anawim Centre)

12.00 am Midnight at Mernda.

All Masses on Christmas Eve to be preceded by carols commencing 30 minutes prior to Mass.

Christmas Day, Monday 25th December

8.30 am Kinglake

10.00 am Whittlesea 10.30 am Mernda

INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION

Will be available after morning mass on the following days until 11am:
Tuesday 19 and Thursday 21 December - St Mary's Whittlesea
Wednesday 20 and Friday 22 December - St Joseph's Mernda
And from 2pm - 5pm **SATURDAY 23** December
at the Nazareth Centre Mernda with Fr George and Fr Hien
PENITENTIAL SERVICE..... to follow Individual Confession
SATURDAY 23 December at 5pm Nazareth Centre Mernda

'Tis the season to come together and celebrate the joy of Christmas!
Following the **6pm Christmas Family Mass at the Nazareth Centre**, we invite you to join us for a festive celebration. Please **bring a plate to share**. Let's create lasting memories as we enjoy delicious treats and the beautiful sounds of Christmas carols.

CHRISTMAS EVE and CHRISTMAS DAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED We require volunteers at our Christmas Mass Celebrations. If you can assist with any of the following: **SET-UP, WELCOMER, LEADER, READER, EUCHARIST MINISTER, COLLECTORS or POWERPOINT OPERATOR** we would be grateful for your help. *Please put your name down on the clipboards at the back of church.*

Dear Parishioners.....Over the last few months we have noticed that a number of Parishioners are beginning to receive the Host on the tongue. Whilst we respect this traditional practise, we must also be aware that this form of receiving communion comes with a risk, especially with the spread of the different strands of Covid that still exist in our very own country. We ask that if you wish to receive communion via the tongue during our weekday or weekend masses that you **please wait until the end of the distribution of communion and only receive from the Priest of that Mass.**

2024 Columban Calendars are available to purchase for **\$10** from the back of church today!!

CHRIST THE LIGHT CHRISTMAS TOY RAFFLE (total rrp \$500.00) Lego bundle, gingerbread box and toy stack **We now have a Food and Wine Hamper & food voucher, valued over \$125.00 as a fourth prize** . This is the last weekend to purchase your tickets **TICKETS \$5.00 EACH OR 5 FOR \$20.00**. All proceed go towards the, **Christ the Light Church Building Fund**. If you don't have little ones, leave it on someone's doorstep on Christmas Eve. Tickets available to purchase after all masses. Contacts, Liz Blake 0407 832 296 or Liz Williams 0403 007 692. Raffle drawn **SATURDAY 23RD DECEMBER, after 5.30 mass**, at the Nazareth Centre.

Winners notified by phone!!!

Little Sisters of the Poor are providing Christmas Day Lunch for the homeless, refugees, asylum seekers and anyone in need. Please advise the Sisters if you are attending or advise them of anyone you would like to recommend.

Address: 112B St Georges Road Northcote Phone: 9489 8444

Direct Deposit Statements and Stewardship Envelopes are available from the back of church today. If your details require updating, please email them to the parish office **merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au** Thank you

Leaders and Readers..... If you are a Leader/Reader, copies of the Sunday readings are available for you to take from the back of church. Look for the **BLUE** folder

New CHURCH Building 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** *Any donation made to this account is NOT tax deductible as we are a Not For Profit organization

MINISTRY ROSTER: 23/24 December

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

5:30pm [W] Trish B, Chris B [L] Alaina S [R] Joanna S [E] Chris B [LT] Liz B

8am [W] Eromi A, Anton S [L] Katherine A [R] Presencea A [E] Eromi A [LT] Dan W

10am: [W] Bernadette S, Lynne F [L] Mary S [R] Maria M [E] John S [LT] Barry K

10.30am: [W] Mary D, VOLUNTEER [L] Libano D [R] Paul N [E] Juliet P [LT] Al and Choir

Children's Liturgy: VOLUNTEERS

NAZARETH CENTRE SET UP: 4:30pm Saturday 23 Dec: Michael A, Carmel A, Clare A

Christ The Light - News updates
WhatsApp group



Join the CTL parish WhatsApp group for regular parish news updates. QR Code also available on the parish website www.christthelightparish.org.au



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.