



## CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH  
DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

### 15th SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME Year A 16th July 2023

**Parish Priest:** Fr Hien Vu

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

**Pastoral Worker:** George Thommana

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

**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](mailto:merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au)

**Website:** [www.christthelightparish.org.au](http://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: Malicias Fernando, Christopher Montalti, Eleonora Onofrio

We pray for those who are **ill** in our community: Vincent Orchard, Ernie Muscat, Georgina Biondi, Alexander Abo Saba, Vincent Ah Kiau, C I Thomas

#### **Entrance Antiphon:**

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;

I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

**First Reading:** Isaiah 55:10-11

#### **Responsorial Psalm:**

The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

**Second Reading:** Romans 8:18-23

#### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!** The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever.  
**Alleluia!**

**Gospel:** Matthew 13:1-23

#### **Next week: 16th Sun. Ord Time. Yr A**

First: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

Second: Romans 8:26-27

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43

## REFLECTION...

The readings for this Sunday call us to self-examination. The gospel describes various levels of receptivity, the willingness to allow ourselves to receive from another, to be influenced by another, perhaps even to be transformed. The more independent we are, the less likely we will be open to others and, consequently, less receptive to their ideas. By definition disciples are receptive to the one they follow. To be a disciple of Jesus requires receptivity, so it is important that we scrutinise ourselves to discover the extent to which we are open. To what should we be receptive? To the words of Scripture, the words of the liturgy, the words of the sacraments, the living tradition of the community. God's word is sown in many forms and under many guises. It makes little difference who sows the seed. How will we receive it?

Besides the word of God, the readings speak of the world of God. The people of biblical times were aware of the revelation of God in and through the natural world. Isaiah teaches about the effectiveness of the word of God through the metaphor of rain. The psalmist uses the natural world to describe God's work of salvation. Paul claims that eschatological fulfilment will include all of creation. Finally, Jesus' parables are rooted in stories about nature. We cannot afford to close our eyes to the needs of the natural world, or stop our ears to the cries of the earth, or harden our hearts to the world of which we are a part, for the word of God will accomplish the end for which God sent it.

*by Dianne Bergant CSA*



*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.*

## Safeguarding Essentials online training module now available...

Safeguarding Essentials is a 30-60 minute online training module for all clergy, parish staff and volunteers within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. This accessible and engaging online resource provides foundational knowledge in relation to safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable persons from abuse and harm.

Volunteers will be required to complete the training every 3 years.

At the completion of the training participants will receive a certificate of completion and you will receive an email notification that the module has been completed successfully.

To access the online training go to: [www.safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org](http://www.safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org)

The link is also available on the Parish website: [www.christthelightparish.org.au](http://www.christthelightparish.org.au)

You will need your unique Working with Children Check ID/VIT ID number and an email address

To register, volunteers will need to select their parish from the dropdown menu as their Primary Organisation of Service.

*If you volunteer in the parish we invite you to complete the online training as soon as possible.*

If you would like to take part in a group session please contact the parish office 0448 101 401. More details regarding a group session to follow.....



### PARISH ACTIVITIES - UPDATE

We are excited to extend a warm invitation to our youth and parents to join us for the inaugural **Parish Youth Mass NEXT Saturday 22 July 2023.**

We are delighted to announce that **Fr. Jeff Miller SDB** will be joining us as a special celebrant for the Youth Mass.

We are grateful for his participation and look forward to the quality time he will spend with our young members on this day along with sports and faith activities.

**The theme** for the inaugural Parish Youth Mass will be **"Jesus's first miracle: the wedding feast at Cana."** Through this theme, we will reflect upon the profound significance of this miracle and how it reveals Jesus's divine nature and his love for humanity. We hope to inspire a deeper understanding of our faith and the transformative power of Christ's presence in our lives.

Sports activities begin at **3 PM followed by the Youth Mass at 5.30 PM.** After the mass pizza will be served for kids.

*Please mark your calendars for this exciting gathering.....*

**Retreat for Daily Life:** Starting from **September**, we will be offering a **Retreat for Daily Life** led by Fr. Hien and the team. This retreat is specifically designed for parents and will take place once a month, coinciding with the Youth Mass schedule. We will share more details about the retreat in the near future. We strongly encourage all parents to consider participating in this enriching program.

**Parish Camp:** We regret to inform you that the Dromana camp, originally scheduled for July, has been postponed to the summer season in January 2024. This decision has been made to allow more participants to join us and create an unforgettable camp experience. We appreciate your understanding and patience, and we look forward to coming together in January for an amazing time.



### GUEST SPEAKER - SISTER KERIN

**CALDWELL sgs**

The program

'Ageing and Awakening :  
God's Surprising Gifts' is at

**St Mary's Whittlesea**

**Time is 10am-12:30pm,**

with a cuppa at 11am.

FINAL session date next

**Friday 21 July**

### Saturday 12 August 2023

**"FILIPINO FIESTA &  
SANTACRUZAN"**

6pm-11pm at St Mary's Primary  
School

2-20 Fir Street, Whittlesea.

**SOLD OUT**

**5:30pm MASS**

**SATURDAY 12 August**

will be celebrated at St Mary's  
Whittlesea followed by the  
fundraising dinner



This week Catholic Mission will offer the opportunity to be part of a life-changing program which aims to address gaps in medical care, and provide families with essential health care and knowledge, equipping them with the confidence to act and autonomy over their health and well-being.

**The Maria Auxiliadora Clinic is a vital project for the Salesian Sisters and the Church in Venilale. Since its establishment, the clinic has provided life-saving treatment for families in need, like Petrolina's, whose daughter Vitoria was found to have tuberculosis. But, with an increase in the demand for treatment, the Sisters resources can only carry them so far.**

Please give generously today to help continue this life-giving program by using the appeal envelope, going online at [catholicmission.org.au/timor](http://catholicmission.org.au/timor), or scanning the QR code. Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world.



Freecall: 1800 257 296  
[catholicmission.org.au/timor](http://catholicmission.org.au/timor)

### NEXT WEEK Roster: 22/23 July 2023

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

**5:30pm [W] Paul N, Trish B [L] Ray R [R] Trish B [E] Paul N [LT] Ellen H**

**8am: [W] Bill F, Noelene H [L] Mary D [R] Alessandro U [E] Noelene H [LT] Michelle B**

**10am: [W] Peter C, Maureen C [L] Tracey K [R] Xander B [E] Lynn F [LT] Barry K**

**10.30am: [W] Libano D, Daffodil A [L] Libano D [R] Silence M [E] Juliet P [LT] George T**  
**Children's Liturgy: Lanka E, Daffodil A**

**NAZARETH CENTRE SET UP. 4:30pm on Saturday 22 July: Chris B, Bill F, Ajith D**



### 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**  
**Name: New Church Building**

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