



CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH
DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT.

4 December 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: merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au

Website: www.christthelightparish.org.au

We pray for those who have died recently:

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mary O'Brien

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:

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

First Reading:

Isaiah 11:1-10

Responsorial Psalm:

Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Second Reading:

St Paul to Romans 15:4-9

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

Next week: 3rd Sun Advent. Year A.

First: Isaiah 35:1-6, 10

Second: St James 5:7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

GOSPEL REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Inaugurating a New Humanity

John proclaimed that the reign of God was 'at hand' as he immersed and plunged followers into the waters of the Jordan River. (His nickname was John the Immerser, or 'baptiser' in the Greek.) He used flowing water to symbolise the washing away of the past for those who repented so that they could be totally focused on the 'at hand' person who would inaugurate God's kingdom.

In this passage, John does not identify the 'Someone'! But he realised that this 'Someone' would have divine power to affect the future by immersing, baptising, his followers with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

At this stage of Advent, we should be like John's disciples, filled with a sense of anticipation, looking forward to the *coming towards us* ('Advent' in Latin) of the One who can flood our minds and bodies with the Holy Spirit and can immerse our hearts in Divine Fire.

We could pause for a moment to thank God that, even though we are unworthy to carry His sandals, there is One who is coming towards us wanting to transform us with Divine Power.



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.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Nazareth Centre, St Joseph's School Mernda

Christmas Eve, Saturday 24 December. 5.30pm Mass & 11.30pm Carols followed by Midnight Mass.

Christmas Day, Sunday 25 December. 10.30am Mass

Anawim Centre, St Mary's School, Whittlesea

Christmas Eve, Saturday 24 December. 6.30pm Mass

Christmas Day, Sunday 25 December. 10am Mass



St Mary's Church, Kinglake

Christmas Day, Sunday 25 December. 8.30am Mass



CAN YOU HELP? CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.

We will require volunteers at our Christmas Mass Celebrations. If you can assist with any of the following tasks: SET-UP, WELCOMER, LEADER, READER, EUCHARIST MINISTER or LAPTOP OPERATOR we would be grateful for your help. Please put your name down on the clipboards at the back of church.



St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Appeal on 10/11 December.

By making a donation, you will assist in two ways. At a local level, our Members and volunteers will be able to offer assistance directly to families and individuals. At a broader level, you will be contributing to the large and varied network of short and longer-term support services for Victorians experiencing disadvantage. Support for this Appeal will benefit recipients, and address poverty and disadvantage in our communities. We are requesting that you support our Conferences by giving cash and or shop vouchers (as a gift for teens and older children for the Christmas hampers). Online donations at <https://www.vinnies.org.au/> Donors can allocate donations to a specific conference by putting the conference name in the comments field. Thank you in anticipation, Mernda and Whittlesea/Kinglake St Vincent de Paul Conferences.

MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSION. There will be a leaving collection on 10/11 December.

Melbourne received three new deacons and three new priests in a beautiful Ordination Mass on Saturday 19 November. Archbishop Peter A Comensoli thanked the men for their witness and their willingness to be instruments of Christ's grace, reflecting on the virtues needed to serve the Lord in these vocations. Please keep them in your prayers.



THE CANDLE IN THE WINDOW: AN ADVENT REFLECTION. There's a lovely Advent tradition, originating with the Irish, of leaving a burning candle in the window—a sign for anyone in need of shelter or food that this home is open and they are welcome. The writer of Hebrews says, 'Let mutual love endure, and remember always to welcome strangers, for by doing this some people have entertained angels without knowing it' (13:1).

To read the full story: <https://melbournecatholic.org/news/the-candle-in-the-window-an-advent-reflection>



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

NEXT WEEK Roster: 10/11 December

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

5:30pm [W] Doris M, Ernie M **[L]** Ray R **[R]** Chris B **[E]** Ernie M **[LT]** Liz B

8am: [W] Ushmani F, Anthony F **[L]** Cath McM **[R]** Sherin P **[E]** Anthony F **[LT]** Carmel A

10am: [W] Sean S, Peter C **[L]** Warner B **[R]** Maureen C **[E]** Grace M **[LT]** Barry K

10.30am: [W] Silence M, Aeshan F **[L]** Lasith F **[R]** Shevan F **[E]** Silence M **[LT]** AI & choir

NAZARETH CENTRE SET UP. 4:30pm on Saturday 10 December: Terry, Carmel, Ray, Ushmani



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