



CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH
DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

16th SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME Year A 23rd 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

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: Patrick Pinghe, Mr & Mrs K.M. Scaria, Ravi Yesudasan, Susan Jacintha, Annete Maureen, Mary Murin Perera, Lionel Gamlath

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

Entrance Antiphon:

See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

First Reading: Wisdom 12:13,16-19

Responsorial Psalm:

Lord, you are good and forgiving.

Second Reading:

St Paul to Romans 8:26-27

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. **Alleluia!**

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43

Next week: Yr A 17th Sun Ord. Time

First: Kings 3:5,7-12

Second: St Paul to Rom 8:28-30

Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52

REFLECTION....

Today we hear how the Spirit of God dwells in all of us, helping us in our weakness. The first disciples had Jesus to explain the parables; we have the Spirit to enlighten us. It is the Spirit who helps us to interpret the teaching of Jesus and to be receptive to the challenges that they pose.

The presence of sinners in the kingdom of God is often a stumbling block to good people. There will be a time for separation and judgment, but the time is not now. This means that the righteous will have to live with the sinner and, even more challengingly, show them the same kind of concern that they show to others. The presence of sinners does not necessarily erode the quality of the kingdom. Rather, it provides disciples an opportunity to rise to the occasion of generosity and forgiveness.

There are two images of judgment in the readings. The one in the gospel is terrifying and decisive. The wicked are bound together into bundles and readied for burning. We must remember that this is a parable. In the first reading and in the psalm response the justice of God is said to be lenient, clement and kind. The power of God is demonstrated not in retribution but in mercy. God is said to be 'merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in kindness and fidelity', and repentance is a very real possibility. This is the image that gives us hope.

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

The link is also available on the Parish website www.christthelightparish.org.au

You will need your unique Working with Children Check ID/VIT ID number and 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 ACTIVITY - 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.



Aging and Awakening Program We would like to THANK Sr Kerin Caldwell for being such a wonderful facilitator as we journeyed together through the 'Ageing and Awakening: God's Surprising Gifts' Program. The response to the program was fantastic with many of us sharing stories and giving hope to one another, some of us in similar situations. Thank you, Sr Kerin, and to everyone who participated. Now What.....

Please keep the Good Samaritan Sisters in your prayers as they gather in Sydney over the next fortnight to elect a new Leader.

Catholic Mission - There will be a leaving collection in Mernda with weekend for Catholic Mission. Please give generously today to help continue this life-giving program by using the appeal envelope, going online at catholicmission.org.au/Timor, or scanning the QR code. Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world.

LEGO AND TOY RAFFLE

We will be conducting a Lego and toy raffle to be drawn at the Spring Racing Carnival in October. We are seeking donations of NEW unopened boxes of Lego, games, toys or jigsaws. If you can assist please contact the Parish Office **0448 101 401** or Liz Williams at lizwill126@gmail.com Thanking you all.



World Youth Day 2023

Please keep in your prayers those from across Catholic parishes, education, health and social services as they pilgrimage with Archbishop Peter A Comensoli as part of a program of formation designed to ground them in what it means to be a Christian leader in their contexts of influence....

Our Lady of the Visitation, you who arose and went with haste into the hill country to meet Elizabeth, lead us also to encounter all those who await us to deliver them the living Gospel: Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord!

We, too, will go in haste, without distraction or delay, but with readiness and joy.

We will go with peace because those who bring Christ bring peace, and well-being comes from being generous and loving in our deeds.

Our Lady of the Visitation, through your inspiration, this World Youth Day will be a shared celebration of Christ, whom we bring to others, just as you did.

Please make this a time of testimony and sharing, of fraternity and thanksgiving, with each of us looking for opportunities to give to those who are waiting to receive.

With you, we will continue on this path of encounter so that our world will join us, too, in fraternity, justice, and peace.

Help us, Our Lady of the Visitation, to bring Christ to everyone, in obedience to the Father and in the love of the Holy Spirit!

Amen

NEXT WEEK Roster: 29/30 July 2023

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

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

8am: [W] Neeta K, Sarah B [L] Cath Mc [R] Lucy F [E] Carmel C, Anton S [LT] Michelle B

10am: [W] Angelo I, Bernadette S [L] John F [R] Mary S [E] John S [LT] Barry K

10.30am: [W] Vanessa C, Aeshan F [L] Laetitia M [R] Shevan F [E] Silence M [LT] Lasith F
Children's Liturgy: Yvonne D, Vanessa C, Lunesa R

NAZARETH CENTRE SET UP. 4:30pm on Saturday 29 July: Dee F, Dinesh F, Anton S



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