



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

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT.

11 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:

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:

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

First Reading:

Isaiah 35: 1-6, 10

Responsorial Psalm:

Lord, come and save us.

Second Reading:

St James 5:7-10

Gospel Acclamation:

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

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

Next week: 4th Sun Advent. Year A.

First: Isaiah 7:10-14

Second: St Paul to Romans 1: 1-7

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

GOSPEL REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

The Right Question.

John was languishing in prison, held captive by the local agent of the Roman Empire. Perhaps he was looking for evidence that Jesus was the One who would throw off Roman despotism. In answer to his questing, Jesus replied that John should rather look at what was happening on the ground in His healing ministry and orientation to the poor. *Those* are the signs that the reign of God has begun.

I admire John the Baptist because he was prepared to seek and accept the answer to the question which was crucial to him, even though the answer might upset his preconceptions. He was a true seeker after Truth.

All our activities as a parish in building community, forming faith, serving the poor, participating in the liturgy, should be undertaken so that a seeker after Truth might see and hear the evidence of the presence and mission of the risen Lord Jesus Christ amongst us.

We could pause for a moment to simply pray in the spirit of Advent: 'Come, Lord Jesus' to satisfy the restlessness of the questing heart.



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



Reconciliation times:

Tuesday 13—Friday 23 December 2022. After every Weekday Morning Mass. Please refer to the front page of the newsletter.

4pm Saturdays at the Nazareth Centre.



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.

Fr Simeon Anthony is away and he will be back in January 2023. We welcome Fr Peter Carrucan who will celebrate Mass with us.



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

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.

SAVE THE DATE ... Parish Feast Day BBQ Saturday 11 February 2023. A meeting to discuss the planning of this event will be held on Tuesday night 13th December 7.30pm via Zoom. Meeting ID: 823 1080 4176 Passcode: 374 347

DONATIONS...while the Christmas and Boxing days sales are on, we are urging people to grab new items to donate for our upcoming events. **Parish Feast Day** - wine, whiskey, chocolates, vouchers etc. And for our **Leggo Raffle**, to be held early next year, any Lego sets or packets. (Please note must be new unopened items not second hand.) All donations, that will assist in raising funds for our New Church Building, can be left at the Parish Office or contact Liz Williams on lizwill126@gmail.com.



Stewardship envelopes and statements are available from all Mass centres this weekend.

Credit Card and Direct Debit receipts will be emailed week commencing 19 December.



The parish office is currently transitioning to a new software program provided by the Archdiocese. As a result of these changes we kindly request that you be patient with the parish team as we learn to navigate these new programs.

St Mary's Whittlesea Trading Table raised \$88 for the month of December. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

CCCW/WMI Food Share located at the back of the Uniting Church Whittlesea will close Wednesday 21 December 2022 and re open Tuesday 17 January 2023.

The Whittlesea Christmas Festival is a FREE community event to be held **SATURDAY 17 December 4pm-9pm** Whittlesea Agricultural Society parking at the showgrounds. Outdoor carols, kids activities, live music, food trucks, Santa and CFA. Flyers available at the back of all Mass Centres. Everyone welcome!!!!

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

Melbourne Overseas Mission. There will be a leaving collection next weekend 17/18 December.

NEXT WEEK Roster: 17/18 December

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

5:30pm [W] Trish B, Doris M **[L]** Trish B **[R]** Paul N **[E]** Ernie M **[LT]** Margaret S

8am: [W] Charles F, Lucy F **[L]** Mary D **[R]** Alessandro U **[E]** Bill F **[LT]** Carmel A

10am: [W] Lynne O, John O **[L]** John F **[R]** Lynne O **[E]** Mary W **[LT]** Barry K

10.30am: [W] George T, Juliet P, **[L]** George T **[R]** Silence M **[E]** Juliet P **[LT]** AI & choir

NAZARETH CENTRE SET UP. 4:30pm on Saturday 17 December: Margaret, Roy, Ryan



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