



CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH
DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

Second Sunday of Advent Yr B 10 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**: Margaret Muldoon

And for those whose **anniversaries** occur at this time: Mary O'Brien,
Henry Wileman

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

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 40:1-5. 9-11

Responsorial Psalm:
Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant
us your salvation.

Second Reading:
2 Peter 3:8-14

Gospel Acclamation

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

Gospel:
Mark 1:1-8

Next week: Third Sunday Advent Yr B

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

Second: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Gospel: John 1:6-8. 19-28

A reflection...

"PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD . . ." (GODSPELL MUSIC)

JOHN THE BAPTIST APPEARED IN THE WILDERNESS, PROCLAIMING A BAPTISM
OF REPENTANCE FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SIN.

"ONE WHO IS MORE POWERFUL THAN I IS COMING AFTER ME I HAVE
BAPTISED YOU WITH WATER. HE WILL BAPTISE YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT."

HE IS LIKE A SHEPHERD LEADING HIS FLOCK, GATHERING THE LAMBS IN HIS
ARMS.

WE AWAIT WHAT HE PROMISES . . . IN A NEW HEAVEN AND A NEW
EARTH .

BY LIVES OF LOVING SERVICE, WE PREPARE THE WAY FOR HIM TO COME
INTO OUR HEARTS,

Sr Maureen Delaney rsc

'Weekly Quote'

**The Prayer of the
Frog**
by Anthony de Mello
Page 61

The old rabbi had
become blind and could
neither read nor look at
the faces of those who
came to visit him.
A faith healer said to him,
"Entrust yourself to my
care and I will heal your
blindness."
"There will be no need for
that," replied the rabbi.
"I can see everything that
I need to."
Not everyone whose eyes
are closed is asleep. And
not everyone with open
eyes can see.



CHRIST THE LIGHT CHRISTMAS TOY RAFFLE [total rrp \$390.00]

3 X PRIZES: LEGO & TOY BOX, GINGERBREAD BAKING BOX AND MIXED TOYS BUNDLE
TICKETS \$5.00 EACH OR 5 FOR \$20.00

All proceeds going towards, Christ the Light Church Building Fund
If you don't have little ones, leave it on someone's door step on Christmas Eve
Tickets sold after each mass.

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

SATURDAY 16 DECEMBER – from 9.30 am - 2.30pm, we will again be manning a table at Bunnings Mernda, selling our Christmas Toy Raffle tickets and promoting our Christmas Mass Services.

Please save these dates. If you can assist with this activity, please contact either
Liz Williams 0403 007 692 or Liz Blake 0407 832 296



This Weekend By helping the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal, 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 people in Victoria who require specialised care.

St Vincent de Paul told his followers there are no people so rich that they have nothing to receive, and none so poor that they have nothing to give. Support for this Appeal will benefit recipients, and address poverty and disadvantage in our communities.

At the same time, it is an endorsement of the concern and generosity of donors.

ADVICE ON HOW TO DONATE:

- An envelope is on your seat – fill out and return to your Vinnies Member
- Alternatively, return your envelope and enclosed donation by post. Please mark your envelope with either Mernda or Whittlesea/Kinglake Conference
- You can donate online at www.vinnies.org.au or by phone at 13 18 12
- Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible. Thank you in advance.

A BIG THANK YOU FROM WMI.....Many thanks to St. Mary's Whittlesea for the wonderful response to our request for cereals, sugar and jams for distribution from our Foodshare Program. We reach out to those in need within our local area and rely on the many volunteers from our supporting combined churches community for support. Each community offers aid with specific items. We're aware that the regional school of St Mary Mead contributed significantly to the collection. Thank you and God bless you all for supporting our work. Times are hard and any kindness and support are much appreciated.

Whittlesea Trading Table St Mary's last weekend raised \$176.00. THANK YOU to everyone who supported our Trading Table in 2023 it is very much appreciated!!!!

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.



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!!

Sacraments for Secondary School Children..... If you wish to participate, please contact the parish office by no later than **FRIDAY 29 DECEMBER**. We will be conducting a special program early 2024, ensuring you don't miss out on the sacraments of Holy Communion in May and Confirmation in August.

Inclusions for the weekly Newsletter..... If you would like any notices, anniversaries or prayers for the sick included in the Sunday newsletter we kindly request that you email, text or call with details: merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au or **0448 101 401** **prior to 4pm WEDNESDAYS.** [for short notice sick or recently deceased inclusions please approach the priest prior to the commencement of mass]

House Blessing Requests.....If you would like to request a house blessing please email or text your details and a preferred day, date, and time to the parish office: merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au or **0448 101 401**. Please allow enough notice to ensure we can accommodate all requests.

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

STATEMENTS and STEWARDSHIP

ENVELOPES are AVAILABLE in the BACK of CHURCH this WEEKEND

Please collect your envelopes and statements today. If possible we ask that if you are able to deliver a neighbours it would be appreciated and save the parish the cost of postage. Direct Deposit statements will be available NEXT weekend.

If your details require updating, please email them to the parish office merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au
Thank you

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: 16 / 17 December

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

5:30pm [W] Chris B, Randy S [L] Jane Mc, [R] Caitlin S [E] Lorel D [LT] Ellen H

8am [W] Neeta K, Anthony F [L] Mary D [R] Ushmani F [E] Obinna R [LT] Millicent R

10am: [W] John O, Lynne O [L] Sean S [R] John F [E] Irene B [LT] Barry K

10.30am: [W] Juliet P, Aeshan F [L] VOLUNTEER [R] Shevan F [E] Amish J [LT] Lasith F

Children's Liturgy: Rosa R, Lucy F

NAZARETH CENTRE SET UP: 4:30pm Saturday 16 Dec: Dee F, Dinesh F, Anton S, Eromi 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

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

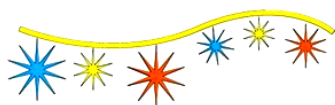
8.30 am Kinglake

10.00 am Whittlesea 10.30 am Mernda



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, COLLECTORS or POWERPOINT OPERATOR we would be grateful for your help. Please put your name down on the clipboards at the back of church.



'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 delightful and fun-filled activity that promises to add a sprinkle of merriment to our festive celebrations.

Please stay tuned for more details on the exciting activity that awaits us!

To make our gathering even more special, we encourage you to **bring a plate to share** with your fellow community members.

Let's create lasting memories as we enjoy delicious treats and the beautiful sounds of Christmas carols.

Wishing you a festive season filled with love, laughter, and warmth.



INDIVIDUAL CONFESSIONWill be available from
2pm - 5pm **SATURDAY 23** December at the Nazareth Centre Mernda

PENITENTIAL SERVICE..... to follow Individual Confession
SATURDAY 23 December at 5pm Nazareth Centre Mernda