



CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH
DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

Third Sunday of Lent Yr B 3 March 2024

Parish Priest: Fr Hien Vu

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

Assistant Priest: Fr George Hogarty SSC
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**:

And for those whose **anniversaries** occur at this time:

We pray for those who are **ill in our community**:

Peter O'Brien, K.P Abraham, Indika Fernando, Lalaka Peiris, Maria & Joseph Ah Kiau,
Gina Wherrett, Oliver Gordon, John Van Kalken, John O'Neill.

Entrance Antiphon:

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he
rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.

First Reading:

Exodus 20:1-17

Responsorial Psalm:

Lord, you have the words of everlasting
life.

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 1:22-25

Gospel Acclamation

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of
endless glory!** God loved the world so
much, he gave us his only Son, that all
who believe in him might have eternal
life. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!**

Gospel: John 2:13-25

Next week: Fourth Sunday of Lent Yr B

First: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16. 19-23

Second: Ephesians 2:4-10

Gospel: John 3:14-21

A reflection...

When I was growing up in the 1950s (!) it was common practice to receive what we called "Holy pictures" from parents, relatives, and teachers, to mark special occasions such as First Communion, birthdays, etc. I kept my collection, many of which I still have, in my Sunday missal. Most commonly they were depictions of Jesus, Mary, Joseph, and the saints. The pictures of Jesus often portrayed Him as standing tall, with long hair and beard and looking very meek and mild, presumably as a way of conveying his compassion and love. In today's Gospel, St John presents a very different representation of Jesus. The story of Jesus casting out the stall holders and the money changers from the temple portrays a very human Jesus who, rather than being meek and mild, is full of anger at what he has found. There are many layers of meaning to this story, but for me it highlights that fact that Jesus was fully human, like us in all things but sin. We catch brief glimpses of Jesus' humanity throughout the Gospels, and we can presume that he experienced the full gamut of human emotions, desires, and needs. Whilst he always proclaimed the love and mercy of God, wistfully portrayed in holy pictures, he also came to challenge and disturb the people of his time, especially the wealthy and powerful. Perhaps I also need to be challenged and disturbed during this Lenten season?

Chris Blake

'Weekly Quote'

Daily Steps for God Chicks
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Give thanks to the Lord because he is good, because his love is eternal. Let the people of Israel say, "His love is eternal." And let the priests of God say, "His love is eternal." Psalm 118:1
And His definition of love is not the definition the world uses. The love found in the world is perhaps temporal and easily offended..... but not the love that our Father offers us. His love never fails. His love is patient. His love is forgiving. His love never quits. He will never stop loving you. Ever.



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.

ANOINTING MASS

NEXT THURSDAY 7 March 10am St Mary's Whittlesea

We require the help of volunteers to assist with morning tea and transportation. Please contact the parish office via email merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au or TEXT **0448 101 401**
Your assistance would be much appreciated.

MERCY MELBOURNE - Prayer and Confession

**TUESDAY 19 March 6pm-9pm at St Joseph's Church
1490 Plenty Road Mernda**

Invitation to receive Spiritual Direction

I Fr George Hogarty am training to be a Spiritual Director at the HEART of LIFE Spirituality Centre in Croydon. I would like to extend an invitation to parishioners and interested people who might like to receive Spiritual direction or accompaniment in their spiritual and life issues. This is cost free and everyone is welcome to receive Spiritual Direction. If you are interested please contact the parish office merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au or **0448 101 401**

Fr George G Hogarty

WMI/Foodshare Report

In November we received a grant from City of Whittlesea of \$11,000, \$5200 from Whittlesea Bowls Club, 72 Christmas cakes from the Whittlesea Lions Club and had access to Christmas products from Foodbank.

Many people were extremely generous to Foodshare, donating products, money and time to our customers who are facing increasingly hard times. It looks like another busy year ahead, with 59 then 40 people attending our first week back after the Christmas break - a new record!

Kinross Farms continue to give us 4 cartons of eggs each fortnight, Debbie and Michelle from Bunnings help us out with regular bar-b-ques and countless other local people, families, businesses and groups appear with contributions and then disappear without waiting for thanks. We have a wonderful team of volunteers who turn up to assist on the Tuesdays and Wednesdays that we operate. We continue to need your prayers, help and support and we are indeed very grateful to live in such a caring community.

New CHURCH Building Account

Details:

If you would like to make a Direct Deposit DONATION* to the New Church Building account.

BSB: 083 - 347
Acc No: 135 263 131

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

Lenten Journey Program 2024

An invitation ... Every Lent there is a fresh invitation to take time away from the noise and activity of daily life to pray and reflect on our life. As we gather with others, and with the gentle guidance of leaders, we listen to the Gospel/Readings message and encourage one another in the difficulties and joys of life as disciples of Jesus. Your prayerful and attentive presence is one of the most sacred gifts you offer to one another. If you would like to share your Lenten journey, please join us for some, or all, of the five sessions. It would be helpful if you could register your interest by leaving a message at the parish office on 0448 101 401.

Wednesdays: 6th Mar; 13th Mar; 20th Mar
Time: 7.00pm to 8.30pm
Location: Nazareth Centre

LENTEN REGULATIONS

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fasting and Abstinence from meat. More information can be found on the notice boards and in the back of the church

STATIONS OF THE CROSS EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT

6:30pm at ST MARY'S CHURCH, WHITTLESEA

7.00pm at ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, MERNDA



Please donate to Project Compassion.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes which are available from the back of church TODAY, or by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.



SAVE THE DATE: Working BEE St Mary's Kinglake Church and Gardens - Saturday 16 March.

Further details next week.

Many hands make light work !!

THIS WEEKEND we welcome families presenting their children for the **'Rite of Welcome'**

Please keep these children and their families in your prayers as they bring their children forward for Baptism during the month of March



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

MINISTRY ROSTER: 9/10 March

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

10am - Whittlesea: [W] Irene B, Alice A [L] Lynn O [R] Peter R [E] John O [LT] Barry K

Nazareth Centre Ministries New Roster Platform

<https://www.christthelightparish.org.au/Document/rosters>

we continue to value your feedback and encourage you to discuss any concerns with Lasith and George or contact the parish office via mobile 0448 101 401 or email merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au

NAZARETH CENTRE SET UP: 4:30pm Saturday Month of MARCH Team B: Ray Rosales and Team