



## CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH  
DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

## ASCENSION OF THE LORD. Year A 21 May 2023

**Parish Priest:** Fr Hien Vu

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Simeon Anthony

**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](mailto:merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au)

**Website:** [www.christthelightparish.org.au](http://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

### 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 those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Kevin O'Brien, Sam Coleiro

*We pray for those who are ill in our community:* Vincent Orchard, Colin McKenzie, John Van Kalken, Ernie Muscat

**Entrance Antiphon:** Men of

Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

**First Reading:** Acts 1:1-11

**Responsorial Psalm:** God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

**Second Reading:** Ephes 1:17-23

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Matthew 28:16-20

**Next week: Pentecost Sunday. Year A**

First: Acts 2:1-11

Second: Corinth 12:3-7, 12-13

Gospel: John 20:19-23

## Gospel Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The feast of the Ascension is really a kind of liminal moment in the Easter season. It is a time between times, a moment when we have left one place in our journey but have not yet arrived at a second. The glory of the Risen Christ has already been revealed in us, but not yet totally. The feast itself celebrates the exaltation of Jesus. Today we stand awestruck, watching Jesus ascend into the clouds of heaven, there to be enthroned at the right hand of God. Today we are overwhelmed by the reality of the divinity of the one whom we have known in his humanity. Like the conquering creator-god, he has overcome his enemy (death) and now reigns over his new creation (the Church).

Christ who ascended into heaven in his body carries on what he began on earth through his new body, the church. He teaches through its apostles and evangelists. He ministers through its prophets and pastors. In and through the Church, Jesus continues to heal and to comfort; to forgive and to include. We have not been left alone; we have his power, the same power with which he performed marvels when he walked the earth. We have not been left alone; we have each other. Together we make up the new body of Christ. Together we await the fullness of this body. It is this new body that stands in between the times, secure in what we have, confident of what we will be given.



*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.*

## Joyful parish celebration hosted by our Indian community.

*Thank you message from Chris Blake, Chair, Parish Leadership Team. The evening was enjoyed by well over three hundred guests. As we entered the Anawim Centre we were greeted in traditional Indian style by having a Tilak placed on our foreheads as a symbol of good luck. Many of us, including Fr Hien, dressed in colourful traditional dress. The success of a celebration such as this was the result of much planning and hard work. On behalf of Fr Hien and all parishioners we thank the Indian community, and all who assisted and attended, for your support of Christ the Light parish and our new church building fund.*

*Reflection from Angelo I. REL at St Mary's Whittlesea. A Big Congratulations to the Indian community for what was a great night in celebration of their culture and of the Mother's in our community. I thoroughly enjoyed the different performances we had both at the beginning of the night and just after our main course. Each performance brought with it a unique feel and celebration that demonstrated the richness of talent and people we have within our Parish of Christ the Light. George and the team set up the space beautifully and let the night run with ease and comfort. The food, led by our wonderful Chef Biju, was amazing, especially as there were many dishes I was eating for the first time. I am looking forward to the next celebration together and the ones moving forward. As with our other functions this year we really are celebrating the rich heritage of our different cultures walking forward in a light of trust and hope (borrowing some words from our Church building prayer).*



**Fr Elio Capra SBD**

**10.30am Mass Sunday 28 May**

Please join us as we welcome Fr Elio at the celebration of **10.30am Mass next Sunday 28 May**. Fr Elio is a lecturer at the Catholic Theological College in Melbourne.

Please stay for a cuppa and light lunch to welcome Fr Elio after Mass as he leads us through his presentation on the Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults, and for the period of Mystagogia in the RCIA, concluding at 3pm.

### The 2023 National Count of Attendance at Mass.

The count includes the 4 weekends in May. Thank you to those who will take the count at our Masses.

### SAVE THE DATE: PARISH CAMP

**Friday 21st July to Sunday 23rd July 2023.**

#### Parish camping update.

**28 May 2023** - details about facilities and venue during parish announcements.

**4 June 2023** - BBQ to gather ideas from parishioners after 10:30am Mass at Nazareth centre

### GUEST SPEAKER—SISTER KERIN CALDWELL sgs

The program 'Ageing and Awakening : God's Surprising Gifts' is at **St Mary's Whittlesea.**

**The time is 10am-12:30pm,**  
with a cuppa at 11am.

#### The remaining Friday Session dates are:

May 26, June 9, June 23, July 7, July 21

## Prayers of the Faithful in community languages – Pentecost Sunday

At each of the Masses on **Pentecost Sunday weekend – 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> May** – some of the Prayers of the Faithful will be read in community languages as a reminder that the gift of the Holy Spirit is for all peoples in all ages. If you would like to participate by translating a prayer and reading it in your own language, please contact Liz Blake this week indicating in which language and at which Mass you would like to read your prayer. Liz will send a prayer to you for translation. The English version of the prayer will be displayed on the screen at your Mass. The Mass Leader will read any unallocated prayers and the prayers for the sick and the deceased as normal. Liz can be contacted on 0407 832 296 or at [eachblake@bigpond.com](mailto:eachblake@bigpond.com)

**PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES AND ENVELOPES** The last weekend to return any Project Compassion envelopes or boxes is next weekend 27/28 May 2023. Please place them on the collection plate at Mass.

### NEXT WEEK Roster: 27/28 May 2023

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

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

**8am: [W] Charles F, Anneston A [L] Ajith D.S [R] Lucy F [E] Anthony F [LT] Ryan J**

**10am: [W] Carol C, Lynne F [L] Mary S [R] Angelo I [E] John S [LT] Barry K**

**10.30am: [W] Shevan F, Aeshan F [L] Vanessa C [R] Laetitia M [E] Juliet P [LT] Lasith F**

**NAZARETH CENTRE SET UP. 4:30pm on Saturday 27 May: Carmel A, Mick A, Clare A**



### 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**