

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Year A. 12 NOVEMBER 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:

We pray for those who are **ill in our community**: Margaret Muldoon, Vincent Orchard, K.P Abraham, Indika Fernando, Rose Vaas, Lalaka Peiris, Carlo Carleo, Maria & Joseph Ah Kiau, Paddy Fitzgerald

Entrance Antiphon:

Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

First Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16

Responsorial Psalm:

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Second Reading:

Thessalonians 4:13-18

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming. **Alleluia!**

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

Next week: Yr A 33rd Sun Ord Time

First: Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31 Second: St Paul to Thess 5:1-6 Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

A reflection...

Today's first reading is a beautiful passage from the Book of Wisdom about seeking and finding Wisdom. In this book from the Old Testament the Wisdom that comes from God is personified as a woman and the writer tells us that we should watch out for her, and we will find her sitting at our gates (or door). Wisdom is a precious gift that helps us in many aspects of our daily lives, especially in discerning what is right or best for ourselves and others, thus helping to draw us closer to God. We need to be on the alert for Wisdom and be ready to open our gates to allow her into our lives. What are the gates into our lives? There are many! Our thoughts, our prayers, our relationships, our desires, our experiences. Like the bridesmaids in today's Gospel waiting for the bridegroom, I need to be ready to open the gates of my life when Wisdom comes knocking.

Chris Blake

<u>'Weekly Quote'</u>
The Prayer of
the Frog by
Anthony de Mello.

Page 30

Of a saint it used to be said that each time he left home to go and perform his religious duties he would say, "And now, Lord, goodbye! I am off to Church."

Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct Declaration Signing Weekend

Every year Clergy, employees, and volunteers are required to sign the Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct Declaration.

The Child Safety Code of Conduct Declaration is a requirement of a person's engagement within a Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne parish, agency, or entity.

> As you enter mass today you will be given a Declaration Form to sign.

Whether you volunteer on a ministry roster, assist with parish events, are in the choir, assist with sacramental classes, coordinate the altar servers, morning tea's.....etc, etc you are required to sign a Code of Conduct Declaration.

The signed Declarations will be collected today with the second collection and stored at the parish office.

Full copies of the Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct Declaration are available from the back of church.....



Night of the Witnesses is an evening of testimony, prayer, song, adoration and reflection to honour the witness of twelve recent Christian martyrs and to stand in

solidarity with Christians all over the world who are suffering persecution for their faith in Jesus Christ.

> Presider: Archbishop Peter Comensoli St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne Wednesday 22 November 2023 7.00 pm - 8.30 pm

International Guest Speakers:

His Beatitude, Patriarch Joseph Absi of the Melkite Greek Catholic Church - Patriarch of Antioch, Alexandria, Jerusalem, and all the East.

Mr Xavier Stephen Bisits, ACN Head of Projects, Lebanon, Syria and Egypt.

Sr Majella Dogonyaro OP, Dominican Sister, Northern

For additional information please visit the website www.aidtochurch.org/notw

NOVEMBER MEMORIAL MASSES.

In November, we especially remember and pray for our departed loved ones. November Mass offering envelopes are available from the back of each Mass Centre and are included in your stewardship package.

Retreat for Daily Life Program 2023

 November 22nd: Encounter with Jesus in daily life The session will be held at <u>St Joseph's School Mernda</u> commencing at 7.00pm and concluding no later than 8.45pm. You are invited to bring an object or image that has personal significance for you and relates to the topic.

CCCW/WMI. CAN YOU HELP FOOD SHARE?

CCCW/WMI are appealing for goodies that are hard to get. Local church communities have been asked if they can assist by supplying particular items. The parish has been requested to supply cereal, sugar and jam. If you are able to support Food Share by purchasing the above items, a drop box will be available at St Mary's Whittlesea for the next 2 weeks. Thanking you in anticipation. Lynne and Maureen



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: 18/19 NOVEMBER

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

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

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] Vanessa C [R] Shevan F [E] Amish J [LT] Lasith F

Children's Liturgy: Rosa R, Lucy F

NAZARETH CENTRE SET UP: 4:30pm Saturday 18 Nov: Carmel A, Mick A, Clare A



Join the CTL parish WhatsApp group for regular parish news updates. QR Code also available on the parish website www.christthelightparish.org.au

We are a Child Safe Parish. We hold the care. safety and well-beina of children, young neonle and vulnerable adults as a central and fundamental responsibility of our community.

