



## CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH

DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

### 4th Sunday of Lent. Year B. 14 March 2021

**Parish Priest:** Fr Martin Ashe  
**Assistant Priest:** Fr Jude Johnson  
**Parish Secretary:** Margaret Stanford [Tues & Fri: 9am – 4pm]  
**Pastoral Associate:** Sandy Starbuck Tue, Wed, Fri [9401 6324]  
**Sacraments:** Contact Parish Office [9412 8493]  
**Finance/Admin:** Monique Heckmann Tue, Wed, Thur [9412 8493]  
**Parish Office:** 48 Mernda Village Drive, Mernda 3754  
**Postal address:** P.O. Box 221, Mernda 3754  
**Phone Number:** 9412 8493  
**Email:** [merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au](mailto:merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au)  
**Website:** [www.christthelightparish.org.au](http://www.christthelightparish.org.au)

#### Nazareth Centre (St Joseph's Primary School)

44 Mernda Village Drive Mernda 3754

Weekday Mass: Wednesday & Friday 9:15 am

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 9:15 am

Weekend Mass: Sunday 10 am

Reconciliation 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays 10 am

#### St Mary's, Kinglake

124 Whittlesea-Kinglake Rd Kinglake 3763

Weekend Mass Sunday 8:30 am

#### St Joseph's, Mernda

1490 Plenty Rd Mernda 3754

Reconciliation 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Saturdays 10 am

*We pray for those who have died recently:*

And those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Jean Wood, Juan Rosales

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

#### **Entrance Antiphon:**

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

#### **First Reading:**

Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23

#### **Responsorial Psalm:**

*Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!*

#### **Second Reading:**

St Paul to Ephesians 2:4-10

#### **Gospel Acclamation:**

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! God loved the world so much he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**Gospel:** John 3:14-21

**Next week: Yr B 5th Sunday of Lent**

First: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Second: Hebrews 5:7-9

Gospel: John 12:20-30

### **GOSPEL REFLECTION**

Each reading provides us with an example of divine mercy. God's use of Cyrus to deliver the Israelites, even though he was not a believer, shows that every circumstance and any person can demonstrate the scope of God's love. In fact, it is often the situation or the individual that we least expect that has been chosen to manifest God's mercy to us. This same mercy is seen as God brings us to life with Christ even when we were dead in sin.

Mercy means that strict justice is set aside in favour of compassion. Dispossessed people are raised out of defeat and given another chance. Sinners condemned to severe punishment are raised out of despair and offered a reprieve. The whole world is raised up out of darkness when God's own Son is sent into that world as saviour rather than as judge. God's mercy raises us out of loss and hopelessness, out of darkness and sin, so that we might enjoy the blessings of life.

We too have been raised up so that we might live in truth and might become the visible sign of God's mercy in the world. We have been made a new people, free from the restraints of the past. Joined with Christ we become God's handiwork, creations that bear the seal of the great creator. We are the very sacrament of God's mercy. The forgiveness that we have experienced and the new life within us shine forth as witness to the mercy of God.

**Dianne Bergant CSA**



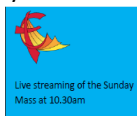
**We are a Child Safe Parish.  
We hold the care, safety and  
well-being of children, young people  
and vulnerable adults as a central  
and fundamental responsibility of  
our community.**

### **LIVE STREAM MASS SUNDAY 10:30AM**

Can be accessed at the Home Page of the parish website.

[www.christthelightparish.org.au](http://www.christthelightparish.org.au)

Please note that the Mass remains on the website and is also available to watch at anytime on that day



**The Parish Office is open**

**Tuesday—Friday**

If you would like to contact the parish please call **9412 8493** and leave a voice message or email **merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au** and a team member will get back to you as soon as possible.



### **IMPORTANT! DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE GOVERNMENTS 'COVID safe SUMMER' Rules AND OUR PARISH!!**

*"We need to consider how we are gathering with our people locally in the weeks and months ahead, especially with many reports from around our Archdiocese that some people are beginning to act as if everything was 'back to normal'. We don't want to run a risk that a parish or leader gets caught in a difficult situation in which any practise were considered unsafe or imprudent." Archbishop Peter A. Comensoli – 11 March, 2021.*

At the present time, we have set up the seating particular to the size of each Parish worship place adhering to the 2 square metre rule which can only be used if electronic record keeping is used. This has allowed us to offer the maximum seating for weekend Masses across our Parish. Given that our numbers appear to be increasing, we can only continue to do this if our attendees register via trybooking links on our website ([christthelightparish.org.au](http://christthelightparish.org.au)) or register using the QR code available at each worship centre.

For the next two weekends, there will be a Parishioner to help those who are not familiar with the QR Code. In addition, if you are unable to register using our trybooking links, we encourage you to contact our Parish on 9412 8493 where either Margaret or Monique will book for you.

*"We look forward to gathering together with all our people to safely celebrate the Mass on weekends, but in the meantime we encourage all to commit to follow these guidelines with diligence, using common sense and respect for others."* **#29 UPDATE: GENERAL LITURGICAL GUIDELINES. Fr Martin Ashe**



### **SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE: IS YOUR WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK UP TO**

**DATE?** As our parish life slowly turns to a new 'Covid Normal' it is a timely reminder that **ALL VOLUNTEERS MUST HOLD A WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK**. There are no exceptions and it is mandatory by law.

Please update your WWCC to include Christ the Light Parish as a location where you volunteer, or apply for a new WWCC at <https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/>

### **REPORT FROM THE MEETING OF THE PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM, 9<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021**

**Sacramental programs 2020/2021:** During the remainder of March, 6 groups of children, about 100 in total, will receive their First Eucharist and this will conclude the 2020 sacramental programs the celebrations of which had been held over because of COVID restrictions. We were pleased to note that each child will be able to have four family members present at the celebration, all of which will be held in the Anawim Centre at Whittlesea. The Team thanked all involved and recognised that the postponement of these celebrations, whilst adding extra work, was a welcome sign of parish life beginning to return to a new normal.

**Bunnings Sausage Sizzle.** The parish has sought and been granted the operation of the Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings Mernda on **Saturday April 10.** We are delighted with this opportunity both as a fund raiser but more importantly as a way of putting ourselves out before the broader community. We will need about 24 volunteers for this to work in 2 hour shifts. If you can assist please write your name on the sign-up sheet or contact the Parish office on 9412 8493 or Bill Frilay on 0410 479 257.



**The Liturgy Ministry Team** gathered this week to begin discussing Holy Week and Easter considering Victoria's COVID safe Summer rules and current Archdiocese Liturgical Guidelines. To begin, we are calling for volunteers for Palm Sunday of the Passion of Our Lord, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday. Clipboards for you to register your interest to be involved will be available in all worship places over the next two weekends. Any ??? call 9412 8493.

**Project Compassion Sunday 14 March 2021.** Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and help through Parish boxes and envelopes, by phoning 1800 024 413 or visit [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion)