



CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH

DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI) Year B. 6 June 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
Website: 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 2nd & 4th 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 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturdays 10 am

We pray for those who have died recently:

And those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Ada Johnson

We pray for those who are ill in our community: Margaret Hecker, Charles Galea, Frances Lock

Entrance Antiphon:

He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

First Reading:

Book of Exodus 24:3-8

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 115:12-13 Ha
I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord.

Second Reading:

Hebrews 9:11-15

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

Next Week: 11th Sun Ord Time Yr B

1st: Ezekiel 17:22-24

2nd: St Paul to Cor 5:6-10

Gospel: Mark 4:26-34

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

We celebrate this Sunday the feast of the Body and the Blood of Christ. Unfortunately, because we are in lockdown at this time we are unable to gather together physically to celebrate this feast. Up until last weekend, we have been aware of more and more people beginning to come back to our masses across the parish of Christ the Light. People were beginning to feel more confident in gathering together, in being physically part of the faith community again and to experience that closeness of the Lord in the liturgy and through each other's presence with each other.

When we gather for the Eucharist, we are being nourished by the Lord through his Word and by receiving him as the Bread of life. For a year and many months we had missed receiving "the living bread from heaven" and experiencing that communion with the Lord. Not only that, we have missed being together with each other where we also find strength and a deepening of our faith. We do not attend the Eucharist purely as individuals, rather we come together as the Body of Christ and we gain strength from each other's faith as we participate together in our prayer of praise, thanks and petition including our singing together.

Of course in the midst of the lockdown, we have been fortunate for the last year and more to be able participate in the live streaming of the mass each Sunday. This has been especially important in these times of difficulty and uncertainty and we give thanks for that. This has connected us together spiritually as parishioners. At the same time, and for those of us who have been able, have we not also yearned, physically and spiritually to be able to be together on the weekends, on Sundays, to be able to celebrate the gift of the Lord's saving love for us? The latest outbreak of the virus has put us in lockdown again. Even so may we continue to have faith in the Lord's closeness to us in the Eucharist, present for us through our live-streaming mass. At the same time we look forward to being able to gather together in the near future at our worship centres on the Lord's day to celebrate his nourishing and life-giving presence for us and for the world of our time.

Fr Martin Ashe, Parish Priest



**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.**

**SUNDAY 10:30am Mass
will be our LIVE STREAM MASS**

which can be accessed at the Home Page of the parish website.

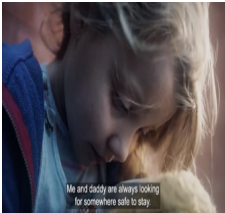
www.christthelightparish.org.au



The Parish Office is closed during lockdown.

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.

Vinnies Winter Appeal 2021 will be held on the weekend of the 12th to 13th June 2021.



As Vinnies responds to a growing demand for services following the end of JobKeeper and cuts to Job Seeker, the St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia is calling for donations to help support the rising number of people experiencing, or at risk of homelessness, including children. **Donate to Vinnies and provide essential support to Australians living in poverty. From food and financial support to clothing and utilities, you can take the pain out of poverty this winter.** You can donate directly via www.vinnies.org.au/winterappeal or by calling 13 18 12. **Please mark your donation to be for either Mernda or Whittlesea Conference.** Thank you.

First Eucharist Sacramental Program.



Over the next couple of months our children and their families will be preparing to celebrate their First Holy Communion in August. As part of this preparation the children in our 3 Catholic Schools together with those in our Catechetical Program are being encouraged to take up an "Invitation to Prayer". A powerpoint presentation has been provided to all families as a resource to experience prayer and to encounter the presence of God. As we are all reminded of the life giving presence of Jesus we receive at Eucharist may we take this opportunity to rekindle our prayer life and make time to be still with our God. The presentation is available on our Parish website, www.christthelightparish.org.au As Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs" (Mt19:14). Please let us keep them in our prayers.



The Australian Catholic Church celebrated **NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK** from May 27-June 3. As a response to Reconciliation Week, the year 3/4 students of St. Paul the Apostle, Doreen were given the task in which they had to think back to what they have learnt about reconciliation and forgiving ourselves and others. The student gave an example where they had to reflect on their past actions, saying sorry, making amends, focus on moving forward and not repeating wrong actions.



Remembering the mother of St Mary MacKillop. Flora MacKillop gave birth to eight children. Three joined the priesthood and religious life. She mourned five who were lost before they turned 30, one while still a baby. Yet we do not remember Flora as a tragic figure. Rather, we recall her great qualities of motherhood and acclaim a stoic woman who devoted her whole life to God, her family, and to the sisters who joined St Mary MacKillop in her work. More details at www.cathnews.com



Congratulations to Palms Australia on the anniversary of 60 years of service to people in need. Palms Australia thanks Bishop Gilles Côté for the partnership they shared over the last 25 years and for the support and pastoral guidance that he has provided for Palms participants. Under his motto 'Unity in Diversity', he richly contributed as Priest and later as Bishop to the spiritual, but also social, physical, and economic development of the people of Western Province of Papua New Guinea. To read more go to <https://palms.org.au>



Catholic Care invites Catholic schools throughout Victoria each year to join in **Family Week** celebrations held during May 2021. All the funds raised by schools have gone towards providing Catholic Care's vital programs and services to assist refugee and asylum seeker families to settle well in Victoria. So far schools has raised over \$7,000 and donations are still coming in. More details at <https://www.ccam.org.au>

To commemorate the 130th Anniversary of Rerum Novarum, the Johnno Johnson Forum will be hosting a free zoom event with Fr Frank Brennan SJ AO, Rerum Novarum to Laudato Si: the relevance of Catholic Social Teaching to winning government. Date: Tuesday 15th June 2021. Time: 7:30pm - 8:30pm AEST. RSVP for the zoom link: email johnojohnsonforum@gmail.com