



## CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH  
DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

### 3rd Sunday of Lent. Year B. 7 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: Bishop Bede Heather*

And those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Alvin E. Pinkston

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

#### **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:**

St Paul to 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: Yr B 4th Sunday of Lent**

First: Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23

Second: St Paul to Eph 2:4-10

Gospel: John 3:14-21

### GOSPEL REFLECTION

#### **Where does God really dwell?**

The Ten Commandments are badly named. Rather, they are the Ten Responses which should characterise a liberated people, freed from slavery by 'the Lord, your God'.

By the time Jesus came on the scene, the Temple in Jerusalem was no longer a fit dwelling place for a God who desires to free people from oppression and exploitation. To the contrary, Jesus saw the Temple ideology as placing undue burdens and shackles on people.

His anger at this erupted in dramatic street theatre. His overturning of the tables of the money-changers signalled the overturning of the Temple system.

What Our Lord revealed to uncomprehending authorities was that His body was the true sanctuary. The body of Jesus of Nazareth is the dwelling place of God, the habitation of the Lord God who liberates people. In short, God's sanctuary is not a place, but a person.

We could take a moment to pray, using the Ten Responses to review and guide our reflection and practice as we move towards Easter. This will help us to celebrate the enigmatic saying: 'Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it again.'

**Fr Michael Tate.**



**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.



**Project Compassion Sunday 7 March 2021.** Shirley, 36, is an indigenous Manide woman living in a remote province in the Philippines. Shirley was struggling to support her family and keep their children in school. She faced regular discrimination and disadvantage, limiting her family's access to food, education, employment and healthcare. With Caritas Australia's support, Shirley trained to become an indigenous health worker. She has learnt to supplement her income and is able to feed her family. The program has also empowered Shirley to send her children to school. **Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 to help people like Shirley, and her children gain confidence and respect within their community. Let's Go Further, Together.** You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.



All weekend Masses up until Sunday 21 March are now open for bookings via Trybooking. All links can be found on the Parish website [www.christthelightparish.org.au](http://www.christthelightparish.org.au)



**Wearing of Masks** are no longer mandatory in our worship spaces, however they are required to be worn when you are singing.



**THANK YOU** to those of you that assist me with the task of folding letters this week, your efforts are greatly appreciated - Monique.

**PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING** will be held via Zoom on Tuesday 9 March at 7pm

**LITURGY TEAM MEETING** will be held at the Nazareth Centre on Thursday 11 March at 7pm.



**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS.** This Sunday will see our newly RCIA Elect, Mark Lockwood, Gerrad Harper and Sonya Nwokediuko presented with the Creed of our Catholic Church. They now enter the period of the scrutinies, which are the "rites for self-searching and repentance and have above all a spiritual purpose". During these final weeks of Lent – the Scrutiny period – is celebrated in order to deliver the elect from the power of sin and to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ. Let us pray that all those who seek to know Christ will see his goodness and love reflected in each of us as we too, reflect on our own Lenten pilgrimage.



**Let us Dream: The Path to a Better Future - Pope Francis**

"The basic rule of a crisis is that you don't come out of it the same. If you get through it, you come out better or worse, but never the same." In a crisis, the Pope writes, "you reveal your own heart: how solid it is, how merciful, how big or small." He argues that "it is an illusion to think that we can go back to where we were. Attempts at restoration always take us down a dead-end street." Rather, "this is a moment to dream big, to rethink our priorities — what we value, what we want, what we seek."

**International Women's Day 8<sup>th</sup> March.** We pay tribute to countless women who selflessly serve their families, their workplaces, and their church communities. May their talents, gifts and leadership be acknowledged and affirmed. May young girls be encouraged to reach their full potential and take their rightful place among their peers. Prayer resources can be found at: <https://www.pray.com.au/international-womens-day-prayer-rite/>

<https://www.sistersofmercy.org/resources/prayer-march-8-international-womens-day/>



**Easter Mealtime Prayers for the Family.** Liturgical Press has just released a simple prayer resource for families during the Easter Season. *The Easter season comprises the most important weeks of the liturgical year, but observance of the season in parishes and homes often doesn't reflect its significance. Easter Mealtime Prayers for the Family brings Easter from the altar table to the family table—an easy, effective step for family observance. This simple prayer resource provides the "domestic Church" with a means to cherish together the living faith we celebrate throughout the Easter season.* Available in e-book form <https://litpress.org/Products/E6680/Easter-Mealtime-Prayers-for-the-Family>