



## CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH

DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

## 1st Sunday Lent. Year A 1 March 2020

**Parish Priest:** Rev Martin Ashe  
**Assistant Priest:** Rev Shymon Thekkekalathungal  
**Parish Secretary:** Margaret Stanford [Tues, Thur 9am-12:30pm & Fri: 9am – 4pm]  
**Pastoral Associate:** Sandy Starbuck Tue, Wed, Fri [9401 6322]  
**Baptisms:** Christine Hall [Mon & Tues]  
**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

Weekend Masses: Nazareth Centre:

Sat. 5:30 pm Sun. 8 am Sunday 10:30 am

Children's Liturgy each Sunday 10.30am

### St Mary's

2-20 Fir Street Whittlesea 3757

Weekday Mass: Tuesday & Thursday 9:15 am

Weekend Mass: Sunday 10 am

Children's Liturgy each Sunday 10am

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

### St Mary's

124 Whittlesea-Kinglake Rd Kinglake 3763

Weekend Mass Sunday 8:30 am

### St Joseph's

1490 Plenty Rd Mernda 3754

Weekday Mass: Wednesday & Friday 9:15 am

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:*

*We pray for those who are ill in our community: Edmond Cochrane, Michael Masset*

*We pray for those who are welcomed into our community with Christ this weekend: Patrick Hruha*

#### **Entrance Antiphon:**

When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

**First Reading:** Gen 2:7-9,3:1-7

#### **Responsorial Psalm:**

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

#### **Second Reading:**

St Paul to Rom 5:12-19

#### **Gospel Acclamation**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

**Gospel:** Matthew 4:1-11

#### **Next week: 2nd Sunday of Lent Year A**

First: Genesis 12:1-4

Second: St Paul to Tim 1:8-10

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

#### **Gospel Reflection:**

Sin and temptation are the dominant themes of the readings for this first week of Lent. Indeed, they are regular themes in the season of Lent. However, the scripture passages throughout this season allow us the opportunity to think again about these themes and perhaps reconsider some traditional understandings of them.

Today's first reading and gospel give us two different takes on the notion of temptation. In the passage from Genesis, humanity is tempted to ignore the will of God and, when they succumb, they lose their innocence and become embarrassed by their nakedness. The temptation they are offered is to believe themselves above and beyond the will of God; to believe that they can judge as well as God; and to rise to an equal level of power and authority with God. Their action breaks the trusting, loving relationship between themselves and God. In the Gospel, Jesus too is confronted with similar temptations. Ultimately, the temptation that faces Jesus relates to his purpose and ministry – will he trust to God's vision of the suffering servant who will bring about a change of heart in the people, or will he be the sort of Messiah that the people hoped for: a triumphant, glorious victor over all who stood in his way. He is tempted to break his self-imposed fasting, to test God's promise of nurture and security, and to seek glory and personal power. Whilst Adam and Eve surrender to temptation, Jesus holds fast to God's vision.

**Greg Sunter.**

## Parish Events:

**YEAR 1 & 2 MASS.** We welcome all of our year 1 & 2 students from all 3 schools at all of our Masses this weekend.

### RECONCILIATION BEFORE HOLY WEEK

**The Second Rite of the Sacrament of Reconciliation** will be celebrated on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March – 7.30pm at St Mary's Church, Whittlesea.

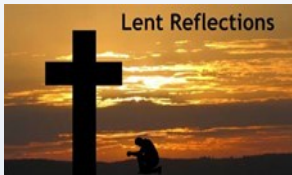
**The First Rite of Reconciliation (individual)** will be celebrated on Wednesday 1 April – 7pm at St Joseph's Church, Mernda. This will be an opportunity for all faithful to be reconciled with God and neighbour and enter into the celebration of the paschal mystery at Easter with a renewed heart



The 2<sup>nd</sup> step in Christian initiation is the liturgical rite called both election and the enrolment of names, which closes the lengthy period of formation of the catechumens' minds and hearts. We therefore will journey this afternoon, into St Patrick's Cathedral with **Anne Rouge, Catechumen and Sajad Kolahdooz, Candidate** together with godparents and sponsor, to inscribe their names in the Book of the Elect. Continue to pray for them during this period of Purification and Enlightenment preparing for the sacraments of initiation at Easter.



**Stations of the Cross** will held on the Fridays during Lent  
**St Mary's Whittlesea – 7pm... St Joseph's Church – 7.30pm**

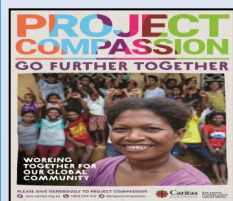


COME! Join other Parishioners for a Lenten Retreat in daily life each week through Lent. Experience a different way of praying guided through the **Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius**. **Every Friday at 7pm during Lent**, at the Nazareth Centre St Joseph's School. You will be guided quietly and deeply into prayer and experiencing the presence of a personal God. There are flyers with further information at the back of the Church. To register your attendance (for catering), contact Sandy Starbuck, 9401 6322.



The parish team would like to thank Mary, Rina, Olga, Rashanthi, Liz, Gloria, Patrick, Pat and Gunter for helping fold letters last week. It was a wonderful morning sharing conversation and morning tea.

**THANK YOU!** Prayers of thanks are offered for the **generosity of Agnes Saliba** for her sharing her talents and skills in making a new altar cloth for use during this Lenten Season. A wonderful and Spirit filled example of how God moves in the faithful to serve His Church. Thank you, Agnes!



### PROJECT COMPASSION.

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed **"Go Further Together"**. Your generosity will assist some of the world's most vulnerable communities to lift themselves out of poverty. When we **Go Further Together** in love and compassion, the whole world thrives. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes or by phoning 1800 024 413 or by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion)

### MERENDA COMMUNITY

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** Saturday 7th March at St Joseph's church, Plenty Road, Mernda at 10am

**Nazareth Centre Set up:** Saturday 7th March at 4:30pm. Michael & Carmel Audley, Ann McGuire, Ruween DeSilva, Agit DeSilva

### WHITTLESEA COMMUNITY

**St Vincent de Paul Whittlesea has changed its Conference name to St Vincent de Paul Whittlesea – Kinglake.** The reason for the change is that the new name reflects the area we cover and the support we receive from Kinglake when conducting our Christmas and Winter appeals..

### EVENTS ELSEWHERE.

#### RISE HOME AWAITS. YOUTH FESTIVAL.

All young people are welcome to attend. It will be held at Emmaus College, 503 Springvale Road, Vermont South. 10am-6pm. Cost \$20 (Early Bird). Featuring Fr Rob Galea, Justine Cumbo, J. Sano. Please RSVP to Fr Shymon (Parish Office Phone 9412 8493) by Friday 13th March. Register at [RiseMelbourne.com](http://RiseMelbourne.com)

**THE GOSPELS OF HOLY WEEK AND EASTER RETREAT** Fr Frank Moloney SDB. Dates of this event are 16-19 March 2020.

Fr Frank Maloney will lead this retreat on the Gospels of Holy Week and Easter at the beautiful and peaceful Don Bosco Retreat Centre. Cost- \$430 all inclusive (retreat, meals, accommodation). Further information and registration:

Contact Candy Phone 9752 2432 or email: [dbrclysterfield@gmail.com](mailto:dbrclysterfield@gmail.com)



**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.**