



CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH
DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERENDA, WHITTLESEA

Thirty-third Sunday Ordinary Time. Year A 15 November 2020

Parish Priest: Rev Martin Ashe
Assistant Priest: Rev Shymon Thekkekalathungal
Parish Secretary: Margaret Stanford [Tues & Fri: 9am – 4pm]
Pastoral Associate: Sandy Starbuck Tue, Wed, Fri [9401 6322]
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

St Mary's

2-20 Fir Street Whittlesea 3757

St Mary's

124 Whittlesea-Kinglake Rd Kinglake 3763

St Joseph's

1490 Plenty Rd Mernda 3754

We pray for those who have died recently:

And those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Richard Brennan

We pray for those who are ill in our community: Vivien Sguerzi, Monina Sanchez, Sajad Kolahdooz

Entrance Antiphon:

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

First Reading:

Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 127:1-5

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Second Reading: St Paul to Thes 5:1-6

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. **Alleluia!**

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

Next week: Yr A Christ, King of the Universe.

First: Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17

Second: St Paul to Corinth 15:20-26,28

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

GOSPEL REFLECTION by Fr Shymon Thekkekalathungal

SOMEBODY once said: "Einstein had a Great Mind; Newton, a Brilliant Mind; Bill Gates, an Extraordinary Mind; But our politician, Never Mind!"

Do you mind the talents that has been given to you by God? Or Are you grieving for your misfortunes in your life due to your misunderstanding about your talents? Christ's parable of the talents (mt 25:14-30) in this weekend's gospel gives us a glimpse of Joy that none of us has been left without any talent in our life. We are all gifted with different talents which varies according to the purpose of God. Some of us are gifted with more talents and some others are gifted with less talents. Despite of it, everybody gets sufficient qualities to work with. Because it is not the quantity but the quality matters. What God demands is that a person should use to the full the ability that has been given to them, rather do not be wasted without using it like the third servant in the parable.

All of us who read this may have received at least one talent. It might be the gift of faith which is very significant in our lives, especially during this unprecedented time. When we analyse our faith life during this lockdown, we can understand that although there were tremendous possibilities for losing our faith, we have managed it miraculously and regained our spiritual energy. It is because we have been blessed with the gift of faith. It flourished our own personal faith in God more than we had it before the pandemic. So that we tried our best to find out different means to reach out to our fellow believers and vulnerable people through the local and international church. Even with all the COVID-19 restrictions we allowed the gift of faith to grow in a good manner in our parish with the help of our dedicated volunteers. Our new website, care call programmes, live stream mass and other sacramental attempts are an example for that.

Now it is not the end of our work. We don't stop our faith journey anywhere. We have to continue until we have been told like in the gospel that **"Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master"** (verses 21, 23). Until then, let us continue to live accordingly and use our talents wisely for the sake of the kingdom of God.



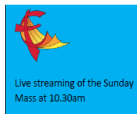
*We are a Child Safe Parish.
We hold the care, safety and
well-being of children, young people
and vulnerable adults as a central
and fundamental responsibility of
our community.*

LIVE STREAM MASS SUNDAY 10:30AM

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

www.christthelightparish.org.au

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



Parish Office Hours during Stage 4 Restrictions -

During this time of lockdown the Parish Office is closed, however 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.

UPDATE FOR INDOOR MASSES

The Archdiocese has provided us with the new guidelines. The celebration will take place with **only 20 people**.

WEEKDAY MASS TIMETABLE. Mass at St Mary's Whittlesea will be held on **Tuesdays at 9:15am** (20 people maximum) and **Thursdays at 9:15am** (20 people maximum)

Mass at Nazareth Centre will be held on **Wednesdays at 9:15am** (20 people maximum)

UPDATE Weekend Mass Attendance From next weekend, 21/22 November we will be moving to TRYBOOKING for weekend Mass attendance. Listed below are the links to next weekend's Masses if you would like to book a FREE ticket. All bookings for next weekend Masses **open on TUESDAY 17 November at 9am and close on FRIDAY 20 November at 5pm**. There is a limit of 5 free tickets per booking during this time. Covid requirements when attending Mass can be found in 'Terms & Conditions'. *If you are not able to book your free ticket on-line we strongly encourage you to call the Parish Office before 4pm Friday 20 November and a parish team member will assist you: 9412 8493.*

5.30pm Mass Saturday 21 November Nazareth Centre Mernda <https://trybooking.com/BMSKL>

8am Mass Sunday 22 November Nazareth Centre Mernda <https://trybooking.com/BMSKU>

8.30am Mass Sunday 22 November St Mary's Kinglake <https://trybooking.com/BMSKY>

10am Mass Sunday 22 November St Mary's Whittlesea <https://trybooking.com/BMSKZ>

10.30am Mass Sunday 22 November Nazareth Centre Mernda <https://trybooking.com/BMSLC>

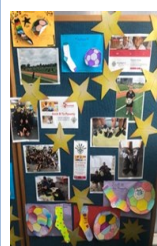


Those who wish to attend a weekday Mass will need to **provide the Parish Office with** name, phone number, and stating your choice of mass. Only if your name is on the list are you able to attend Mass. You can do this either by Phone – **9412 8493** or by email merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au

REPORT FROM THE MEETING OF THE PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM, 10TH NOVEMBER 2020

Becoming a missionary parish: During this year the Archdiocesan Office for Mission Renewal has hosted a series of online seminars based on the theme "Leading a Missionary Parish". There have been six of these sessions and links have been provided on the parish website for parishioners to access these seminars. The Parish Leadership Team, encouraged and guided by Fr Martin, has spent time at each of our meetings reflecting on what it means to be a missionary parish and how we might take steps to ensure that Christ the Light parish becomes such a parish. Pope Francis has encouraged each of us to become missionary disciples of Jesus. As missionary disciples, our love of Jesus impels us to reach out to others, to invite them to accompany us on the journey of faith, and to share with them the Good News of God's love for each one of us. As we look forward to 2021 the Team commits itself to this goal and we will continue to explore ways in which all of us might deepen our love of Jesus and become messengers of God's love in and for our world.

SOCKTOBER CELEBRATION DAY @ST JOSEPH'S, MERNDA. Friday 6th November saw much fun, learning and activity around our



'**Sock It To Poverty**' fundraising day. Student Social Justice and Stewardship Leaders facilitated a great day where the students engaged in prayer, learning about **Catholic Mission** and investigating the issues that some communities around our world face in their everyday life. They also brainstormed possible solutions to these issues. There were lots of crazy socks being worn and paraded within the Villages, some of our students creating their own crazy socks with many different materials. Students engaged in engineering and making their own soccer balls out of recycled newspapers, socks, plastic bags and twine. There was a great deal of fun had by all, seeing which soccer balls stood up to the test of being kicked around the playground. Our community came together and supported us so generously and we raised \$1,059 dollars. What a fabulous day and a wonderful cause to support.

WORLD DAY OF THE POOR 2020. The message from Pope Francis is "**Stretch forth your hand to the poor**" (Sir 7:32). Age-old wisdom has proposed these words as a sacred rule to be followed in life. Today these words remain as timely as ever. They help us fix our gaze on what is essential and overcome the barriers of indifference. Poverty always appears in a variety of guises, and calls for attention to each particular situation. In all of these, we have an opportunity to encounter the Lord Jesus, who has revealed himself as present in the least of his brothers and sisters (cf. Mt 25:40).