



CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH

DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

Thirty-Second Sunday Ordinary Time. Year A 8 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: Giovanni Rizzotto, Lena Anderson,

We pray for those who are ill in our community: Debbie Crocker, Bernice Fitzpatrick, Vivien Sguerzi, Andrea Pereira, Monina Sanchez

Entrance Antiphon:

Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

First Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 62:2-8

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Second Reading:

St Paul to Thess 4:13-18

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming. **Alleluia!**

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

Next week: Yr A 33rd Sun Ordinary Time

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

Second: St Paul to Thess 5:1-6

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

GOSPEL REFLECTION

These last several months have asked a lot of us in the midst of this pandemic, especially how we have sought to live our lives during this time. We have been forced to reflect on what stands out as important and necessary for our lives to be lived fruitfully. It has meant that relationships and livelihoods have been given new focus. It certainly hasn't been a time to just take things for granted or to become complacent. Rather we have had to take seriously what has been happening and be alert to embracing new attitudes and ways of acting not only for our own sakes but for those around especially those who have been vulnerable. Can we begin to detect a deeper understanding and meaning for our lives? Have we acquired a deeper wisdom in the way we see our lives and the ways we might engage with our world?

The gospel story challenges us as disciples of Jesus to face the reality of our present life and to be intentional about this. The gospel parable speaks of ten bridesmaids who have been chosen to escort the bridegroom to the wedding reception. Five are wise and five are foolish. When the bridegroom arrives, five of them have their lamps full of oil and are ready and alert to accompany him to the wedding reception. The other five discover that they have not enough oil for their lamps and therefore fail to be ready to accompany the bridegroom. They have become complacent and in the end are not allowed into the wedding hall.

Living out our Christian calling is an ongoing invitation and task in the world of our time. Being alert and attentive to what is needed now is to grow in wisdom. It is to have oil in our lamps. The oil that we need to have ready and being willing to share is the love of Jesus Christ. It is firstly to surrender to the ongoing reality of Christ's love being there for us in the midst of all the circumstances of our lives. It is not to take for granted our love for Christ. Rather it is to strive prayerfully in keeping this love alive. Our mission then as disciples of Jesus is to recognize that our lives can indeed light up the various shades of darkness that touch peoples' lives. Yes, there are times when complacency can creep into our lives yet we are being challenged during this time to realise that each one of our lives matter in making our community life-giving and liveable for all.

Fr Martin Ashe, Parish Priest.



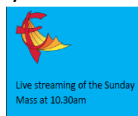
*We are a Child Safe Parish.
We hold the care, safety and
well-being of children, young people
and vulnerable adults as a central
and fundamental responsibility of
our community.*

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 restrictions on numbers. Following the government announcement on the 8th November, we will update you again on the new arrangements.

Live Stream Mass will continue at the present time. Please see the top of the page for details.

NEW WEEKDAY MASS TIMETABLE

Mass at St Mary's church Whittlesea will be on

Tuesday 10th November at 9.15am and Thursday 12th November at 9:15am.

Wednesday Mass at Nazareth Centre. Wednesday 11th November at 9:15am.

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession can be arranged by contacting the Parish Office by phone or email.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING will be held via Zoom on **Tuesday 10th November at 7pm.**

NOVEMBER MEMMORIAL MASSES. In the month of November we especially remember and pray for our departed loved ones. Given the Covid-19 restrictions for religious gatherings, you may still wish to use the special November mass offering envelopes that are included in your stewardship package. You can place it in the parish letter box, NUMBER 48 Mernda Village Drive, Mernda (located at the entrance to the apartment building). Those without November envelopes may wish to place the names of your loved ones and your offering in an ordinary envelope and placed in the above letter box.



GOD CONTINUES TO REVEAL HIS PRESENCE AND ACTIVITY IN OUR COMMUNITY! The Holy Spirit knows no lockdown restrictions as our RCIA Enquirers can attest to! The RCIA Ministry Team with Fr Shymon continue their weekly zoom gatherings with our three new Enquirers sharing their journey, while enriching our own, to a deeper awareness and knowledge of God and His Holy Church. Please keep them and our team in your Prayers that God's guiding Spirit will continue to grace our sessions to bear fruit for the glory of his Kingdom.



CatholicCare is the social service agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne and the Diocese of Sale. We've been supporting families and individuals for the last 85 years. We provide family and relationship support services, relationship courses, pastoral services, refugee and asylum seeker support, and school and education support. Our services are offered to the whole community, regardless of religious belief or background. More information can be found at www.ccam.org.au

NAIDOC WEEK November 8th - 15th



Traditionally held in July (at the time that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday is celebrated in our churches) is now being celebrated online. NAIDOC Week celebrations are held around the country to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. **2020 Theme Always Was, Always Will Be** recognises that First Nations people have occupied and cared for this continent for over 65,000 years. NAIDOC Week is celebrated not only in Indigenous communities, but by Australians from all walks of life. The week is a great opportunity to participate in a range of activities and to support your local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. To find out more visit <https://www.naidoc.org.au/>

REMEMBRANCE DAY is 11th November. At 11 am on 11 November 1918 the guns on the Western Front fell silent after more than four years of continuous warfare. November 11th became known as Armistice Day. After the end of the Second World War, the Australian and British governments changed the name to **Remembrance Day** in recognition of the commemoration of all the war dead. On 11 November 2020, the Australian War Memorial will hold a **nationally televised Remembrance Day commemorative ceremony, broadcast live across Australia by the ABC** and available later on ABC view. (from the Australian War Memorial website) Visit <https://www.awm.gov.au/commemoration/remembrance-day> for history and other information and resources.