



## CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH  
DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

## Twenty First Sunday Ordinary Time. Year A. 23 August 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](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

### 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

*We pray for those who have died recently:*

And those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Rebecca Amato [Rinaldi],  
Cipriano De Silva

*We pray for those who are ill in our community:* Vivien Sguerzi, Linda George

#### Entrance Antiphon:

**First Reading:** Isaiah 22:19-23

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 137

Lord, your love is eternal;  
do not forsake the work of your  
hands.

**Second Reading:** Romans 11:33-36

#### Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!** You are Peter, the  
rock on which I will build my Church;  
the gates of hell will not hold out  
against it. **Alleluia!**

**Gospel:** Matthew 16:13-20

**Next week: Yr A 22nd Sun Ordinary Time**

First: Jer 20:7-9

Second: Romans 12:1-2

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27

#### **Gospel Reflection:** A key...

We have wonderful readings today, especially the gospel. It speaks about the key of the Kingdom of heaven. A key is an indispensable part of our lives, because it helps us to open and close many household things. Imagine if we lose the key of our car, house or locker etc...what would happen? Life would be very disturbed that day! If then, what would happen when we lose the key of our inner strength? Definitely, life would be in a collapsed state, because Jesus who lives in us is the inner strength of our lives. It will be a great failure, if we fail to recognise this truth in our lives. Many people failed to understand it but Peter was exceptional in today's gospel. He was able to read his inner self very well about Jesus when he had been asked 'who Jesus was'. Prompted by the inner self he responded to Jesus that, "You are the son of the living God" – Why Peter?

Peter was always close to Jesus, he had the hunger to be always in His Company.---When Jesus went to the mountain to be transfigured Peter was there.--- When Jesus walked on water Peter was also there walking on water towards Jesus. There were many more instances that tell us of the closeness of Peter with Jesus. Of course Peter had his own weaknesses too., but he was humble enough to admit it and be with him. This divine closeness helped him to know Jesus deeply. It caused him to be worthy to receive the key of the kingdom of heaven which enables him to know the mysteries of God.

Closeness to Jesus is very important, to open our inner self to know who Jesus is for us, especially during this pandemic. God has given a key to all of us to unlock our inner self to know more about the strength of Jesus in us. Jesus who lives in us is the inner strength of our lives. Let us open our inner self and try to know the energy of our Christian life during this unprecedented time, by not being spiritually weak, not being doubtful of God's words, not being meaningless for others and not being disgraceful to the life that has been given to us. Let us be courageous at this time of lockdown and be a true witness of Jesus Christ using the Key that has been given to us.

**Fr. Shymon Thekkekalathungal.**

## UPDATE FOR PARISHES COVID-19

We have to abide by stage 4 restrictions again for at least another 4 weeks. **All Masses in our Parish have been temporarily suspended for 4 weeks or until further notice. We are still permitted to have our Live Stream Mass**, as has been the case from the very beginning.

## 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



## 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](mailto:merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au) and a team member will get back to you as soon as possible

## ZOOM CATHECHIST Classes - Sacrament Of Eucharist



Over the past 7 weeks, children from the government schools within our Parish have been loyally joining me on zoom for their preparation for the Sacrament of Eucharist. No matter that we are unable to provide a date for the celebration of their joining us at the Table of Our Lord; each week 28 students have come on board to give an hour to embracing learning of the source and summit of our Catholic Faith. I thank you for your prayers which have been answered in their faithful attendance, the completion of their worksheets, and the outpouring of their young faith and trust in the example of their friend Jesus reflected in their work. Here are a few examples of their art work! *Pastoral Associate - Sandy Starbuck*



## RCIA

Rite of  
Christian  
Initiation  
for Adults



Interested in becoming Catholic?

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults [RCIA]

Within our Parish Vision and Mission statement, we speak of as disciples of Jesus, we embark on a life-long journey of learning and growing in relationship with the Lord, embracing Him as 'the Way, the Truth, and the Life' reflected in the way in which we live our lives. We are called to spread the Good News of Christ making a positive contribution to the world! The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** is our Catholic response to reaching out to those wishing to know more about being a Catholic. The search for answers to the big questions of life has never been more active than it is today. In this time where we are experiencing the shifting sands beneath our feet, you may know of

someone who is asking: Why is this happening? Who is this God to whom we profess ever faithful, every powerful and loving? What can he do in my life to make a difference? If you know of someone who may be asking these questions of you – invite them to seek further! On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm, (via zoom) we will be opening the Enquiry Stage of the RCIA 2020/2021 journey. Give them my email, they would be welcomed! Sandy Starbuck, Pastoral Associate – [sandy.starbuck@cam.org.au](mailto:sandy.starbuck@cam.org.au).

## PARISH CARE CALL PROGRAMME

Continues....



We thank those that are a part of this particular team, which has been designed to reach out to our fellow Parishioners, showing our interest and care for them, and especially for those who may feel isolated at this time. Of course, we are aware that there are already Parishioners contacting their fellow Parishioners that they are aware of, which is wonderful to see.

Given that we currently in stage 4 restrictions again we believe it is important to keep in touch with people as much as we can. We still have a number of parishioners yet to be contacted. If you would like to join this wonderful reach out ministry team, please contact the Parish Office on 9412 8493 and leave a voice message or email [merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au](mailto:merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au)

All of this is a way to extend a caring presence amongst us and beyond.

The **Legion of Mary** cordially invites anyone in our Parish, each evening at 8pm to join their group to **pray the Rosary via zoom**. Please contact Maria Mauer via email – [ivan.maria1@bigpond.com](mailto:ivan.maria1@bigpond.com) for the Meeting ID and Password to join. You would be most welcomed!

**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.**



**Thank you from CatholicCare**, we are grateful for the support of your parish. Because of the generosity of parish communities, CatholicCare can continue to insure that vulnerable families and communities have the opportunity to live life to the full. If you would like to donate online go to [www.ccam.org.au/SundayAppeal](http://www.ccam.org.au/SundayAppeal) or call (03) 9287 5513.