



CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH

DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

Twenty Sixth Sunday Ordinary Time. Year A. 27 September 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

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: Bill Stanford

We pray for those who are ill in our community: Vivian Sguerzi, Debbie

Crocker, Maria Ah Kiau, Sajad Kolahdooz, Bernice Fitzpatrick, Evelyn Fry,
David Buttigieg

Entrance Antiphon:

All that you have done to us, O Lord,
you have done with true judgement,
for we have sinned against you and
not obeyed your commandments. But
give glory to your name and deal with
us according to the bounty of your
mercy.

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 24:4-9

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Second Reading: St Paul to Phil
2:1-11

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! My sheep listen to
my voice, says the Lord; I know them,
and they follow me. **Alleluia!**

Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32

Next week: Yr A 27th Sun Ordinary Time

First: Isaiah 5:1-7

Second: St Paul to Phil 4:6-9

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43

GOSPEL REFLECTION

One spiritual writer speaks of a simple ritual that helps in his daily life. When he wakes up in the morning he immediately calls upon the Lord, thanking him for a new day and praying for guidance in all that will be part of his life on that day. In many ways it is a way of saying 'yes' to Christ. There is something intentional about it. He is making a free choice to have Christ as an important part of his life throughout the events of his day within family, work and community.

What the gospel also highlights is that our 'yes' is always an ongoing invitation that is being put before us. We see the religious leaders in Jesus time being challenged in their 'yes' to God. Just because they believe in the God of Israel, their response is legalistic and narrow. However, their 'yes' does not come from the heart. They show this in not responding to the call of John the Baptist to be converted anew in their lives and now not responding to the message of Jesus. In contrast to the response of the tax collectors and the prostitutes who initially said 'no' by their manner of living, they have now said 'yes' by their openness to Jesus and his life-giving message.

To be a disciple of Jesus is to allow our lives to gradually be shaped by the pattern of Jesus life and his life-giving message of the Kingdom. Our 'yes' is an ongoing 'yes' to the Lord. Our 'yes' is revealed in and through the small and the big choices and events of our lives. It is also to realise that our 'yes' to the Lord affects the life of our overall community. It also embraces that sense of responsibility given to us in creating a more humane, just and caring community. We are more conscious at this time of Pandemic that we are not alone in the kinds of choices we are called to make. Saying 'yes' to keeping people safe, following the protocols, being caring of one another is all a 'yes' for the overall good of our community at this time. Beginning our day saying 'yes' to the Lord is all part of responding to this.

Fr Martin Ashe, Parish Priest

UPDATE FOR PARISHES COVID-19

Since the government announcement made on 16th September, celebration of Mass is still not able to be held in public.

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

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.



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.



NEW PRESBYTERY – Fr Martin and Fr Shymon moved into their newly constructed Parish house this week. Let's keep them in our prayers as they settle into their new home. This new house has been built near the site of the future church in Doreen. We are grateful to the Archdiocese who financially assisted us and to the Parishioners who also played a part in this project. This will be the house for the priests who serve the people of our Parish now and into the future.

106th WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES. Pope Francis encourages us to embrace all those who are experiencing situations of precariousness, abandonment, marginalisation and rejection as a result of COVID-19. This year's theme for the Holy Father's Message for 2020 World Day of Migrant and Refugee is: **"Forced like Jesus Christ to flee"**. This pastoral care of the Church towards Migrants and Refugees focused on the following aspects as named by Pope Francis: welcoming, protecting, promoting, and integrating migrants and refugees to enrich our local communities.

FEAST OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL is

celebrated today. The St Vincent De Paul Society Victoria has a 165 year tradition. We thank our volunteers in our area who continue to play a vital role in helping people who need it most. Go to www.vinnies.org.au



"All those who love the poor in life, will have nothing to fear from death."
-St. Vincent de Paul

PRAYING WITH SCRIPTURE.

Missed the first session? No worries! You will be warmly welcomed this **Thursday, 1st October at 2.30pm.**

ZOOM: Meeting ID: 922 0425 Passcode: 362 909 or use the link: <https://zoom.us/j/92204251548?pwd=cnJzZVcwb1o5Q050eXlPZW5ybnU4dz09>.

Sr Maureen: 0400 797 100.



ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, MERNDA has created

Spoonda Village. This is a community initiative to bring joy and hope into our family's lives. It's an opportunity to work together as a family and share creativity and happiness as a way to promote wellbeing for everyone. As you go for your Daily walk you may like to come past and visit our Wonderful **'St Joseph Spoonda Village'** and place your own spoon in the garden.



PRAY FOR VOCATIONS.

Prayer is effective; prayer is powerful; prayer is essential. Few are called to priesthood or religious life, but all are called to pray for vocations.

SOCIAL ZOOM: Share your DIY projects and garden tips.

Join us and share social light hearted conversation with a glass of wine or a cuppa. It will be held on

Friday 2nd October, at 2 different times:

5pm with Rob & Liz Williams

MEETING ID: 364 087 3171

PASSWORD: TJD 7y2



7:30pm with Margaret Stanford

MEETING ID: 278 901 2630

PASSWORD: 374 347



Sacramental Preparation



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION.

Connection with our Parish families who have children preparing for the Sacraments of Confirmation, First Eucharist and First Reconciliation, continues in our Parish Catholic Schools and our Catechetical Program. Weekly classes for the Sacrament of Reconciliation for children who attend the state schools within our community are held via zoom. Monthly connection via zoom continue with children who attended preparation classes earlier in the year for Confirmation as a way to nurture the children's awareness of God's Holy Spirit present and active in our world. If you would like to discuss our Sacrament Preparation Program, please contact me at sandy.starbuck@cam.org.au.

SEPTEMBER AS A MONTH OF PRAYER

Our Fourth Week reading for Prayerful Reflection is: *"The Kingdom is Within"*. Here we are reminded that through Jesus Christ we find our human fulfilment and thus this fulfilment is literally divine. Our website has details of this week's reflection guide. *If you would like someone to pray with you, or for you, please ring our Parish Office on 9412 8493 and we will respond to your voice message.*

