



CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH

DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

2nd Sunday of Lent. Year B. 28 February 2021

Parish Priest: Rev Martin Ashe
Assistant Priest: Fr Jude Johnson
Parish Secretary: Margaret Stanford [Tues & Fri: 9am – 4pm]
Pastoral Associate: Sandy Starbuck Tue, Wed, Fri [9401 6324]
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

Weekday Mass: Wednesday & Friday 9:15 am

Weekend Masses: Saturday 5:30pm

Sunday 8am and Sunday 10:30am

St Mary's, Whittlesea

2-20 Fir Street Whittlesea 3757

Weekday Mass: Tuesday & Thursday 9:15 am

Weekend Mass: Sunday 10 am

Reconciliation 2nd & 4th Saturdays 10 am

St Mary's, Kinglake

124 Whittlesea-Kinglake Rd Kinglake 3763

Weekend Mass Sunday 8:30 am

St Joseph's, Mernda

1490 Plenty Rd Mernda 3754

Reconciliation 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturdays 10 am

We pray for those who have died recently: Fr Antonio Cota, Annie Viegas, Lucida Fernando, Lucy Cachia

And those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Paddy Larkin

We pray for those who are ill in our community: Sajad Kolahdooz, Virginia Ballo Baltazar

Entrance Antiphon: Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

First Reading:

Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

Responsorial Psalm:

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

Second Reading:

St Paul to Romans 8:31-34

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

Next week: Yr B 3rd Sunday of Lent

First: Exodus 20:1-17

Second: St Paul to Cor 1:22-25

Gospel: John 2:13-25

GOSPEL REFLECTION

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2021. "Behold, we are going to Jerusalem" (Mt 20:18) Lent: a Time for Renewing Faith, Hope and Love

In this Lenten season, *accepting and living the truth revealed in Christ* means, first of all, opening our hearts to God's word, which the Church passes on from generation to generation. This truth is not an abstract concept reserved for a chosen intelligent few. Instead, it is a message that all of us can receive and understand thanks to the wisdom of a heart open to the grandeur of God, who loves us even before we are aware of it. Christ himself is this truth. By taking on our humanity, even to its very limits, he has made himself the way – demanding, yet open to all – that leads to the fullness of life.

Fasting, experienced as a form of self-denial, helps those who undertake it in simplicity of heart to rediscover God's gift and to recognize that, created in his image and likeness, we find our fulfilment in him. In embracing the experience of poverty, those who fast make themselves poor with the poor and accumulate the treasure of a love both received and shared. In this way, fasting helps us to love God and our neighbour, inasmuch as love, as Saint Thomas Aquinas teaches, is a movement outwards that focuses our attention on others and considers them as one with ourselves (cf. *Fratelli Tutti*, 93).

Lent is a time for believing, for welcoming God into our lives and allowing him to "make his dwelling" among us (cf. *Jn* 14:23). Fasting involves being freed from all that weighs us down – like consumerism or an excess of information, whether true or false – in order to open the doors of our hearts to the One who comes to us, poor in all things, yet "full of grace and truth" (*Jn* 1:14): the Son of God our Saviour



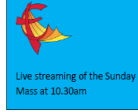
**We are a Child Safe Parish.
We hold the care, safety and well-being of children, young people and vulnerable adults as a central and fundamental responsibility of our community.**

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

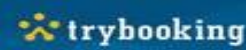


**The Parish Office is open
Tuesday—Friday**

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.



Project Compassion Sunday 28 February 2021. Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and help people living with disabilities in the Solomon Islands gain access to education and clean water, empowering them with skills to protect our common home. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.



All weekend Masses up until Sunday 21 March are now open for bookings via Trybooking. All links can be found on the Parish website www.christthelightparish.org.au

Wearing of Masks are no longer mandatory in our worship spaces, however they are required to be worn when you are singing.

Liturgy Meeting will be held on Thursday, 11 March – 7pm – at the Nazareth Centre



CONFIRMATION. Saturday 27 February saw the final group of children from our schools and catechetical program who prepared for the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2020, come together to receive the Sacrament. Please pray for these children and their families that their hearts will continue to be open to the guiding Spirit of their loving God as they continue their faith journey.

RITE OF ELECTION – The First Sunday in Lent saw our RCIA 2021 Catechumens and Candidates journey to St Patrick’s Cathedral



for their names to be entered into the Book of the Elect. The wearing of masks did nothing to hide the sense of wonder and awe in the activity of God’s Spirit working amongst us. Mark Lockwood (Candidate) and Gerrad Harper (Catechumen) were blessed by a ‘personal encounter’ with the leader of our Melbourne Church, Archbishop Comensoli. When asked about their experience, Mark replied, “I have a real sense of ‘coming home’ and feel privileged to partake in such an ancient rite.” The effect of the sunshine shining through the leadlight stained glass of the cathedral, captured the attention of Gerrad and has stayed with him ‘as a day that will stay with him’. Sonya Nwokediuko, our other Candidate, was unable to join us but was remembered throughout the Rite as Mark placed her scroll along with his, to the Archbishop. Remember Sonya, Gerrad and Mark in your prayers as their journey takes them into a time of ‘self-searching and repentance’ over the final three weeks of Lent through the Scrutinies.

St Patrick’s Cathedral Concert. A grand organ and trumpet recital will be held on Friday 5 March at 6pm-7pm. Bookings can be made at www.melbournecatholic.org

Prayers for Vocation. Archbishop Peter has accepted six men for admission to Corpus Christi College this year. A special thanks to the priests who have encouraged and supported these men over the past several years to bring them to this point. It is a reminder that the role of priests in parishes is an essential part of vocations work. Please pray for these men.

Working Document for the fifth Plenary Council released. 'This is an exciting step forward and we take it together, amidst a time of great change. More than 220,000 people participated in the first stages of Listening and Dialogue, and those voices can be heard clearly in the working document,' said Archbishop Costelloe, president of the Plenary Council. More details can be found at: <https://melbournecatholic.org/news/working-document-for-the-fifth-plenary-council-released>

Lenten message from Archbishop Peter Comensoli. You can read the words or watch the 30 minute video on Prayer, fasting, almsgiving- Faith, hope and love: <https://melbournecatholic.org/news/prayer-fasting-almsgiving-faith-hope-and-love>