

Fourteenth Sunday Ordinary Time. Year A. 5 July 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

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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-KinglakeRd 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 <u>died</u> recently:

And those whose <u>anniversaries</u> occur at this time: James Pinkston, Antonio Caruso, Maria Romaniuk

We pray for those who are <u>ill</u> in our community:

Entrance Antiphon:

Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.

First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-10

Responsorial Psalm:

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

Second Reading:

St Paul to Romans 8:9,11-13

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of
heaven and earth, you have revealed
to little ones the mysteries of the
kingdom. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30

Next week: Yr A 15th Sun Ordinary Time

First: Isaiah 55:10-11

Second: St Paul to Rom 8:18-23 Gospel: Matthew 13:1-23

Gospel Reflection: Becoming like children

"Put your hand in the hand of the man from Galilee" was the refrain of a popular Gospel song some years back. Putting your hand in somebody else's is a gesture of intimacy, which is very characteristic children with their parents. To a loving father or mother a child will give its hand unquestioningly, with complete trust. Holding his or her father's hand there is nowhere the child will not venture. It is not only willing to be led, but positively wants to be brought somewhere. Somewhere in the growing up process we outgrow our dependency on our parents, and having lost the need for their guidance, even God can become remote for us. Only those who are children at heart can fully understand what Jesus tells us about God — that God reveals Himself to "mere children."

Growing up means ceasing to be dependent. We exchange a child's dependence on people for an adult's dependence on things, like money, alcohol, success and influence. But these props are notoriously fickle and the adult world is often plagued by stress and anxiety. Our props may provide temporary relief but can still leave us — as Jesus puts it — "labouring and burdened;" labouring under illusions of grandeur and burdened with unrealistic targets. The heaviest load we have to carry is that of our own unfulfilled ambitions, the burden of our bruised egos. Only a return to humility can restore our lost innocence and our lost paradise., that honest humility that accepts our creature-status, our status as children before God. To enjoy the peace of Christ we must "put our hand in the hand of the man from Galilee', who guides us along life's journey and helps us to find the way home.

'Come to me', he says, 'all you who labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest.' In spite of all our problems, we trust him when he says, my yoke is easy and my burden light.

Association of Catholic Priests.

UPDATE FOR PARISHES COVID-19.

As you would be aware, we had hoped to be having Mass with 50 people. That is not the case now, given the increase in the infection rate within our Victorian community and the new restrictions that have been put in place. As a result, we will maintain our present situation by having Mass on
Thursday morning at 9:15am at St Mary's, Whittlesea with up to 20 people">Mary's, Whittlesea with up to 20 people and on
Sunday morning at 10:30am at St Mary's, Whittlesea with up to 20 people.

We will also maintain our live streaming Mass at 10:30am which will remain on our website and is available to watch at any time on that day. These guidelines will remain in place for the time being.

<u>LIVE STREAM SUNDAY 10:30AM MASS</u> Can be accessed at the Home Page of our website. <u>PARISH WEBSITE:</u> <u>www.christthelightparish.org.au</u>

Please note that the Mass remains on the website and is also available to watch at anytime on that day. Physically, we may not be present to one another but spiritually we do join one another across the Parish as the one community, so that our faith in Jesus Christ can be a source of strength and hope for us all.

<u>VOLUNTEERS FOR MASSES AND BAPTISMS</u>. When we open up further for Masses and Baptisms, we will need assistance in order to continue to meet our hand sanitising requirements and checking contact details. If you are able to assist us on a roster basis as we go forward, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact **Parish Office 9412 8493.**

ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL

Vinnies Mernda Conference continues to assist many clients in need, whilst experiencing circumstances beyond their control.

Donations to the Winter Appeal may be made via direct debit: Account name St. Vincent de Paul Society

BSB 063003 ACCOUNT NUMBER: 10081787 Ref. Agent Code 908 (for Mernda Conference donations)

We sincerely thank those who have been able to make a donation. You are reminded that assistance is available to the community by contacting 1300305330 between 10am and 3pm weekdays. Also the Vinnies shop, Epping is open to the public.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SEEKING VOLUNTEERS.

An invitation is extended to anyone who may be interested in joining our Vinnies conference, to contact the Parish office where your call will be referred to the relevant volunteers in our Parish.



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.



RCIA JOURNEY OUR ELECT – Anne Rouge and Sajad Kolahooz have been using these past few months continuing with their journey of faith in deepening their relationship with God, our Catholic Church and our Community. The RCIA Ministry Team along with Fr Shymon have continued connecting and journeying alongside Anne and Sajad via ZOOM digital format in this COVID 19 environment. Please continue to pray for our Team and Anne and Sajad as they continue to know and recognize the presence of "God who is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." 1 Cor1:9.

<u>ST MARY'S, KINGLAKE STEWARDSHIP RECEIPTS AND ENVELOPES</u>. Please call Robert Martini on 0409 165 687 to make the arrangements to collect your envelopes.

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SUNDAY falls on the first Sunday in July and is a significant celebration on our





Church's calendar. Whilst providing us with an opportunity to acknowledge our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander brothers and sisters, the celebration also signifies that we are united as one in God's love and care. We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued

deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.



Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for your donation of \$1053.50 and for your support of Project Compassion 2020. If you would like to make a donation you can do so by www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion Through your generosity you will be empowering the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and share their strengths with their communities to lift themselves out of poverty. #projectcompassion 1800 024 413



<u>CONGRATULATIONS! MONSIGNOR GREG BENNET</u> has been appointed the 10th Bishop of Sale. He is well known and loved in the Melbourne Archdiocese, he said "I am humbled by Pope Francis' nomination of me to be the next Bishop of Sale. It is an enormous responsibility and privilege to be asked to undertake this appointment".