



CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH

DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

3rd Sunday Lent. Year A 15 March 2020

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| Parish Priest: | Rev Martin Ashe |
| Assistant Priest: | Rev Shymon Thekkekalathungal |
| Parish Secretary: | Margaret Stanford [Tues, Thur 9am-12:30pm & Fri: 9am – 4pm] |
| Pastoral Associate: | Sandy Starbuck Tue, Wed, Fri [9401 6322] |
| Baptisms: | Christine Hall [Mon & Tues] |
| 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

Reconciliation 2nd & 4th Saturdays 10 am

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

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

We pray for those who have died recently:

And those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Juan Rosales, Jean Wood

We pray for those who are ill in our community: Edmond Cochrane, Michael Masset

We pray for those who are welcomed into our community with Christ this weekend: Mia Razzi, Theodore Hadjiloukas, Eliana D'Angelo, Cameron Storch, Riley Fernando

Entrance Antiphon:

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

First Reading: Exodus 17:3-7

Responsorial Psalm:

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Second Reading:

St Paul to Romans 5:1-2,5-8

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: John 4:5-42

Next week: 4th Sunday of Lent Year A

First: Samuel 16:1,6-7,10-13

Second: St Paul to Eph 5:8-14

Gospel: John 9:1-41

Gospel Reflection:

Drinking from the fountain of life

Without a constant water-supply our life would be impossible since our bodies need constant hydration. Not so obvious is the soul's thirst for meaning, for vision and purpose in life. We can be so taken up with surface concerns as to neglect our spirit's longing for God. Like the Israelites, we focus upon our physical needs, but are often unmindful of our Creator who supplies them. It is Jesus who offers us the reviving water of eternal life, an ability for union with God, which is our deepest need. In today's Gospel he satisfies a thirsting soul. When water is brought to it, how the desert can blossom. (We may cite examples of successful irrigation in Israel, Egypt, California.) The miracle of growth can take place in the parched soul, if God lets his Spirit flow over us. All doubt, fear and sin will yield to the new life of grace.

Our baptism, the sacrament of our washing with the water of Christian faith was a privileged contact with the grace of Christ. By it we were planted in the garden of God, with room to put down roots, and draw vital nourishment from the living spring of the Saviour. Yet we need continuing help, to keep spiritually alive and pleasing to God as life goes on. Like the desert-wandering Jews, we suffer from thirst; we grow weary in confronting problems and temptations (sketch examples —) Jesus guarantees the "living water" we need. His own Spirit is always at hand to give courage and fidelity.

The Word of Life. Association of Catholic Priests.

Parish Events:

RECONCILIATION BEFORE HOLY WEEK

The **Second Rite of Sacrament of Reconciliation** will be celebrated on Tuesday 31st March – 7.30pm at St Mary's Whittlesea.

The **First Rite of Reconciliation (individual)** will be celebrated on Wednesday 1 April – 7pm at St Joseph's Church, Mernda.

This will be an opportunity for all faithful to be reconciled with God and neighbour and enter into the celebration of the paschal mystery at Easter with a renewed heart.

Stations of the Cross will held on the Fridays during Lent **St Mary's Whittlesea – 7pm... St Joseph's Church – 7.30pm**

St Ignatius Spirituality Exercises continue on Friday evenings 7pm Nazareth Centre during Lent.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are calling for those who wish to participate in the **LITURGY of MASS and SERVICES for the PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD and HOLY WEEK, Sunday 5th April – Sunday, 12th April.** Sign up sheets for volunteering during this time are on clipboards located in the foyer of each community's worship space. Your assistance will be appreciated. All volunteers will be notified and Readings, etc., (where applicable), will be sent through to those in these roles.

HOLY WEEK / EASTER MASS TIMES

Palm Sunday 4 April [Saturday] – Nazareth Centre 5:30 pm.

Palm Sunday 5 April – Nazareth Centre 8 am & 10:30 am, St Mary's Kinglake 8:30 am & St Mary's Church, Whittlesea 10 am.

Holy Thursday 9 April – Nazareth Centre 7:30pm & St Mary's Whittlesea 7:30pm.

Good Friday Ecumenical Walk 10 April – Ecumenical Good Friday Way of the Cross is to be held at St Joseph's Church, 1490 Plenty Road, Mernda Time: 10am.

Good Friday Walk 10 April to commence at the New Horizons Church 28 Forest Street Whittlesea at 10am.



Good Friday Services 10 April – Nazareth Centre 3 pm & St Mary's Church Whittlesea 3 pm.

Easter Vigil Saturday 11 April - Nazareth Centre 7:30 pm

Easter Sunday 12 April - Nazareth Centre, 8am & 10:30am, St Mary's Kinglake, 8:30am & St Mary's Whittlesea, 10am

UPDATE ADVICE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE ON NOVEL CORONAVIRUS.

Holy Communion: * All Ministers of Holy Communion should take particular care to wash their hands before and after distribution.

* Only the Body of Christ, the host, will be distributed at Holy Communion.

* The novel coronavirus is easily spread through saliva. It is therefore recommended that the Body of Christ only be administered in the hand because of the high risk of transmission if people continue to receive on the tongue.

Rite of Peace: When exchanging the Sign of Peace, individuals should avoid shaking hands but are encouraged to say "Peace be with you" and offer a smile, wave, nod or bow. More information about hygiene can be found at:

<https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/about/publications/policiesandguidelines/wash-your-hands-regularly-poster>



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.

PLT MEETING NOTES FROM TUESDAY 10 MARCH.

* Congratulations to George Thommana and Lasith Fernando and the Communications Committee in setting up our new Parish website. They have done an outstanding job. All of your hard work is very much appreciated. Thank you.

* The Regional Manager attended our Child Safety Committee meeting on 25 February. Parish teams are signing progressively their Code of Conduct Declarations. Child Safe Induction of volunteers is taking place in the parish.

* Christ the Light Parish Youth Group is up and running. Our pilgrims will speak at Masses on 21-22 March on their experience at the Australian Catholic Youth Festival last December in Perth.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING: Tuesday 17 March at the Parish Office at 7pm.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY MEETING: Wednesday 18 March at the Parish Office at 7:30pm.

MERENDA COMMUNITY

Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday 21st March at St Joseph's Church, Plenty Road Mernda at 10am

Nazareth Centre Set up: Saturday 21st March at 4:30pm: Deepthi Fernando, Dinesh Fernando, Ushmani Fernando, Rosa Rinaldi, Maria Mathew

PROJECT COMPASSION.

When we **Go Further Together** in love and compassion, the whole world thrives. You can donate through boxes and envelopes or by phoning 1800 024 413 or by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion

