



CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH
DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

Thirtieth Sunday Ordinary Time. Year A. 25 October 2020

Parish Priest: Rev Martin Ashe
Assistant Priest: Rev Shymon Thekkekalathungal
Parish Secretary: Margaret Stanford [Tue & 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

St Mary's

2-20 Fir Street Whittlesea 3757

St Mary's

124 Whittlesea-Kinglake Rd Kinglake 3763

St Joseph's

1490 Plenty Rd Mernda 3754

We pray for those who have died recently:

And those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Nell Donohue

We pray for those who are ill in our community: Debbie Crocker, Bernice Fitzpatrick, Vivien Sguerzi, Sajad Kolahdooz, Maria del Carmen Abiega, David Buttigieg, Andrea Pereira

Entrance Antiphon:

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

First Reading: Exodus 22:20-26

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 17:2-4,47,51
I love you, Lord, my strength.

Second Reading: St Paul to the Thessalonians 1:5-10

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40

Next week: Yr A 31st Sun Ordinary Time

First: Malachi 1:14-2:2,8-10

Second: St Paul to Thess 2:7-9, 13

Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12

GOSPEL REFLECTION by Fr Martin Ashe, Parish Priest.

The essence of our Christian faith is the love of God and the love of neighbour. This is how Jesus responded to the question from the religious leaders about which commandment was the greatest. The two commandments were linked together like two hinges on a door. To love God is to be open and receptive to the One who's love is unconditional and personal towards us. Yet, the invitation is not only to acknowledge this, it is to grow and be embraced in the reality of this love. The more we make room for the love of God in our lives, the more we take the focus of self and our many preoccupations in life. It is ultimately to surrender ourselves to this transforming gift that can help shape and guide our daily lives.

In coming to know God's love for ourselves, especially revealed through Jesus, we are being drawn to go beyond ourselves to others. There is no true love of God without it being shown to make a difference for good in the world around us. Having listened to the God who loves us and to the Christ of the Gospels, the more attuned we become to the pain and the hopes of the world around us. It is of deep significance that when Pope Francis came toward the end of his recent Encyclical letter on Universal Fraternity, he called to mind Blessed Charles de Foucauld, who bore witness to the Love of God by becoming a brother to all.

Pope Francis writes "Blessed Charles directed his ideal of total surrender to God towards an identification with the poor, abandoned in the depths of the African desert. In that setting, he expressed his desire to feel himself a brother to every human being, and asked a friend to "pray to God that I truly be the brother of all". He wanted to be, in the end, "the universal brother". Yet only by identifying with the least did he come as last to be the brother of all. May God inspire that dream in each one of us." In the challenging times we are living through at present, is not the genuineness of our love for God most powerfully shown in the manner by which we reach out to whoever might need our attention and care at this time. It is to recognise every human being as my brother and sister, loved deeply by God. We are to become ambassadors of this fraternal love of God for all.



**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



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.

UPDATE FOR PARISHES COVID-19

OUTDOOR MASSES. The Archdiocese has provided us with the new guidelines. The celebration will take place in an outdoor setting. Please see the Mass dates and times below:

Saturday 31st October, 5.30pm Mass outside Nazareth Centre (maximum 5 people)

Sunday 1st November, 8.30 Mass outside St Mary's Kinglake (maximum 20 people)

9.00am Mass outside St Mary's Whittlesea (maximum 5 people)

10.30am Mass outside Nazareth Centre (maximum 5 people)

Live Stream Mass will continue at the present time. Please see the top of the page for details.

Weekday Masses outside St Mary's church Whittlesea will be on Wednesday 28th and Thursday 29th November at 9:15am.

Those who wish to attend the Mass will need to **provide the Parish Office with** name, phone number, and stating your choice of mass. You can do this either by Phone – **9412 8493** or by email merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au

Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession is postponed until further notice.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FR SHYMON. Fr Shymon Thekkekalathungal has been appointed Administrator of Western Port Parish (Mornington Peninsula region). His appointment begins on the 20th January 2021. He has served in our Parish for 3 years and will continue with us for the next 3 months.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS COMMITTEE MEETING was held via Zoom on Tuesday 20 October. The eSafety Commissioner has recently published a free e-book resource '**Online safety for grandparents and carers**' which provides practical tips about online safety issues that children and young people may experience. More information can be found on our website or go to: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/seniors/online-safety-grandparents-carers>

NEW GOVERNANCE MODEL FOR MELBOURNE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS. A new company is to assume the governance and operation of Catholic schools in Melbourne Archdiocese, Archbishop Peter Comensoli has announced. The change in governance arrangements will see all 293 schools owned by the Archdiocese, its parishes or associations of parishes in the Archdiocese of Melbourne transferred to Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Ltd (MACS). Archbishop Comensoli said "The establishment of MACS is a necessary and constructive change to the operations for schools that not only reflects community expectations about the operations of schools, but keeps our Christ-centred mission at the heart of all we do in Catholic education." More details can be found at www.cam.org.au



PRAYING THE ROSARY IN OCTOBER- St Joseph's, Mernda. The month of October is dedicated to the holy Rosary, one of the best known of all Catholic devotions. The Rosary draws its mysteries from the New Testament and is centred on the great events of the Incarnation and Redemption with each decade referring to an event in the life of Jesus and Mary. The teachers are using the mysteries in various ways in the classroom; as a shortened story of the life of Christ; as a review of the various events in the life of Jesus and his Mother; as a teaching tool in a religion lesson: as an introduction to the recitation of the Rosary. The recitation of the Rosary is beginning to be part of the student's prayer life.



The Ready, Set, Pray! Children's Liturgy of the Word @ Home video series has been created to provide an engaging space for families to encounter Jesus through the Sunday gospel. Each week includes an invitation for families to create and gather in their own prayer space, to sing, hear the Gospel, pray and respond creatively through an activity. This weekly resource follows the familiar **Children's Liturgy of the Word** format provided in many parishes – but moved to an online setting. The series consists of 10 weekly sessions of 15-20 minutes duration, continues each Sunday until Christmas. We hope this experience of gathering for prayer will encourage families in this time when they cannot gather for parish celebrations of Eucharist. *It is produced by Proclaim: The Office for Mission Renewal at the Archdiocese of Melbourne*



SOCIAL ZOOM. You are very welcome to join us for a trivia night—no prizes, just for fun and laughs!

Friday 30 October at 7pm. MEETING ID:278 901 2630

PASSWORD: 374 347