



CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH

DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

Fifteenth Sunday Ordinary Time. Year A. 12 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
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: Clare Boulous

And those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Joe Boulous, Palmira Da Silva

We pray for those who are ill in our community:

Entrance Antiphon:

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-11

Responsorial Psalm:

The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

Second Reading:

St Paul to Romans 8:18-23

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 13:1-23

Next week: Yr A 16th Sun Ordinary Time

First: Wisdom 12:13,16-19

Second: St Paul to Rom 8:26-27

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43

Reflection:

We find ourselves once again in lockdown. As a community we had hoped we were managing our lives well in the midst of the virus but there has been a gradual increase in the infections taking place. So we are having to again embrace these new restrictions to help us contain and lessen the spread of the virus and to help enable us to create a more safe and liveable environment for all in the midst of this Covid-19 pandemic. This will be for at least a 6 week period.

In the midst of these days we find ourselves frustrated but also we do find ourselves being anxious and concerned about our own families and our livelihoods, and wondering how we can manage this uncertain period. In what ways does our relationship with God influence and nourish us during this time.

The words of the Gospel this weekend speak of the power of the seed to grow and develop in the midst of many challenges. When the sower spread the seed, it seemed that much of it was wasted and that was not the expected response. There were many obstacles and set-backs. Yet growth did take place and there was a huge harvest from the small amount of seeds that were planted in the good soil. It reveals how powerful the Word of God is and how powerful the action of the Spirit in human lives. So often this life-giving action can be hidden from view and there appears to be nothing taking place. In fact we can only see the negative, we are being made to observe the failures and self-centredness that affect our human lives. Yet the actions we do take in following the protocols that are in place, all help to keep us safe. Also the actions we do take in caring for our families, for example, those moments of kindness and patience, our willingness to assist others where we can. These actions can seem insignificant, in that they appear not to be affecting real change, yet there is something profound happening. God is close to us in all that we seek to be and do. These little seeds being sown are giving us all encouragement and hope in the midst of our present situation. May we continue to sow these seeds which truly reveal the love of God in action within our family and community. It is to trust that our efforts in this time of lockdown are all part of God's on-going transformation and humanising of our world.

Fr Martin Ashe, Parish Priest.

UPDATE FOR PARISHES COVID-19.

Given the new directives announced by the government on Tuesday 7th July 2020, we have been one of the Parishes within the 31 local government areas that have been placed into lockdown. This means we are having to abide by stage 3 restrictions again for at least 6 weeks. **All Masses in our Parish have been temporarily suspended for 6 weeks or until further notice. We are still permitted to have our Live Stream Mass**, as has been the case from the very beginning.

LIVE STREAM SUNDAY 10:30AM MASS Can be accessed at the Home Page of our website. **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.

PLT MEETING will be held via Zoom on Tuesday 14 July at 7pm.



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.



Thank you to the many helpers that hand delivered newsletters to our parishioners that don't have access to email and stewardship envelopes. Your generosity is very much appreciated.



***The St Joseph's Mernda Prep students** have been learning about how we encounter the enormity of God's love. They have interpreted the ways God's love is revealed and reflected on how we relate to each other and the environment.*

"Prayer makes your heart bigger, until it is capable of containing the gift of God himself." St Teresa of Calcutta.

Would you be interested in leading a Parish Rosary Group to join together via zoom digital format? Please contact the Parish Office, 9412 8493. This is an opportunity to pray for our world in need of healing and renewed hope.



BECOMING CATHOLIC

Have you ever considered this?

Has anyone ever invited you to join the Catholic Community?

Would you be interested?

Would you like some questions answered?

If these questions reflect ones you may be asking of yourself – I would welcome the opportunity to chat with you. Contact me by phoning **9412 8493**.

Sandy Starbuck, Pastoral Associate, Christ the Light Parish

SUNDAY MASSES FROM ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL.

Broadcasting the Sunday Mass on TV has been essential during this time of COVID-19, especially for those in our community with limited internet access. A reminder that the 11am Sunday Mass from St Patrick's Cathedral will continue to be broadcasted on channel 44 on digital TVs.

COOKHOUSES 'N TANKS A LOT NEWSLETTER.

This is the latest news from Sr Margaret Ryan, formerly Pastoral Associate of Kinglake. If you would like to read this, a copy is available on our website under "Parish News".

"AWAKENING YOUR HEART FOR MISSION" WITH FR STEPHEN LANGRIDGE.

Watch the first instalment of the 'Leading a Missionary Parish' series, where Parish leaders are invited to hear from global leaders in missionary parish renewal. Fr Stephen Langridge explored the topic of "Awakening your heart for mission" via Zoom conference with Priests and parish team members from our Melbourne Archdiocese last Thursday night. Fr Stephen is Parish Priest of St Elizabeth of Portugal parish in Richmond, London, and formerly Vocations Director for the Southwark Diocese. In case you missed it, his talk is now available to watch on our website under "Parish News".