

Twenty Seventh Sunday Ordinary Time. Year A. 4 October 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-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: Fr Anthony Toms, John Albert Gaw And those whose <u>anniversaries</u> occur at this time: Paul Cherry We pray for those who are <u>ill in our community</u>: Vivian Sguerzi, Debbie Crocker, Sajad Kolahdooz, Bernice Fitzpatrick, Evelyn Fry, David Buttigieg

Entrance Antiphon:

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

<u>Responsorial Psalm</u>: Ps 79:9,12-16,19 The vineyard of the Lord is the House

of Israel.

Second Reading: St Paul to Phil 4:6-9

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43

Next week: Yr A 28th Sun Ordinary Time

First: Isaiah 25:6-10

Second: St Paul to Phil 4:12-14,19-20

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

GOSPEL REFLECTION

There is a funny and reflective story. It is about a woman who tried to help a victim of a car accident. While doing that, a nurse came and said, "Miss, excuse me. Step back please! I've had a course in First Aid, and I am trained in giving CPR!" The woman stepped aside, watched the procedure, then said, "In case you need a doctor, I'm just at your back." Dear friends, do we recognize God who is behind us or who is in different guise to assist us during our difficult times, especially during this lockdown? As we see in the gospel, he is the stone that the builders rejected and has become the cornerstone. He is the real keystone of our life.

We, people are too confident sometimes that we can live all by ourselves. It is because we think that we have enough health, wealth, and power. It may lead us to forget and reject Christ in our lives as the tenants in the parable. The result of this is that people feel no meaning in their lives and it eventually prompts them to end their lives amid adversity and failures. But remember once we realize and strongly believe that we have Christ with us, we won't be carried away during the times of difficulties because we will remain hopeful.

We are the tenants of the new vineyard of Christ called the "Church". We are accountable to the owner of this church by living up to the standard of his people especially when our life is threatened with different calamities and pandemic. At this time, we are not expected to doubt our God's ways or reject him, instead we are expected to be responsible to God, to the world, to the church, to other people, and to ourselves. We must live productive and meaningful lives, rather being wasted and irresponsible lives. So, to enliven our faith, let us affirm that we are built upon the cornerstone of Jesus Christ. Let him flourishes in our lives through the sacraments of the church and let his presence in the sacraments bring us consolation during this time of uncertainty.

Fr Shymon Thekkekalathungal.

UPDATE FOR PARISHES COVID-19

Since the government
announcement made on 28th
September, celebration of Mass
is permitted outdoors with 5
people plus the priest.

We are still permitted to have our Live Stream Mass, as has been the case from the very beginning.

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.



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.

OUTDOOR SUNDAY MASS will begin on WEEKEND OF 10TH AND 11TH OF OCTOBER. The Archdiocese has provided us with the new guidelines. We are permitted to celebrate Mass with a limit of 5 people, plus the priest, St Mary's in Kinglake (Regional Victoria) has a limit of 10. The celebration will take place in an outdoor setting. Please see the Mass dates and times below: Saturday 10 October, 5.30pm Mass outside Nazareth Centre (maximum 5 people)

Sunday 11 October, 8.30 Mass outside St Mary's Kinglake (maximum 10 people)

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

10.30am Mass outside Nazareth Centre (maximum 5 people)

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 – **94128493** or by email merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au

Scheduling of Masses in this way ensures that we are meeting the strict regulations regarding the collection of contact details of those attending, strict monitoring of numbers, ongoing hygiene, masks and respecting physical distancing protocols.

Weekday Masses outside St Mary's church Whittlesea will be on Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th October at 9.15am

THE SEASON OF CREATION is an annual celebration and time of prayer from 1 September, the World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation, until 4 October. This year, the Season of Creation will conclude with a new encyclical from Pope Francis, *Fratelli tutti*, or 'All brothers and sisters.' The letter is expected to explore themes of friendship and unity in a time of growing fragmentation, with a focus on the human family in a post-COVID-19 world. Despite an atmosphere of rising partisanship globally, 'this pandemic has shown that we can't live without one another,' the Pope tweeted on 26 September. Pope Francis will visit Assisi to celebrate Mass and sign the encyclical on 3 October at the tomb of St Francis. Then, to celebrate the feast day of St Francis of Assisi on Sunday, 4th October, *Fratelli tutti* will be released. More information is at www.melbournecatholic.org.au

<u>SOCIAL ZOOM</u>: Share your favourite snacks. Join us and share social light hearted conversation with a glass of wine or a cuppa. **Friday 9th October**, at 2 different times:

5pm with Rob & Liz Williams

MEETING ID:364 087 3171 PASSWORD: TJD 7y2

7:30pm with Margaret Stanford

MEETING ID: 278 901 2630 PASSWORD: 374 347



PRAYING WITH SCRIPTURE.

You are warmly welcomed to attend the last session on **Thursday**, **8th October at 2.30pm**.

ZOOM: Meeting ID: 922 0425 1548

Passcode: 362 909

or use the link: https://zoom.us/j/92204251548? pwd=cnJzZVcwb1o5Q05OeXIPZW5ybnU4dz09).

Sr Maureen: 0400 797 100.



LEADING A MISSIONARY PARISH. The final 2 Zoom sessions:

<u>Thursday 15 October 7:30pm-9:30pm</u>. Growing Missionary Disciples in Your Parish with Sherry Weddell.

<u>Thursday 29 October 7:30pm-9:30pm</u>. Making Missionary Disciples in Our Parish with Fr Mauro Conte and Vanessa Comninos. To register for this free event go to:

www.trybooking.com/BKDAZ

The Zoom link is sent upon registration.



ST FRANCIS OF ASSISSI, the patron of ecology and the name day of Pope Francis. St Francis abandoned a life of luxury for a life devoted to Christianity. He is the patron saint of the environment and animals because he loved all creatures and allegedly preached to even the birds.