

## First Sunday of Lent Yr B 18 February 2024

Parish Priest: Fr Hien Vu

The Parish Office open hours are Tuesday - Friday 9am-4pm

**Assistant Priest:** Fr George Hogarty SSC **Pastoral Worker:** George Thommana

**Finance/Admin:** Monique Heckmann [Tue, Wed, Thur: 9am – 4pm] **Sacraments:** Contact Parish Office [Phone o3 9412 8493]

Parish Office: 2-20 Fir Street, Whittlesea 3757
Postal address: P.O. Box 221, Mernda 3754

**Phone Number:** 03 9412 8493 **Mobile Number:** 0448 101 401

Email: <a href="merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au">merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au</a>
Website: <a href="merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au">www.christthelightparish.org.au</a>

# Nazareth Centre, Mernda (St Joseph's Primary School)

44 Mernda Village Drive Mernda 3754 Confession/Reconciliation: Saturday 4pm Weekend Masses: Saturday 5:30pm Sunday 8am and Sunday 10:30am Children's Liturgy EVERY Sunday 10:30am

## St Mary's, Whittlesea

2-20 Fir Street Whittlesea 3757 Weekday Mass: Tuesday & Thursday 9:15am Confession/Reconciliation after Tuesday & Thursday 9:15am Mass. Weekend Mass: Sunday 10am

## St Mary's, Kinglake

124 Whittlesea-Kinglake Rd Kinglake 3763 Weekend Mass: Sunday 8:30am

## St Joseph's, Mernda

1490 Plenty Rd Mernda 3754 Weekday Mass: Wednesday & Friday 9:15am Weekend Mass: Sunday 5pm We pray for those who have **died recently**: Marie Jackson,

Athanasius Rajapakse

And for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Ronald Cooling

We pray for those who are ill in our community:

Peter O'Brien, Carol Cochrane, K.P Abraham, Indika Fernando, Lalaka Peiris, Maria & Joseph Ah Kiau, Gina Wherrett, Oliver Gordon, John Van Kalken

#### **Entrance Antiphon:**

When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

#### First Reading:

Genesis 9:8-15

#### **Responsorial Psalm:**

Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

#### **Second Reading:**

1 Peter 3:18-22

#### **Gospel Acclamation**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

**Gospel:** Mark 1:12-15

Next week: Second Sunday of Lent Yr B

First: Genesis 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18 Second: Romans 8:31-34 Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

#### A reflection...

Today marks the 1st Sunday of Lent.

These 40 days are a time of preparation leading up to the Season of Easter. During this time, we are called to repent and reflect on our life choices.

In our humanity, it is inevitable that we fall short and many a time, succumb to temptation. In our frailty, we need help from the Divine to guide us in choosing the right path. The Lord's Prayer makes this clear to us.

The wilderness portrayed in the Gospel is deemed a place of desolation, isolation and danger. But it is also a place of renewal and an opportunity to connect with God. Jesus himself was subject to experiencing wilderness in both contexts in his time on earth for forty days, and was able to transcend it so as to begin his ministry on earth.

Wherever and whenever we may encounter our own 'wilderness' in this period leading to Easter, may we remain steadfast in our seeking to connect with God; that we may be able to overcome the challenges that work against our relationship with God and each other.

And even beyond this liturgical season, may our Lenten journey continue as we constantly search to renew ourselves and maintain our relationships with God and the way we live with one another.

Laetitia Malusu

#### <u>'Weekly Quote'</u>

Daily Steps for God Chicks
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'Training remains strict to enforce the belief that the more you sweat in peacetime, the less you will bleed in war.' - quote from Navy SEAL Become familiar with God's Word...... So familiar that in the midst of your unseen battles you can readily speak it out loud.

And pray.... pray for yourself and for others in the midst of their battles.

## <u>Lenten Tourney Program 2024</u>

An invitation ... Every Lent there is a fresh invitation to take time away from the noise and activity of daily life to pray and reflect on our life. As we gather with others, and with the gentle guidance of leaders, we listen to the Gospel/Readings message and encourage one another in the difficulties and joys of life as disciples of Jesus. Your prayerful and attentive presence is one of the most sacred gifts you offer to one another. If you would like to share your Lenten journey, please join us for some, or all, of the five sessions. It would be helpful if you could register your interest by leaving a message at the parish office on 0448 101 401.

Wednesdays: 21<sup>st</sup> Feb; 28<sup>th</sup> Feb; 6<sup>th</sup> Mar; 13<sup>th</sup> Mar; 20<sup>th</sup> Mar

**Time:** 7.00pm to 8.30pm Location: Nazareth Centre

#### LENTEN REGULATIONS

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fasting and Abstinence from meat. More information can be found on the notice boards and in the back of the church

#### STATIONS OF THE CROSS EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT

<u>6:30pm</u> at ST MARY'S CHURCH, WHITTLESEA

7.00pm at ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, MERNDA



PROJECT ( Please donate to Project Compassion. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes which will be available NEXT week from the parish, OR by visiting caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

#### Nazareth Centre - KRUOZ Live Ministry Roster Platform ZOOM Information / Training Session

If you are having difficulties navigating the new Ministry Roster Platform or would like to see a demonstration of how to use it Lasith and George are offering a ZOOM training session: TUESDAY 20th February at 7.00pm

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83739720079?pwd=iE8LTGVrWzPMEfKnxkMcUtGzWviH2F.1

If you are already on the Nazareth Centre Ministry rosters you will have received an email invitation with the ZOOM link provided. If you are unable to attend a recording of the session will be available at a later date.

#### **New CHURCH Building Account Details:**

If you would like to make a Direct Deposit DONATION\* to the New Church Building account.

> BSB: 083 - 347 Acc No: 135 263 131

\*Any donation made to this account is NOT tax deductible as we are a Not For Profit organization



#### **ANOINTING MASS**

### THURSDAY 7 March 10am St Mary's Whittlesea

We require the help of volunteers to assist with morning tea and transportation. Please contact the parish office via email merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au or TEXT 0448 101 401 Your assistance would be much appreciated.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

FRIDAY 8 March 10am St Joseph's Church Mernda

#### MINISTRY ROSTER: 24/25 February

[W] Welcomer [L] Leader [R] Reader [E] Eucharist [LT] Laptop

10am - Whittlesea: [W] Bernadette S, Lynne F [L] Mary S [R] Maria M [E] John S [LT] Barry K

5:30pm, 8.00am, 10.30am, Children's Liturgy Nazareth Centre Ministries are transitioning to a new rostering platform. We encourage you to use the KRUOZ platform and link below to view the LIVE roster.

https://www.christthelightparish.org.au/Document/rosters

Various Ministry tasks for this month have already been accepted via this platform. If you encounter any issues or have questions about the new rostering system, our team members, Lasith and George, will be available to assist you. You can approach them after the mass or at your convenience. Additionally, feel free to reach out to us via email at [merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au] if you prefer to communicate electronically.

NAZARETH CENTRE SET UP: 4:30pm Saturday Month of FEBRUARY Team B: Charles Fernando and Team



Join the CTL parish WhatsApp group for regular parish news updates. QR Code also available on the parish website www.christthelightparish.org.au

