



# Parish Information



## CHRIST THE LIGHT CATHOLIC PARISH

DOREEN, KINGLAKE, MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

### Schedule of Services

#### MERNDA

St Joseph's Church, 1490 Plenty Road,

**Weekday Masses:** Wednesday and Friday 9.15am

**Individual Reconciliation:** 10am - 1st, 3rd,  
and 5th Saturdays  
Available for Weddings

Nazareth Centre, St Joseph's Primary School,  
44 Mernda Village Drive

**Weekday Masses:** 1st Wednesday of the month  
9.15am during school term

**Weekend Masses:** Saturday 5.30pm,  
Sunday 8am, and 10.30 am

**Children's Liturgy:** Sunday 10.30am

#### WHITTLESEA

St Mary's Church, Fir Street

**Weekday Masses:** Tuesday and Thursday 9.15am

**Weekend Mass:** Sunday 10 am  
with Children's Liturgy

**Individual Reconciliation:** 2nd and 4th Saturdays of  
the month in the Church at 10am

#### KINGLAKE

St Mary's Church, Main Road

**Weekend Mass:** Sunday 8.30 am

**Reconciliation:** By appointment with the Priest

### Parish Catholic Schools

#### DOREEN

St Paul, the Apostle Primary School (Prep – Year 6)

80 Bassetts Road, Doreen

Principal: Mr Phil Doherty

Phone: 9216 2000

#### MERNDA

St Joseph's Primary School (Prep – Year 6)

44 Mernda Village Drive, Mernda

Principal: Mrs Marita Richardson

Phone: 9717 6480

#### WHITTLESEA

St Mary's Primary School (Prep – Year 6)

Fir Street, Whittlesea

Principal: Mr Phillip Smith

Phone: 9716 2478



## CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH  
DOREEN, KINGLAKE,  
MERNDA, WHITTLESEA

#### PARISH OFFICE

48 Mernda Village Drive, Mernda 3754

Phone: 9412 8495 / Email: [merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au](mailto:merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au)

[www.cam.org.au/merndawhittlesea](http://www.cam.org.au/merndawhittlesea)

#### PARISH OFFICE

48 Mernda Village Drive, Mernda 3754

Phone: 9412 8495

Email: [merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au](mailto:merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au)

[www.cam.org.au/merndawhittlesea](http://www.cam.org.au/merndawhittlesea)

Office Hours: 9am - 4pm Tuesday - Friday



# Welcome

## Parish Vision

*"As disciples of Jesus, that our parish of Doreen, Kinglake, Mernda, and Whittlesea be a welcoming vibrant faith-filled and worshipping Catholic Community. In a spirit of joy and compassion, we will reach out to all in the service of the Good News of God's love and in our stewardship of our created world."*

We warmly welcome you to Christ the Light Parish which comprises the growing faith communities of Doreen, Kinglake, Mernda, and Whittlesea.

Our three churches have been around since the late 19th century, but the recent influx of new housing development in Melbourne's northeastern corridor has transformed our parish into a more vibrant and multicultural community. We embrace this diversity as we continue to build a strong community of disciples committed to living the Gospel and becoming beacons of Christ's Light to the world.

As an inclusive faith community, we welcome everyone and encourage participation in shaping the life and future of our parish.

We celebrate our unique God-given talents and value the participation of individuals, which enable us to reach out in service to others within and outside our community.

Together with our Catholic primary schools, we provide young children with a safe and nurturing environment that fosters learning, creativity, and faith development. Catechetical programs are also available for parish children attending other schools.

We encourage you to approach our priests after mass or contact our Parish Office for any assistance and support you may need. It is our hope that you and your family will find a home in our parish and join us in our faith journey.

**Fr Martin Ashe**  
Parish Priest

## Parish Groups

Activities provided within our Parish are:

- Parish Leadership Team
- Parish Finance Committee
- Fundraising & Social Committee
- Communication Team
- Liturgy Group including Music Liturgy
- RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation in Adults)
- St Vincent de Paul Conference
- Whittlesea Ministries Inc (WMI)
- Children's Liturgy of the Word
- Faith Formation (ALPHA, Lent/Advent Reflections)
- Youth Ministry Team
- Safeguarding Children Team

## Volunteering

Everyone is gifted in some ways and parish groups come to life by volunteers in these areas. Our goal is forging together a new resilient church community with a strong sense of belonging. We encourage you to join one or more of these groups any time. Contact the Parish Office to find out more and get started as:

- Leaders at Mass
- Lectors at Mass
- Music Leaders
- Ministers of Communion
- Counters
- Church Cleaning
- Baptism
- Children's Liturgy of the Word
- Catechist for the Sacraments
- Nazareth Centre Set-up Team
- Hospitality Team
- Audio-visual Operators

## Sacraments

### BAPTISM

The Baptism Preparation Program is a five-step process:

1. Contact the coordinator.
2. A visit by the coordinator to your home to outline the process and confirm your dates.
3. Take part in a preparation session with your child's godparents.
4. Rite of Welcome ceremony the week before your child's baptism.
5. Sacrament of Baptism.

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated at the following times:

**Mernda:** 12 noon (1st and 3rd Sunday of the month) at the Nazareth Centre, St Joseph's Primary School, 44 Mernda Village Drive, Mernda

**Whittlesea:** 11.15 am (2nd and 4th Sunday of the month) at St Mary's Church, Fir Street, Whittlesea

**Kinglake:** 8.30 am Mass at St Mary's Church, Main Road, Kinglake

**Coordinator: Christine Hall**  
**Phone: 9412 8493 (Monday and Tuesday)**

### RECONCILIATION, COMMUNION, AND CONFIRMATION

The celebration of the sacraments of Reconciliation (Penance), First Eucharist (Communion), and Confirmation include the family, school, and parish community. Children are prepared for the reception of these sacraments at an appropriate age level which is:

**Year 3 for Reconciliation**  
**Year 4 for Eucharist**  
**Year 6 for Confirmation**

Children enrolled in Catholic schools participate in a program which assists in their understanding of the sacraments. In cases of children attending schools other than Catholic, a program is presented over a number of weeks. Parents are encouraged to attend these sessions with their child as additional activities are undertaken at home. All children and their families preparing for any of these sacraments are expected to attend Faith Evenings as circulated, as well as Sunday Mass.

**For more information, contact our Pastoral Associate.**

## PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Pastoral Associates have a significant role within the life of the parish working collaboratively with the Parish Priest in developing and shaping the mission of the parish, initiating and implementing pastoral programs, encouraging people to a deeper spiritual life and drawing them into roles within the parish. Please do not hesitate to contact our Pastoral Associate:

**Sandy Starbuck**  
**Phone: 9412 8493 (Doreen, Mernda, Whittlesea)**