

SACRAMENTS

The celebration of the sacraments of Reconciliation (Penance) 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 at various times throughout the preparation time. For further information please contact our Pastoral Associates.

PASTORAL ASSOCIATES:

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 Associates:

Parish Office

Phone: 9412 8493 (Mernda)

Phone: 9716 0204 (Whittlesea)

Sr Margaret Ryan

Phone: 5786 1064 (Kingslake)

DOREEN

St Paul, the Apostle Primary School Prep – Year 6

80 Bassetts Road, Doreen

Principal: Mr Phil Doherty Phone: 9216 2000

MERENDA

St Joseph's Church, 1490 Plenty Road,

Weekday Masses: Wednesday and Friday 9.15am

Weekend Masses: Saturday 5:30 pm & Sunday 8 am

Individual Reconciliation: 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month in the Church at 10am

Nazareth Centre, 44 Mernda Village Drive

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

Weekend Mass: Sunday 10.30 am

St Joseph's Primary School Prep – Year 6

44 Mernda Village Drive, Mernda

Principal: Mrs Marita Richardson Phone: 9717 6480

WHITTLESEA

St Mary's Church, Fir Street

Weekday Masses: Tuesday and Thursday 9.15am

Weekend Mass: Sunday 10 am

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

St Mary's Primary School Prep – Year 6

Fir Street, Whittlesea

Principal: Mr Phillip Smith Phone: 9716 2478

KINGLAKE

St Mary's Church, Main Road

Weekend Mass: Sunday 8.30 am

Reconciliation: By appointment with the Priest

CHRIST THE LIGHT

CATHOLIC PARISH



PARISH
INFORMATION



Parish Office:

48 Mernda Village Drive, Mernda 3754

Phone: 9412 8493

Fax: 9715 2511

Email: merndawhittlesea@cam.org.au

Website:

www.cam.org.au/merndawhittlesea

WELCOME

Our present parish was created on 14th January, 2012.

The three church communities of the parish, Mernda, Whittlesea and Kinglake were all formed in the 19th century. They are old, but they are also new, as many young families are making their homes in our new housing estates.

All are welcome to participate in this wonderful adventure of sculpting a new larger Parish community out of a rich tradition of pioneering faith communities in this region. We will carry on this tradition of faith with courage, determination and generosity of spirit as we forge our new life together.

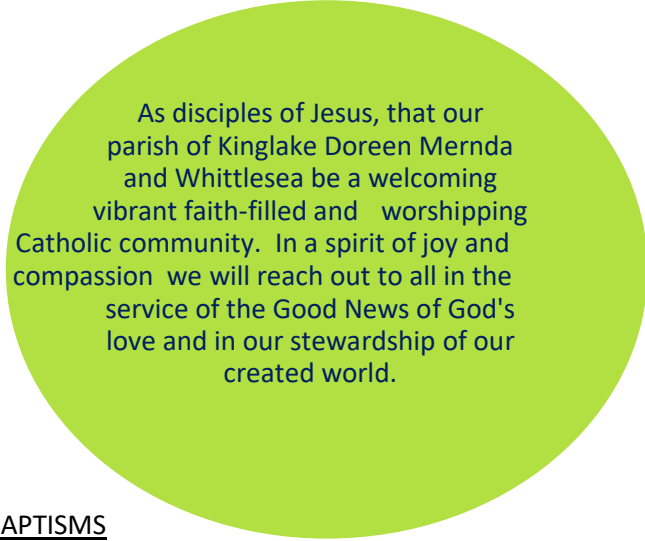
In 2016, we began a consultation with our faith community to choose a name for our parish. The name that has been chosen is "Christ the Light Catholic Parish." In the gospel of John 8:12, Jesus says: "I am the light of the world. He who follows me will not walk in darkness but will have light of life."

The name captures the centrality of Christ for our lives and our mission as a parish is to proclaim Christ as the Light for all. The name also invites our community to be a beacon of Christ's Light to the world around them. One day into the future when we will be able to build a new Church for our young and growing parish, we would also hope to call it Christ the Light.

You are encouraged to introduce yourself and your family to our priests after Mass. Please phone the Parish Office for any assistance or support you may need. You are also encouraged to enrol your children in one of the parish primary schools. Catechetics programs are available for parish children attending schools other than catholic schools.

Parish Priest: Fr Martin Ashe

PARISH VISION



As disciples of Jesus, that our parish of Kinglake Doreen 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.

BAPTISMS

Coordinator: Christine Hall - Mernda and Whittlesea
Phone: 9715 2455 / 9715 2499 (Monday and Tuesday)

The Baptism Preparation Program is a 5 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 at the Nazareth Centre, 44 Mernda Village Drive, Mernda.

Whittlesea: 11.15 a.m. at St Mary's Church, Fir Street Whittlesea.

Kinglake: 8.30 a.m. Mass at St Mary's Church, Main Road Kinglake.

PARISH GROUPS

Activities provided within our Parish are:

- Parish Leadership Team
- Parish Finance Committee
- Parish Fundraising and Social Committee
- Liturgy Group
- RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation in Adults)
- St Vincent de Paul Conferences
- Care Group (Mernda)
- Combined Christian Churches of Whittlesea (Township) - CCCW
- Children's Liturgy of the Word
- Faith formation (ALPHA, Lent/Advent Reflections)

VOLUNTEERING

Everyone is gifted in some way and volunteers in any of these areas are very welcome. Our greatest goal is the forging together of this new resilient church community.

ROSTERS:

There are a number of rosters available for you to join. Please contact the Parish office if you would like to become involved in any of these activities some of which are:

- Leaders at Mass
- Readers at Mass
- Music Leaders
- Ministers of Communion
- Counters
- Church Cleaning
- Baptism

- Children's Liturgy of the Word □ Catechetics.