

As a Christian community, meeting together to worship God, we affirm our commitment to ensuring the safety of each child who interacts with our community.

Our statement of commitment for Child Safety is available on our website or in the Narthex of each Parish Centre.

Mission Statement: *To live as disciples of Christ embracing his teaching of love and service to all.*

Vision Statement: *To be known as God's people of prayer, to be welcoming of all our sisters and brothers by being inclusive and sensitive to diversity, open to change and growing as a community by the love and grace of Christ.*

DIARY THIS WEEK

Monday 2nd. November New Year's Day holiday
*Basil of Caesarea (d.379) and Gregory of Nazianzus (d.389) bishops and teachers
Eliza Hassall, pioneer of CMS (Australia) and missionary training (d.1917)*

Wednesday 4th. January 10.00 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's.

Friday 6th. January
THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

Sunday 8th. January 9.00 am. Eucharist at St. Linus'
THE BAPTISM 10.30 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's
OF OUR LORD

LOOKING AHEAD

Enjoy a moment of recess as we celebrate moving from one year to the next.

There are many things that are about to come up as a result of the initiatives shared in the Annual Parish Meeting and a good rest will allow you to refresh yourself so that you can be part of the amazing plans God has for this parish.

On a personal note, may I thank everyone for making me feel very welcome into the parish this year. There have been many things to learn, gather, grow and facilitate. I look forward to being a blessing to the mission, ministry and worship endeavours of this parish; just as you have been a blessing to me.

Christmas blessings upon you and your family as well as a prosperous New Year in the Lord.

Blessings and Peace,

Rev. Rob.

The Naming and Circumcision of Jesus 01-01-2023

WELCOME

The service booklet and song sheet can be found in the Narthex at St Linus' worship centre.

The service at St Matthew's worship centre can be seen on the screens during the service.

Please see one of our welcomers if you would like to use the complete prayer book.

Morning tea will follow the service at each worship centre.

Please join in our fellowship time.

Happy New Year!

The Anglican Parish of Glenroy / Hadfield with St. Linus' Merlynston



St. Matthew's
30 Widford St.
cnr. Melbourne Ave.
Glenroy 3046

with

St. Linus'
21 Glyndon
cnr. Delta Aves.
Merlynston 3058



PARISH PRIEST: The Reverend Robert Koren

Email: priest@matthewlinus.org.au

Parish Mobile: 0493 384 108

Parish Phone: 9306 9528

This week

Rev. Rob can be found at:

St. Linus' - Thurs 9 am. to 3 pm.

St. Matthew's Wed & Fri 9 am. to 3 pm.

NOT available Tuesday

PARISH WEBSITE - www.matthewlinus.org.au

PARISH FACEBOOK - www.facebook.com/matthewlinus

PARISH PODCAST - www.buzzsprout.com/1974085

Associate Priest

The Reverend Prashant Bhonsle 0457 876 622

Authorised Honorary Lay Minister
Glenda Owen 0448 821 218

Authorised Honorary Parish Reader
Kerryn Pratchett 0409 306 818



Love. Grow. Serve.

Acknowledgement of Country

From time immemorial the Wurundjeri people have cared for this land, nurtured it, depended on it and given honour and thanks to the Creator.

As we acknowledge their faithful custodianship of the land, and the sacred stories they have told; as we offer our respect to their elders, past, present and emerging, guide us Lord in caring for them, this land, and each other with the help of the Holy Spirit of Dreaming.

Sentence: God spoke of old by the prophets; but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son. *Hebrews 1. 1-2;*

Collect: God our Father, you gave to your incarnate Son the name of Jesus, to be a sign of our salvation; may every tongue confess that he, who for our sake became obedient to the law, is both Lord and Christ, to your eternal glory; for he now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Readings

The first reading is from the book of Numbers 6. 22–27;

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying ‘Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, “Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them, The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.” So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.’

Hear the Word of the Lord; Thanks be to God

Psalm 8;

1 O Lord our governor;

how glorious is your name in all the earth !

2 Your majesty above the heavens is yet recounted;

by the mouths of babes and sucklings.

3 You have founded a strong defence, against your adversaries;
to quell the enemy and the avenger.

4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars which you have set in order.

5 What are we, that you should be mindful of us;

What are we, that you should care for us ?

6 Yet you have made us little less than Gods;

And have crowned us with glory and honour.

7 You have given us dominion over your handiwork;
and have put all things in subjection beneath our feet.

8 All sheep and oxen;

And all the creatures of the field. of the field,

9 The birds of the air and the fish of the sea,

And everything that moves in the pathways of the great waters.

10 O Lord our governor,

How glorious is your name in all the earth !

A reading from Paul's letter to the Galatians 4.4–7

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, ‘Abba! Father!’ So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Hear the Word of the Lord; Thanks be to God

The Lord be with you; and also with you

The GOSPEL of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 2. 15–21;

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.’ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

For this is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Faith Matters!! Returning to our life without the festivity.

The glorious events of Jesus’ birth are left behind very quickly. In the verse immediately after the shepherds are noted as returning to their fields to praise God and share the news, we have moved forward eight days to Jesus’ circumcision. The scripture does not linger around the events of Jesus’ birth but moves forward to unfold Jesus’ ministry, a ministry in which He is circumcised so that he can be recognised as a son of David and one of Abraham’s seeds. Jesus’ ministry was to those who were the seed of Abraham and if Jesus was to be heard as a teacher amongst the chosen people, he needed to be Jewish so that he could be part of a lawful Jewish assembly and have rights to all Jewish ordinances. God’s ministry to the nation of Israel in human form required Jesus, as God made man, to be placed under the law that had been given to all Jewish people.

At the time of circumcision, he was also given the name Jesus—as the angel had asked both Mary and Joseph to do. His ministry was not as an obedient and faithful Jew but as the Messiah. His name speaks of mercy, grace, help and deliverance for the lost world. Jesus name meant that he is the world’s deliverer and redeemer.

Jesus’ name is glorious in all the earth and he has made us little less than gods and crowned us with glory and honour. We are co-workers in sharing mercy, grace, help and deliverance to all people, and our ministry will require us to go into places and humble ourselves to release God’s message. Jesus did not need to submit to the law through circumcision, but did this so he could fulfil the law to the chosen people.

As we undertake our ministry, how are we going to humble ourselves and be part of the lives of those to whom we are messengers? We do not have time to linger and name on our own platitudes when we are doing God’s work. In Jesus first passion, he gave his first drops of blood in circumcision so that he could minister to His chosen people. What are we prepared to give so that we can release God’s glory into our small part of the world?