

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.*

STEWARDSHIP GIVING

Please consider using Direct Deposit for your Stewardship giving.

Bank account details - BSB 703122, Indue Ltd. Account no. 05004414

The account is in the name of - St. Matthew's Glenroy/Hadfield with St. Linus' Merlynston

DIARY THIS WEEK

Today Sunday 14th. January Church in work clothes - at St Matthew's, following the 10.30am. Service. There is concrete to pour at the gate, pews need dusting and ask Robyn what needs doing in the garden. We will have sausage sizzle fellowship lunch after the jobs are done.

Wednesday 17th. January 10.00 am. Morning Prayer at St. Matthew's
Antony of Egypt, abbot (d.356)

Thursday 18th. January
CONFESSIO OF PETER

Sunday 21st. January 9.00 am. Eucharist at St. Linus'
Third Sunday
After Epiphany
10.30 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's

LOOKING AHEAD

'Pay what you can Haircuts' are back: Back to school haircuts - Saturday 3rd February 2024 in Wiseman House at St. Matthew's 10.00am to 12.00pm.

Second-hand Bookshop: Open on Saturday 3rd. February 10.00am. to 12.00pm. Second-hand Books for sale in Wiseman House at St. Matthew's.

Forum for parish name change: 11th February after service at St Matthew's. At the APM it was noted that we will be looking to rename the parish so that we are seen as part of the community rather than an exclusive gathering. Please come along to share your thoughts.

Shrove Tuesday 7.00pm Tuesday 13th February. We will be gathering at St Linus' to share pancakes and fellowship.

ASH WEDNESDAY 14th. February. Services for the imposition of Ashes:
7.00pm St Linus' 10.00am and 7.00pm St Matthew's.

Forum for parish name change: 18th February after service at St Linus'. At the APM it was noted that we will be looking to rename the parish so that we are seen as part of the community rather than an exclusive gathering. Please come along to share your thoughts.

Monday 19th. February - Connect Meditation: Guided Spiritual Meditation, 1.30 pm. at St. Matthew's. All are welcome to participate in a time of quiet reflection and refreshment. Please bring a cushion or rug, or both. Enquiries: Glenda 0448 821 218

Second Sunday after Epiphany 14-01-2024

WELCOME

*The services within our parish 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.

Please join in our fellowship time.



The Anglican Parish of Glenroy / Hadfield with Merlynston
St Matthew's Church - 30 Widford St Glenroy 3046
St Linus' Church - 21 Glyndon Ave Merlynston 3058

Where you find yourself in Christ

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' Mon. 9am to 3pm

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

Available at other times by appointment only.

PARISH WEBSITE - www.matthewlinus.org.au

PARISH FACEBOOK - www.facebook.com/matthewlinus

PARISH PODCAST - www.buzzsprout.com/1974085

Assistant Priest

The Reverend Prashant Bhonsle 0457 876 622

This Week,

Rev. Prashant can be found at: St. Linus' Thurs. 9 am. to 3 pm. St. Matthew's Fri. 9 am. to 3 pm.

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: We have found the Messiah: Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the king of Israel. *John 1:41, 49;*

Collect: Eternal God, whose Son, Jesus Christ, is now exalted as Lord of all, and pours out his gifts upon the Church: grant it that unity which only that Spirit can give, keep us in the bond of peace, and bring all creation to worship before your throne; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Readings

The first reading is from the first book of Samuel 3:1-10;

The boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' and he said, 'Here I am!' and ran to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call; lie down again.' So he went and lay down. The LORD called again, 'Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call, my son; lie down again.' Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, 'Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, "Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.'

Hear the Word of the Lord Thanks be to God

Psalm 139:1-5, 12-18;

- 1 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me;
**You know when I sit or when I stand,
you comprehend my thoughts long before.**
- 2 You discern my path and the places where I rest;
you are acquainted with all my ways.
 - 3 For there is not a word on my tongue;
but you, Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 You have encompassed me behind and before;
and have laid your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
so high that I cannot endure it.
 - 12 For you have created my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
 - 13 I will praise you, for you are to be feared;
fearful are your acts, and wonderful your works.
- 14 You knew my soul, and my bones were not hidden from you;
**when I was formed in secret,
and woven in the depths of the earth.**
- 15 Your eyes saw my limbs, when they were yet imperfect;
and in your book were all my members written.
 - 16 Day by day they were fashioned;
and not one was late in growing.

17 How deep are your thoughts to me, O God;
and how great is the sum of them.

18 Were I to count them, they are more in number than the sand;
were I to come to the end, I would still be with you.

The second reading is from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians 6:12-20;

Brothers and sisters, 'All things are lawful for me,' but not all things are beneficial. 'All things are lawful for me,' but I will not be dominated by anything. 'Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,' and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, 'The two shall be one flesh.' But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

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 John 1:42-51; Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, 'Follow me.' Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.' Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.' When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Faith Matters!! When we sit under a tree with God.

When we see Jesus calling his disciples, there is generally nothing more than Jesus calling, and the person accepting. In today's account of Nathanael's calling, we see Andrew saying that they have found the Messiah and He is from Nazareth. Rather than instantly following Jesus, Nathanael makes a comment about anything good coming from Nazareth. This is an interesting interaction and it isn't until Jesus confirms how he came to know Nathanael that Nathanael follows him. In the bible there are two other places where God came to see someone under a tree. In Jonah 4:3, God saw Jonah under a tree. In 1 Kings 19:4, God saw Elijah sitting under a tree. In both these instances they were sitting under a tree, struggling with circumstances they were dealing with and wanting God to take their lives. It was anything but peaceful. Whilst there is no concrete reason given for Nathanael sitting under a tree, Nathanael's reaction to Philip so a sense of being lost and dealing with something. Jesus made Nathanael aware that He saw him sitting under a tree and his reaction was to call him Son of God, King of Israel. Nathanael provides an example of someone who walked with Jesus but when he was found by Jesus, was most likely struggling with the circumstances of life and not seeing God's place in it. As disciples, we are called by Jesus, not because we are perfect, but because we recognise the place of the Messiah in our struggles and daily living. Whenever you are struggling with your situation, this passage reminds you that Jesus sees you. Jesus is not the eternal High Priest from a distance, but he is right by your side in every situation. So keep sitting under a tree with God and let God make your path straight. *Blessings, Rev. Rob.*