

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 11th. February - Forum for parish name change: following the 10.30 am. 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.

4.00 pm. Hindi Eucharist at St. Matthew's

Tuesday 13th. February 7.00 pm Shrove Tuesday Pancakes and fellowship at St Linus'

ASH 14th. February. Imposition of Ashes and Eucharist

WENESDAY 10.00 am at St. Matthew's
7.00 pm at St Matthew's.
7.00 pm at St Linus'

Sunday 18th. February 9.00 am. Eucharist at St. Linus' **Forum for parish name change:** 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.

First Sunday in Lent

10.30 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's

LOOKING AHEAD

Friday 16th February - Foodbank Resumes. Foodbank will resume on Friday the 16th February 2024 and will be on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month from then on.

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

World Prayer Day - Friday 1st. March 2024

6.00 pm. at St. Linus' Theme for 2024 is Palestine.

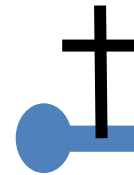
Last Sunday after Epiphany - Transfiguration 11-02-2024

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

Kerry 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: It is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 4.6;

Collect: Almighty God, whose Son was revealed in majesty, before he suffered death upon the cross: give us faith to perceive his glory, that being strengthened by his grace, we may be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; through the same Jesus Christ our lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Readings

The first reading is from the second book of Kings 2: 1-12;

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.' Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.' Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Hear the Word of the Lord Thanks be to God

Psalm 50:1-6 said by alternate verses;

- 1 The Lord our God, the Mighty one has spoken;
and summoned the earth, from the rising of the sun to its setting in the west.
- 2 From Zion, perfect in beauty;
God has shone out in glory.
- 3 Our God is coming, he will not keep silent;
before him is devouring fire, and tempest whirls about him.
- 4 He calls to the heavens above;
and to the earth, so he may judge his people.
- 5 'Gather to me my faithful ones;
those who by sacrifice made a covenant with me.
- 6 The heavens shall proclaim his righteousness;
for God himself is judge.

The second reading is from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians 4:3-12;

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you

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 Mark 9: 2-9; Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ
Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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

Faith Matters!! Bringing the light of Jesus' glory to others.

Today we are remembering the Transfiguration of the Lord where we see Jesus in all His glory, here on earth. As I prepared this week, my thoughts drifted to think about how interesting it is that we started our season of Epiphany with the light of a star leading the world to Jesus and we finish with the light of the glory of Jesus leading us to God. Whilst we could do the feast of the transfiguration at another time in the year, doing the feast of the Transfiguration at this time of the year reminds us that Jesus is the light we search for and what the prophets have shared in the past has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

The season of Epiphany has been about us sitting on the mountain top, bathing in the glory of Jesus and filling ourselves with the revelations he has put before us. The scriptures have reminded us over this season that we all have those moments where we encounter the glory of Jesus, that no-one else in the world would know about except us - and sometimes if we were to tell others about it they probably would not get it either. Those moments are amazing and like we see in the gospel reading are there to fill us up spiritually so that we can return down the mountains, back to our daily routines and struggles, and look at how we can continue releasing the God's kingdom into our circumstance.

In returning to back to the daily routine and struggles, we might be facing things that are so overwhelming that the memory of the lessons that we learnt during this time of Epiphany might fade away quickly. The challenge is not to forget the mountaintop experience, but to carry its light from the mountain to the dusty, flat and harsh terrain of the plains of our existence. Our relationship with God is not just about grand revelations, but about the everyday faithfulness in dusty, sweaty and dry places. It's about carrying the light of Christ into the world, even when it seems dark.

Our place in God's plan to bring the light of Jesus to the world needs us to be transformed by moments of grace. More than that, we need to be continual seeking moments of being transformed by grace so that the Holy Spirit can purpose and repurpose us in a contemporary and relevant way. Our place in God's plan is to continually seek opportunities for the kingdom to be released.

Seek to know Jesus deeper through prayer and by reading the gospel. Make it an intentional desire to bring your light of Christ to that person who you consider the least, the one that hates you or the one you perceive as your enemy - bless them and keep them with your light of love.

Blessings, Rev. Rob.