

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

**ASH WEDNESDAY 14th. February.** Imposition of Ashes and Eucharist  
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:**  
*First Sunday in Lent* 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.

10.30 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's

**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

### LOOKING AHEAD

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

**World Prayer Day - Friday 1st. March 2024**  
6.00 pm. at St. Linus' Theme for 2024 is Palestine.

## Ash Wednesday 14th February 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](mailto: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](http://www.matthewlinus.org.au)**

**PARISH FACEBOOK - [www.facebook.com/matthewlinus](https://www.facebook.com/matthewlinus)**

**PARISH PODCAST - [www.buzzsprout.com/1974085](http://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:** Return to the Lord your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

*Joel 2.13*

**Collect:** Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and one another: call forth our penitence and acts of love, and strengthen us to face our mortality, so that we may look with confidence for your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. **Amen.**

### Readings

*First reading is from the book of Joel 2.1-2; 2.12-17;*

<sup>1</sup> Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near—<sup>2</sup> a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come.

<sup>12</sup> Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; <sup>13</sup> rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.

<sup>14</sup> Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain-offering and a drink-offering for the Lord, your God? <sup>15</sup> Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; <sup>16</sup> gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy. <sup>17</sup> Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say, 'Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, "Where is their God?"'

*Hear the Word of the Lord      Thanks be to God*

**Psalm 51:1-17; said by alternate half verse**

1 Have mercy on me, O God, in your enduring goodness:

**according to the fulness of your compassion blot out my offences.**

2 Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness:

**and cleanse me from my sin.**

3 For I acknowledge my rebellion:

**and my sin is ever before me.**

4 Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your eyes:  
**so you will be just in your sentence and blameless in your judging.**

5 Surely in wickedness I was brought to birth:

**and in sin my mother conceived me.**

6 You that desire truth in the inward parts:

**O teach me wisdom in the secret places of the heart.**

7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean:

**wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**

8 Make me hear of joy and gladness:

**let the bones which you have broken rejoice.**

9 Hide your face from my sins:

**and blot out all my iniquities.**

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God:

**and renew a right spirit within me.**

11 Do not cast me out from your presence:

**do not take your holy spirit from me.**

12 O give me the gladness of your help again:  
**and support me with a willing spirit.**

13 Then will I teach transgressors your ways:  
**and sinners shall turn to you again.**

14 O Lord God of my salvation, deliver me from bloodshed:  
**and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.**

15 O Lord, open my lips:

**and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

16 You take no pleasure in sacrifice, or I would give it:  
**burnt-offerings you do not want.**

17 The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit:

**a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

*The second reading is from the letter of Paul to the 2 Corinthians 5.20b-6.10;*

<sup>5 20</sup> So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. <sup>6 1</sup> As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup> For he says, 'At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.' See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! <sup>3</sup> We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup> but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup> beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup> by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, <sup>7</sup> truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup> in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup> as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup> as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

*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 Matthew 6.1-6; 6.16-21;*

*Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ*

<sup>1</sup> 'Beware of practising your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. <sup>2</sup> 'So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>3</sup> But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup> so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. <sup>5</sup> 'And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>6</sup> But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. <sup>16</sup> 'And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>17</sup> But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup> so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. <sup>19</sup> 'Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; <sup>20</sup> but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

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