

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

Monday 26th. February 10.30 am. Reserved Sacrament at Craicare P.V. Aged Care Facility

Tuesday 27th. February
George Herbert, parish priest, poet (d.1633)

Wednesday 28th. February 10.00 am. Morning Prayer at St. Matthew's

Thursday 29th. February 10.00 am to 11.30 am. Playgroup at St. Linus' All Welcome to attend

Friday 1st. March 12.00 to 1.00 pm. Foodbank Pantry open at St. Matthew's
David, bishop of Menevia, Wales (d.601)
6.00 pm. World Day of Prayer at St. Linus'

Saturday 2nd. March 10.00am. to Noon Secondhand Books on sale at St. Matthew's

Sunday 3rd. March 9.00 am. Eucharist at St. Linus'
Third Sunday in Lent 10.30 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's

LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday 16th. March - Parish Council meeting at St. Linus'

HOLY WEEK and EASTER SERVICES

PALM SUNDAY 24th. March Blessing of Palms, Procession, Eucharist
8.45 am. at St. Linus' **10.30 am.** at St. Matthew's

MAUNDY THURSDAY 28th. March **7.00 pm.** Service at St. Linus' Church

GOOD FRIDAY 29th. March **10.00 am.** Service at St. Linus' Church

EASTER SATURDAY 30th. March **4.00 pm.** Gathering around the fire and placing your Lenten Passport into the fire to release all your worries. Prayers and Reflection.
5.00 pm. Service of Light with Eucharist

RESURRECTION SUNDAY 31st. March Renewal of vows and Eucharist
9.00 am. at St. Linus' Church
10.30 am. at St. Matthew's Church

Children's Easter Egg hunt will follow 10.30 am. service at St. Matthew's.

******* Volunteers needed please, to plan, organise and set up on the day. *******

Second Sunday in Lent 25-02-2024

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. 9 am. to 3 pm. 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 Friday 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: If you want to become a disciple of Jesus, deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow him.
Mark 8. 34;

Collect: God of all times and all places, in Jesus Christ, who was lifted up on the cross, you opened for us the path to eternal life: grant that we, being born again of water and the Spirit, may joyfully serve you in newness of life, and faithfully walk in your holy ways; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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 book of Genesis 17. 1–7, 15–16;

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, ‘I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.’ Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ‘As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.’ God said to Abraham, ‘As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.’

Hear the Word of the Lord Thanks be to God

Psalm 22. 24–32; said by alternate half verses;

24 O praise the Lord, all you that fear him;
**hold him in honour, O seed of Jacob,
and let the seed of Israel stand in awe of him.**

25 For he has not despised nor abhorred the poor man in his misery;
nor did he hide his face from him, but heard him when he cried.

26 From you springs my praise in the great congregation:
I will pay my vows in the sight of all that fear him.

27 The meek shall eat of the sacrifice and be satisfied;
**and those who seek the Lord shall praise him -
may their hearts rejoice for ever!**

28 Let all the ends of the earth remember and turn to the Lord;
and let all the families of the nations worship before him.

29 For kingdom is the Lord’s;
and he shall be ruler over the nations.

30 How can those who sleep in the earth in the earth do him homage;
or those that descend to the dust bow down before him?

31 But he has saved my life for himself;
and my posterity shall serve him;

32 This shall be told of my Lord to a future generation;
and his righteousness declared to a people yet unborn.

The second reading is from the letter of Paul to the Romans 4. 13–25;

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, ‘I have made you the father of many nations’) – Abraham believed in the presence of the God who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become ‘the father of many nations,’ according to what was said, ‘So numerous shall your descendants be.’ He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith ‘was reckoned to him as righteousness.’ Now the words, ‘it was reckoned to him,’ were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, 25 who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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 8. 31–38; Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ
Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, ‘Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.’ He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, ‘If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

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

Faith Matters!!

During these days of lent, we look to Jesus for spiritual strength. We are assured that when we derive our core energies from Him, it is easy to succeed in this world. Although, we are aware, the way of Jesus, is the way of the cross. His way is the way of suffering, humiliation and ultimately even to death.

In the Gospel, we note that all of His disciples-many of whom were even drawn to him expecting a leader who will offer them freedom from all sufferings-were being expressly taught by Jesus of his own impending humiliation, suffering and death.

Now this was a downright let down for his disciples. The invitation of the Kingdom Jesus gave had shaken the religious authorities who had worked their way out with the Roman empire, subjugating people under the yoke of rituals, costly sacrifices and laws.

So the disciples were right in hindering Jesus, as he was openly declaring his own suffering and rejection by elders and chief priests. And for some of the disciples, the death of Jesus meant that they no more can dream of a left or a right hand seat in Jesus’ ensuing reign.

Was Jesus really turning away from his promises of him being the Life? Was he proving himself false by his own declaration of death? What kind of a way was he paving for us to follow?

And then, what is our own motivation to follow Jesus in the wake of life’s challenges?

In what way, do you think, the way of the cross had been transformative to you and the world???

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ, as I leave, I thank you all for your love, acceptance and guidance.

My prayer is, may the way of the cross continue to illuminate your minds for God’s glory and extension of God’s reign in this world. Amen. Prayers and blessings! Rev. Prashant.