

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 17th. March 4.00 pm. Hindi Eucharist at St. Matthew's

Monday 18th. March 1.30 pm. Connect Meditation: Guided Spiritual Meditation at Cyril of Jerusalem, St. Matthew's. Please bring a cushion or rug or both. bishop and teacher (d.386) Enquiries Glenda 0448 821 218

Tuesday 19th. March
JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Wednesday 20th. March 10.00 am. Morning Prayer at St. Matthew's
Cuthbert of Lindisfarne, bishop and missionary (d.687)

Thursday 29th. February 10.00 am to 11.30 am. Playgroup at St. Linus' All Welcome to attend
Thomas Cranmer, archbishop of Canterbury, martyr & liturgist (d.1556)

Friday 22nd. March 10.00 am. Connect Lent: at home of Bev. Lacock
Thomas Ken, bishop of Bath and Wells (d.1711)
10.30 am. Good Friday liturgy at Colton Close

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

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

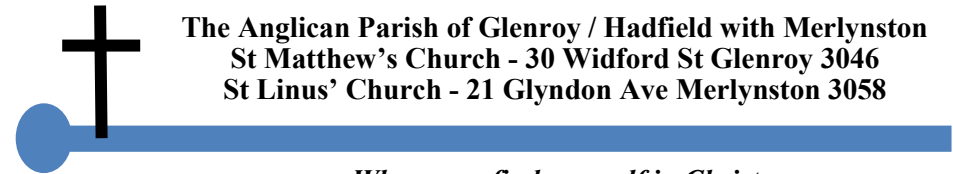
RESURRECTION SUNDAY 31st. March Renewal of vows and Eucharist
9.00 am. at St. Linus' Church
10.30 am. at St. Matthew's Church

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

Fifth Sunday in Lent 17-03-2024

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

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; ‘This is the covenant I will make with them,’ says the Lord God: ‘I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God and they shall be my people.’

Jeremiah 31. 33;

Collect: O God, our Redeemer, in our weakness we have failed to be your messengers of forgiveness and hope; renew us by your Holy Spirit, that we may follow your commands and proclaim your reign of love; through 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 book of Jeremiah 31. 31-34;

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt – a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Hear the Word of the Lord Thanks be to God

Psalm 119. 9-16; said by alternate half verses;

- 9 How shall the young keep their path pure;
unless they hold to your word ?
- 10 I have sought you with my whole heart;
let me not stray from your commandments.
- 11 I have treasured your words in my heart;
that I might not sin against you.
- 12 Blessed are you, Lord God;
O teach me your statutes.
- 13 With my lips I have been telling;
all the judgements of your mouth.
- 14 And I find more joy in the way of your commands;
than in all manner of riches.
- 15 I will meditate on your precepts;
and give heed to your ways.
- 16 For my delight is wholly in your statutes;
and I will not forget your word.

The second reading is from the letter to the Hebrews 5. 5-14;

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, ‘You are my Son, today I have begotten you’; as he says also in another place, ‘You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.’ In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek. About this we have much to say that is hard to explain, since you have become dull in understanding. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic elements

of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food; for everyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is unskilled in the word of righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, for those whose faculties have been trained by practice to distinguish good from evil.

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 12. 20-33; Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, ‘Sir, we wish to see Jesus.’ Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, ‘The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour. ‘Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say – “Father, save me from this hour”? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.’ Then a voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’ The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, ‘An angel has spoken to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.’ He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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

Faith Matters!! Letting people see Jesus!

Who is it that you would like to see? In my life I have always felt drawn to seeing religious figures and meeting them. I briefly met the Dalai Lama when he went to his residence in Sydney. His residence was across the road from a friend of mine who knew the community and was able to introduce me. I also was able to see Pope John Paul II who came for World Youth Day in 1986. As I was in Yr 12, our school was with a number of other schools lining the path that he would travel. The most vivid memory we had was that when he looked into the crowd everyone felt he was looking at them. It was uncanny how he had the gift to do this! Both of these were fleeting moments but they were very impactful for me and were the result of others leading me to meet them.

In today’s gospel the Greeks come to see Jesus who is already impacting their lives through what people share about Him and His teachings. People from outside the Jewish nation recognise that he is not just the King of the Jews, but the King of Kings over all the nations. Yet it is interesting that to meet Jesus, Philip went to Andrew and Andrew went to Jesus. They were able to meet Jesus because someone who knew Jesus was able to introduce them to Him. The genius of John’s gospel is that those who know Jesus are the ones that introduce others to Jesus.

As disciples, we introduce people to Jesus by our thoughts, words and deed. There are instances where Jesus let’s people see Him by His own sovereign desire. Jesus can let anyone He chooses see Him, but generally the process of meeting Jesus for seekers comes through us and the way we introduce Jesus to those who are around us? When a seeker comes to our congregation to find Jesus, what are we showing them? What are we telling them? How are we living our parish life so that others can find Christ in our midst? The research shows that the biggest facilitator of church growth is that when people come to worship with a community, that they can see the gospel working in those that are worshipping. Parishes that are outward looking and giving people the opportunity to live out the gospel allow people to see Jesus and they maintain a Christlike presence. Giving people the opportunity to live missionally allows them to see Jesus where he is at, with those who we serve in the parish - the hungry, sick and poor.

For those who are convicted and worshipping, we need to make sure that we make time to see Jesus. We need to constantly see Jesus through scripture and prayer. We need to see the face of Jesus in those we love as well as those that are our enemies. We need to see the face of Jesus in everyone that comes to us at Foodbank and participates in our Pay What You Can Ministry. I encourage you to keep pushing things that do not serve your relationship with God or strengthen your faith to one side, and keep your eyes fixed on the cross so that you know your purpose and have God’s strength to do it. If we can’t see Jesus, how can we help the seeker meet Jesus when they come to us?

Blessings, Rev. Rob.