

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.

DIARY THIS WEEK

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| Sunday | 26th. March | 4.00 pm. Prayer Circle at St. Matthew's |
| Monday | 27th. March | 10.30 am. Reserved Sacrament at Craiggcare Aged Care Facility |
| Wednesday | 29th. March | 10.00 am. Morning Prayer at St. Matthew's <i>John Keble, priest (d.1866)</i> 11.00 am. Lenten Study at St. Matthew's |
| Friday | 31st. March | 12.00 pm. Foodbank hampers distribution |
| Saturday | 1st. April | 10.00 am. Secondhand Books on Sale at St. Matthew's |
| <i>Daylight Savings ends, 2.00 am. Please turn your clocks back one hour before going to bed</i> | | |
| Sunday | 2nd. April | 9.00 am. Eucharist at St. Linus' |
| <i>Sixth Sunday in Lent</i> 10.30 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's. | | |
| PALM SUNDAY 4.00 pm. Praise, Prayer and Proclamation service at St. Matt's | | |

LOOKING AHEAD

Nominations for Synod Reps. close today, 26th. March, and if needed, a meeting will follow Easter Egg hunt on 9th. April. to vote for Parish Synod representatives.

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Monday in Holy Week 3rd. April 1.30 pm. Connect: Guided Spiritual Meditation at St. Matthew's. Contact Glenda 0448 821 218

Please bring a cushion or rug or both. All Welcome, this group is NOT limited to 3 people.

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Continuing - **HOLY WEEK AND EASTER**

Maundy Thursday 6th. April 7.00 pm. Service at St. Linus'
7.00 pm. Service at St. Matthew's

Good Friday 7th. April 9.00 am. Service at St. Linus'
9.00 am. Service at St. Matthew's
10.30 am. Stations of the Cross at St. Matthew's
3.00 pm. Vigil Service at St. Matthew's

Easter Saturday 8th. April 3.00 pm. Easter Vigil Movie
The Passion of the Christ at St. Matthew's

Resurrection Sunday 9th. April 8.00 am. Service of the Light at St. Matthew's
10.00 am. Combined Parish Service at St. Matthew's

Children's Easter-Egg Hunt will follow the 10.00 am. service in garden of Wiseman House

Fifth Sunday in Lent 26th. March 2023

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
30 Widford St.
cnr. Melbourne Ave.
Glenroy 3046

with

St. Linus'
21 Glyndon
cnr. Delta Aves.
Merlynston 3058



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. & Thurs. 9 am. to 3 pm.
St. Matthew's - Wed. & Fri. 9 am. to 3 pm.
NOT available Tuesday.

PARISH WEBSITE - www.matthewlinus.org.au

PARISH FACEBOOK - www.facebook.com/matthewlinus

PARISH PODCAST - www.buzzsprout.com/1974085

Associate Priest

The Reverend Prashant Bhonsle 0457 876 622

Authorised Honorary Lay Minister
Glenda Owen 0448 821 218

Authorised Honorary Parish Reader
Kerryn Pratchett 0409 306 818



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: : I am the resurrection and the life,' says the Lord; ' whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.'
John 11. 25-26;

Collect: Life-giving God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death; breathe upon us with the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ, and serve you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through the same 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

Ezekiel 37. 1–14;

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord GOD, you know.' Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.' So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.'

Psalm 130;

- 1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear my voice.
- 2 O let your ears consider well;
the voice of my supplication.
- 3 If you, Lord, should note what we do wrong;
who then, O Lord, could stand ?
- 4 But there is forgiveness with you;
so that you shall be feared.
- 5 I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him;
and in his word is my hope.
- 6 My soul looks for the Lord;
more than watchmen for the morning,
more, I say, than watchmen for the morning.
- 7 7 O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy;
and with him is ample redemption.
- 8 He will redeem Israel;
from the multitude of their sins.

Romans 8. 6–11;

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

GOSPEL John 11. 1–45;

A certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.' When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.' When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?' Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.' Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.



Foodbank is an ongoing service to help those in the communities of Glenroy, Hadfield and Merlynston with food security issues. To help share the information with those that need it, and to keep it handy for yourself if you have a personal emergency here are the dates for Foodbank moving forward.

| Foodbank dates for the next 6 months. Foodbank time is always 12– 1pm. | |
|---|------------------------|
| March | 31/3/2023 |
| April | 14/4/2023 28/4/2023 |
| May | 12/5/2023 26/5/2023 |
| June | 9/6/2023 23/6/2023 |
| July | 7/7/2023 21/7/2023 |
| August | 4/8/2023 18/8/2023 |



St Matthew's Book room

April Fools Day

SUPER SALE

Saturday 1st April 2023

10am—12pm.

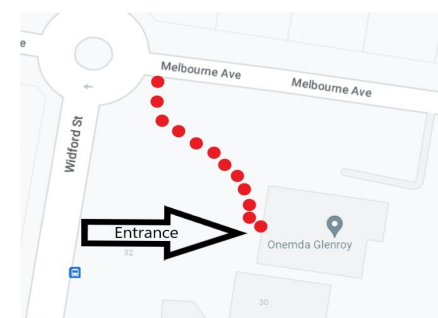
All books are \$1.00

All DVD's are 50 cents

*** Special Offer ***

\$5.00 per small shopping bag

\$10.00 per large shopping bad



30 Widford Street, Glenroy.

Faith Matters!! Empowering the marginalised to grow.

As we are being led into this season of lent in the light of the Word, we come across this re-known passage of the Raising of Lazarus to life. And to many of us, it is the most amazing story in the Gospel, as we are told from our Sunday school days. The central message too is as glorious as we have held it to our hearts: Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

The whole purpose for Jesus to raise Lazarus to Life is to Glorify God. For when he heard that Lazarus, whom he loved is ill, he said, ““This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it” (11:4)—and again we find Jesus questioning Martha, ““Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?””. And hereon as we read the Gospel of John we find that Jesus’ Glory and the Glory of God become the Central theme of the Gospel and rightly so in Jesus’ own words ‘the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified’ (John Ch.12:23). We find that Jesus, in his love for his friend, in him deeply being moved and even weeping, he is opening himself up now more to humanity. More so, as he is being led into the plot where he will be Crucified and be anointed at Bethany, which happens in the shadow of his ensuing crucifixion. The raising of Lazarus to life, thus provides the impetus for the events that are to follow and ultimately, the glorification of the Son of God on the cross. Our Lenten Journey is to acknowledge our weakness and align our lives to this Glory of God.

Our Gospel reading is rightly paired with the reading from Ezekiel. Jesus’ relationship to death is mirrored in Ezekiel’s vision of Israel being ‘dead’ in Babylonian captivity to be ‘restored’ back to their own land. God who created the first Adam by breathing into him will bring back to life the new Adam – Jesus. And in him we find new life, new hope and new creation. Both the Stories, reveal God’s power. When we as a Church - as a Parishes-are weary and are lacking hope, it may feel like we are gazing on a valley full of bones. It is at such times, God who is infinite in his mercies and grace, gives hope and growth.

However, we need to be sensitive of the growth of all areas of our life, as people of God, in the light of what is happening around the world we live in.

The Story of raising Lazarus to life in John’s Gospel therefore offers us another major learning. In the three Gospel accounts, after asking about the views of ‘the multitudes’, Jesus asks his disciples about their own opinion: ‘But who do you say that I am?’ we find only Simon Peter answering him: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God". The Gospel of John though, offers us a different Climax of Confession. After Jesus and Martha converse about how Lazarus will rise again and Jesus replies, “I am the resurrection and the life,” he continues with, “Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” Martha’s reply is the Christological confession that serves as the key to John’s narrative: “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.” Martha provides the Climax of confession. And this is very important here that a woman is a model of belief in the Gospel of John which points to the existence and importance of women disciples in early Christian communities.

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ let us resolve to empower every marginalised section of our communities towards ensuring growth and life abundant for all to glorify God and be his effective witnesses by inviting people with different identities at every opportune table, offering hope and new life to all, in Christ. Amen.

Blessings!

Rev. Prashant S Bhonsle

Church Notices



St Matthews is hosting the Easter Egg hunt. Have not had anyone come forward to organise. If you would like do something for that, please see Rev Prashant or Rev Rob.

Church Notices

Election of Lay Representatives and an Alternate Lay Representatives To the 54th Synod

If you would like to be a Synod Representative see Rev Rob to collect a nomination form due by 26th March 2023

We will be holding elections for lay representatives and an alternate lay representative after our combined Easter Sunday Service 9th April 2023.

Church Notices



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| 2 nd April 2023- Palm Sunday | 9.00am at St Linus' 10.30am at St Matthew's |
| 6 th April 2023 - Maundy Thursday | 7pm Service at St Linus' 7pm Service at St Matthew's |
| 7 th April 2023 - Good Friday | 9am Service at St Linus' 9am Service at St Matthew's 10.30am Stations of the Cross Service at St Matthew's 3pm Vigil Service at St Matthew's |
| 8 th April – Easter Saturday | Easter Vigil reflection – The Passion of the Christ 3pm St Matthew's |
| 9 th April 2023 - Resurrection Sunday | 8am Service of the Light at St Matthew's 10am Service at St Matthew's with renewal of vows combined service at St Matthew's Children's Easter Egg Hunt will follow the service Help needed to organise and put this together. |