

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 29th. April 10.30 am. Reserved Sacrament at Craigcare P.V. Aged Care Facility

Wednesday 1st. May 10.00 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's including M U prayers and fellowship
PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES AND MARTYRS

Thursday 2nd. May 10.00am. to 11.30am. Playgroup at St. Linus' All Welcome
Athanasius, bishop of Alexandria, teacher (d.373)

Friday 3rd. May 12.00 to 1.00pm. Foodbank Pantry open

Saturday 4th. May 10.00am. to Noon Second-hand books on sale at St. Matthew's

Sunday 5th. May 9.00 am. Eucharist at St.Linus'
10.30 am. Eucharist at St.Matthew's,

LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday 18th. May 10.30 am. Parish Council at St. Linus'

Saturday 18th. May 10.00 am.-2.00 pm. National Day of Prayer, at 11 Kalang Rd. Glenroy
Be still and know that I am God
A Day Devoted to Adoration, Thanksgiving, and Prayer
Light refreshments will be on offer

Sunday 19th. May 4.00 pm. Hindi Eucharist at St. Matthew's

Sunday 19th. May Day of Pentecost

Monday 20th. May 1.30 pm. Connect Meditation: Guided Spiritual Meditation at St. Matthew's. Please bring a cushion or rug or both. Enquiries Glenda 0448 821 218.
All Welcome to participate in a quiet time of relaxation, reflection, refreshment.

Fifth Sunday of Easter 28-04-2024

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: : In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. *1 John 4. 10-11;*

Collect: O God, form the minds of your faithful people, that we may love what you command, and desire what you promise, so that, amid the many changes of this world, our hearts may there be fixed where true joys are to be found; 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 Acts of the Apostles 8. 26–40;

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, ‘Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.’ (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, ‘Go over to this chariot and join it.’ So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, ‘Do you understand what you are reading?’ He replied, ‘How can I, unless someone guides me?’ And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: ‘Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.’ The eunuch asked Philip, ‘About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?’ Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, ‘Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?’ He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Hear the Word of the Lord Thanks be to God

Psalm 22. 26–32: *said by alternate half verse*

26 From you springs my praise in the great congregation;

I will pay my vows in the sight of all that fear you.

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 the kingdom is the Lord’s;

and he shall be ruler over the nations.

30 How can those who sleep in the earth do him homage;

or those that descend to the dust bow down before him ?

31 But he 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,
that he has done it.**

The second reading is from the first letter of John 4. 7–21;

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, ‘I love God,’ and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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 15. 1–8; Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ
Jesus said to his disciples: I ‘I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciple.

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

Faith Matters!! Being intentional as a parish.

During the season of Easter we have been looking at the idea of how the knowledge of the resurrection inspires us to be intentional in relationship with Jesus. Today’s readings inspire me to think about how we can be intentional in sharing our relationship with Jesus to the community that surrounds us. The gospel passage is part of Jesus’ farewell discourse to his disciples, and the metaphor of vine grower, vine, and branches provides instruction for the time soon to come when Jesus will no longer be physically present with his community: “Abide in me as I abide in you.” These words hold both invitation and promise. The promise is that Jesus will continue to provide sustenance through the life-giving presence of the Spirit to each element of the vine as well as the entire vineyard. To abide is to participate in an ongoing process of renewal through one’s presence intermingled with another’s; we need to actively seek Jesus and intermingle our spirit with His Spirit. By being a part of the body of Christ we have a common fellowship and mission. Yet as a member of the total vine and the vineyard, we are called to remain an active part of the whole community. We are called into fellowship, not to create a club, but to be a group of disciples that have a missional focus and are outward looking in our desire to feed the hungry, help the poor, find healing for the sick and home the homeless. As a parish, we are called to maintain a lifegiving, ongoing bond that will sustain a shared mission and purpose.

This has some significant implications for us as a parish: we must nourish our connection to God through prayer, worship, and study of scripture remaining anchored to God’s grace; we must be a place where faith, hope and love are nurtured so as to use our gifts and talents to build each other up and reach out to those in need; we need to be prepared to prune away the things that no longer serve our mission so that new fruit of the vine that empowers our mission moving forward can grow. As a parish let’s be intentional about intertwining ourselves with the body of Christ, supporting and encouraging one another to relationships, sharing burdens, and celebrate with joy the mission that is placed on our collective hearts to do. *Blessings, Rev. Rob.*