

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

TODAY 24th. June 5.00 pm. Newcomers Church at St. Linus'

Wednesday 27th. June 10.00 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's
*Cyril of Alexandria,
Bishop and gteacher (d.444)*

Thursday 28th. June 10.00 am. Playgroup at St. Linus'
*Irenaeus of Lyons,
Bishop and teachger (d.c.200)*

Friday 29th. June 10.45 am. Reserved Sacrament at Craigcare
PETER & PAUL. Aged Care Facility
APOSTLES & MARTYRS 11.00 am. Gospel Reflection group at St. Matthew's
School Term 2 ends

Sunday 1st. July 9.00 am. Eucharist at St.Linus'
Pentecost 6 10.30 am. Eucharist at St.Matthew's

LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday 7th. July - 10.00 am. - noon
Book and Craft rooms open for sales at St. Matthew's

Sunday 29th. July - Lunch at St. Matthew's (catered)

Pew Leaflet Notices:

Please give to, or phone Glenda Owen,
or e-mail: - gonana7@bigpond.com - by 8 pm. Tuesday

The Anglican Parish of Glenroy / Hadfield / Merlynston



St. Matthew's
Cnr. Widford St.
& Melbourne Ave.
Glenroy 3046

with

St. Linus'
cnr. Glyndon Ave.
& Delta Ave.
Merlynston



PARISH PRIEST: The Reverend Jo-Anne Wells
Phone: 9306 9528
Mobile: 0414 822 095
Email; priest@matthewlinus.org.au

PARISH WEBSITE - www.matthewlinus.com please note the change

Honorary Lay Pastoral Minister
Glenda Owen 0448 821 218

Honorary Lay Parish Readers
Bev. Lacock 9309 2775
Lois Erickson 0421 327 159

Celebrant and Preacher today is Bishop Philip Huggins



**The Birth
of
John the Baptist**

**Baptism
and
Confirmations**

**24th. June
2018**

WELCOME

Our service begins on page 119 of 'A Prayer Book for Australia' (green book)
Hymns are found in 'Together in Song' (red book)
The number of each hymn is clearly displayed in the Church.
At St. Matthew's the service can be followed on the screens.
Please join us for morning tea, following the service.

During the 10.30 am. Service at St. Matthew's each Sunday,
opportunity will be available to receive one-on-one prayer
for any personal needs.

Please go to the Chapel area after you have received Communion

Acknowledgement of Land

(An act towards reconciliation by the Parish of Glenroy/ Hadfield / Merlynston)

For thousands of years indigenous people have walked in this land.
Their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives.
We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation,
for their stewardship throughout the ages.

GLUTEN FREE COMMUNION WAFERS ARE AVAILABLE

If you require Gluten free wafer,
please speak to the Lay Assistant or a Welcomer, BEFORE the Service,

PLEASE OBSERVE SILENCE

**PRIOR TO OUR SERVICE, DURING HOLY COMMUNION
AND AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SERVICE**

Catch up with one another in the Narthex or at Morning Tea

Sentence: You will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins.

Luke 1. 76-77

Collect: Almighty God, by whose providence your servant John the Baptist was wonderfully born, and sent to prepare the way for your Son our Saviour, by preaching a baptism of repentance: make us to follow his teaching and holy life, that we may truly repent, and, following his example, may constantly speak the truth, boldly rebuke vice, and patiently suffer for the truth's sake; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Readings

Isaiah 49. 1-6;

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.' But I said, 'I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God.' And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—he says, 'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'

SATURDAYS AT ST. MATTHEW'S

Excepting the first Saturday each month, St. Matthew's Church and meeting room will be hired by another church all other Saturday's from 8.00 am. through to 4.00 pm.

This will mean that no cleaning or anything else can occur during these hours on a Saturday.

Parish Council agreed it was beneficial to share our resources. We ask for your patience as we adjust to this new arrangement which is on trial for 3 months.

Churchwardens and Parish Council



**PASTORAL
LISTENING
WORKSHOP**



for the Parishes of the Archdeacons of
The Yarra, Maroondah and La Trobe.

*Parish Partnerships Ministry, together with Hospital Chaplaincy,
The Brotherhood of St. Laurence and Benetas, offer to the people of
the Parishes:*

Saturday 14th. July - 9.00 am.-3.30 pm.

at

St. Margaret's Eltham (79-81 Pitt St.)

\$10. includes workbook, lunch, morning tea.

This workshop is for those involved in ministry through home visits, aged care, Op shops, playgroups, youth and family work, welcoming, hospitality, including clergy and pastoral teams.

It is through listening to the Holy Spirit, to each other and our own self-knowing that we can bring care to influence people and communities in change for the good of all.

Please RSVP to Rev. Jo-Anne by 26th. June,
Jo-Anne will make a 'block' booking.

THANK YOU

Collen Wetzell expresses her grateful thanks to everyone for your prayers and support in the weeks prior and at the time of surgery for her husband, Jack.

Jack is now home, and recovering very well.

NOTICES

PLEASE PRAY FOR BAPTISM & CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES



Sorush and his sponsor Nejah
who is also his very proud mum.

Sertug and his sponsor David,

Sonya and her sponsor Glenda,

Hektor and his sponsor Hamed,

The candidates have been meeting since Easter, and some from the beginning of Lent. We have learned about each other and shared many experiences of how God is at work in our lives. We have been open to new discoveries, asked many questions and reflected deeply. We have sometimes been in awe! We have prayed together, enjoyed the sun and the warmth of indoors as the weather got colder. We come from different backgrounds and families but together we have walked this journey of exploring our faith. I share this as the privileged priest who has come to know these people and appreciated all they have brought to our sessions together. Please pray for Sorush, Sonya, Sertug and Hektor in their continuing faith journey.

FAMILY LUNCH at ST. MATTHEW'S

Sunday 29th. July

following the 10.30 am. service

Please invite your family to join us for a 'catered' lunch

Cost per person to be advised.

RSVP to Colleen or Sue by 22nd. July



Psalm 139. 1-11;

- 1 O LORD, you have searched me out and known me;
**you know when I sit down and when I stand,
you comprehend my thoughts long before.**
- 2 You discern my path and the places where I rest;
you are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 For there is not a word on my tongue;
but you LORD, know it altogether.
- 4 You have encompassed me behind and before,
and have laid your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
so high that I cannot endure it.
- 6 Where shall I go from your spirit?
or where shall I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I ascend into heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in the grave you are there also.
- 8 If I spread out my wings towards the morning
or dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.
- 10 If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me,
and the night will enclose me,"
- 11 The darkness is no darkness with you,
but the night is as clear as the day;
the darkness and the light are both alike.

Acts 13. 22-26;

When he had removed him, he made David their king. In his testimony about him he said, "I have found David, son of Jesse, to be a man after my heart, who will carry out all my wishes." Of this man's posterity God has brought to Israel a Saviour, Jesus, as he promised; before his coming John had already proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. And as John was finishing his work, he said, "What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but one is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of the sandals on his feet." My brothers, you descendants of Abraham's family, and others who fear God, to us the message of this salvation has been sent.'

GOSPEL Luke 1. 57-66, 80;

The time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbours and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. But his mother said, 'No; he is to be called John.' They said to her, '80 The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

None of your relatives has this name.' Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, 'His name is John.' And all of them were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. Fear came over all their neighbours, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. 66 All who heard them pondered them and said, 'What then will this child become?' For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.



GOSPEL REFLECTION

Birth is normally a happy occasion. The welcoming of new life, born in love into the world. The love and newness of the present moment takes over. Like that for Elizabeth and Zechariah with the surprise birth of John the Baptist. The prayer of his father at his birth prophesied what he would be. Somehow or other, they knew what life lay ahead of their child – 'to go ahead of the Lord and announce his ways'.

We may often wonder about what life lies ahead of our children, and may worry about them. We also have great hopes. As God does. God has hopes for every child born into the world, and we share that hope when we bring our children for baptism. We hope that they will find God's love in their lives and the care of Jesus, as John the Baptist did. As they grow older we are happy to see them growing as were John's parents, and also happy when we see them becoming generous, compassionate and caring for others and committed to making a better world. We hope they can take on the best values we try to pass on.

All of us, young and old, can 'prepare the way of the Lord' by our lives – what we say and how we say it, what we do and how we do it.

Thank you Lord for the gift of children in our family and extended family. Bless them now and always.

Donal Neary SJ

E	S	T	B	A	H	Z	I	L	E
N	S	E	A	E	A	D	U	J	S
R	E	L	A	T	I	O	N	S	I
E	N	B	H	T	R	I	B	I	C
I	D	A	S	R	A	O	J	H	M
G	N	T	R	E	H	T	O	M	U
H	I	Z	E	H	C	A	H	R	C
T	K	L	T	T	E	Z	N	T	R
H	T	E	B	A	Z	I	L	E	I
E	H	T	A	F	A	T	H	E	C

ELIZABETH	BIRTH	RELATIONS
KINDNESS	EIGHTH	CIRCUMCISE
ZECHARIAH	FATHER	MOTHER
JOHN	TABLET	JUDAEA

CHRISTIAN BELIEFS ABOUT CONFIRMATION

In the early Church baptism and the 'laying on of hands' were performed on adult converts (Acts 8. 17; 19. 6;) However, the two acts of baptism and 'laying on of hands' became separate in the Western church as they began to baptize at the Easter Vigil in parishes where the Bishop was not present. The laying on of hands by the Bishop then had to wait until it could be performed later in the sacrament of confirmation.

Confirmation continues what was begun at baptism. Confirmation celebrates the presence and work of the Holy Spirit within us. It also marks full membership of the Church.

To prepare a person for confirmation the priest will hold confirmation classes in which he/she will instruct confirmation candidates into what it means to accept the Christian faith and to live as a Christian in the world. Confirmation classes might last for a few months or up to a year.

The confirmation service is led by the Bishop. He/ she represents the universal Church. This emphasizes the importance of confirmation. It starts with the people being confirmed renewing their baptismal promises, which were made on their behalf by their parents and godparents, if they were baptized as infants, and agreeing to take responsibility for them. The Bishop will say: "Are you ready with your own mouth and from your own heart to affirm your faith in Jesus Christ?"

The confirmation candidates make a profession of faith by uniting with the congregation in saying the Apostles' Creed.

From SPCK confirmation preparation