

- 3 Fire goes before him;
and burns up his enemies on every side.
- 4 His lightnings light the world;
the earth sees it and is afraid.
- 5 The mountains melt like wax before his face;
from before the face of the Lord of all the earth.
- 6 The heavens have proclaimed his righteousness,
and all peoples have seen his glory.
- 7 They are ashamed, all those who serve idols,
and glory in mere nothing;
all gods bow down before him.
- 8 Zion heard and was glad, and the daughters of Judah rejoiced;
because of your judgements, O God.
- 9 For you, Lord are most high over all the earth;
you are exalted far above all gods.
- 10 The Lord loves those that hate evil;
**the Lord guards the life of the faithful,
and delivers them from the hand of the ungodly**
- 11 Light dawns for the righteous;
and joy for the true of heart.
- 12 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous,
and give thanks to his holy name.

Titus 3. 4-8a;

When the goodness and loving-kindness of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Gospel - Luke 2. 8-20;

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Anglican Parish of Glenroy / Hadfield / Merlynston



St Matthew's
 cnr. Widford St. &
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 Glenroy 3046

with

St Linus'
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CHRISTMAS 2018

**THE PEOPLE OF
 ST MATTHEW'S GLENROY / HADFIELD
 & ST LINUS' MERLYNSTON
 WISH YOU A HAPPY AND HOLY CHRISTMAS**



**THE BIRTH
 OF OUR
 LORD**

**25th. December
 2018**

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, on their own country.
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,

24th. December 2018 - 5.00 pm. at St.Linus'

Readings

Isaiah 9. 2-7;

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

GOSPEL Luke 2.1-14,

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

24th. December 2018 - 11.30 pm. Midnight Mass at St. Matthew's

Readings

Isaiah 9. 2-7; Psalm 96;

Titus 2. 11-14;

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Gospel - John 1. 1-14;

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

25th. December 2018 - 10.00 am. at St. Mathew's

Readings

Isaiah 62. 6-12;

Thus says the LORD: Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the LORD, take no rest, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. The LORD has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have laboured; but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the LORD, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts. Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. The LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, 'See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.' They shall be called, 'The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD'; and you shall be called, 'Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.'

Psalm 97;

- 1 The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice;
let the multitude of islands be glad.
- 2 Clouds and darkness are round about him,
righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.