

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 at St. Matthew's - working bee after 10.30 am. Service

Monday 18th. June 1.30 pm. Home Group at Glenroy

Wednesday 20th. June 10.00 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's

Thursday 21st. June 10.00 am. Playgroup at St. Linus'
10.45 am. Reserved Sacrament at Colton Close
Aged Care Facility

Friday 22nd June 11.00 am. Gospel Reflection group at St. Matthew's
Alban, first British martyr (d.c.209)

Sunday 24th. June 10.00 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's
The Birth of John the Baptist
Bishop Philip Huggins visit and
Baptism and Confirmations
5.00 pm. Newcomers church at St. Linus'

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

Honorary Lay Pastoral Minister
Glenda Owen 0448 821 218

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

**PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR MOBILE PHONE BEFORE
THE START OF THE SERVICE.**

Thank You



**Fourth Sunday
after
Pentecost**

**17th. 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: In Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. *2 Corinthians 5. 19;*

Collect: Almighty God, without you we are unable to please you: mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Readings

1 Samuel 15. 34 – 16. 1

Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul. 35 Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the LORD was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel. The LORD said to Samuel, 'How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.' Samuel said, 'How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.' And the LORD said, 'Take a heifer with you, and say, "I have come to sacrifice to the LORD." Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.' Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, 'Do you come peaceably?' He said, 'Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.' And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the LORD.' But the LORD said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.' Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, 'Neither has the

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 Archdeaconries 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.

HYMN SING-ALONG

TODAY - Sunday 17th. June at 2.00 pm.
at Pascoe Vale South Uniting Church

10 Cumberland Rd. Pascoe Vale South 3044

Compere - Rev. Ian Collings *Organist* - Geoffrey Anderson
Afternoon Tea to follow

NOTICES

Sunday 24th June 2018 - combined service



10.00 am. at St. Matthew's

This will be Bishop Philip's last visit to the parish prior to his retirement later in the year.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR BAPTISM
& CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES**



Sertug and his sponsor David,
Sonya and her sponsor Glenda,
Hektor and his sponsor Hamed,
Sorush and his sponsor Nejah who is also his very proud mum.

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 each of them, for Sorush as he commits to the Christian faith through baptism and confirmation, and for Sonya, Sertug and Hektor who will all publicly confirm their faith before us and Bishop Philip.

Please bring a plate of goodies for refreshments after the service .

If you need transport to St. Matthew's please speak to one of the Wardens

SUNDAY 24th. JUNE at 5.00 pm.

Informal service at St Linus'
corner Delta Ave & Glyndon Ave, Merlynston
No church experience necessary!
Last Sunday of the month 5-6 pm.

Includes a light meal in our community hall.
For questions or more information, contact
The Rev'd Jo-Anne Wells Mobile: 0414 822095
Email: priest@matthewlinus.org.au

LORD chosen this one.' Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, 'Neither has the LORD chosen this one.' Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, 'The LORD has not chosen any of these.' Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.' He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, 'Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Psalm 20;

- 1 May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble;
the God of Jacob lift you up to safety.
- 2 May he send you his help from the sanctuary;
and be your strong support from Zion.
- 3 May he remember all your offerings;
and accept with favour your burnt sacrifices.
- 4 Grant you your heart's desire;
and fulfil all your purposes.
- 5 May we also rejoice in your victory and triumph in the name of our God;
the Lord perform all your petitions.
- 6 Now I know that the Lord will save his anointed;
**that he will answer him from his holy heaven,
with the victorious strength of his right hand.**
- 7 Some put their trust in chariots and some in horses;
but we will trust in the name of the Lord our God.
- 8 They are brought down and fallen;
but we are made strong and stand upright.
- 9 O Lord, save the king;
and hear us when we call upon you.

2 Corinthians 5. 6–10, 14–17;

Brothers and sisters, we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord – for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. The love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

GOSPEL Mark 4. 26–34;

Such a large crowd gathered around Jesus that he got into a boat and began to teach them using many parables. Jesus said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and



day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.' Jesus also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.' With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.



PENTECOST 4
17th. June 2018

WHAT WE PERCEIVE

Today's readings invite us to trust in a God who can see and reveal truths that may not be immediately apparent. When the prophet Samuel goes to anoint a new king to replace the disappointing Saul, God passes by more obviously impressive candidates and chooses someone overlooked by others to lead God's people.

Focus scripture

1 Samuel 15:34—16:13; Our study of the early years of monarchy in Israel continues today with the story of the call and anointing of David. Saul, the first king of Israel chosen and anointed by Samuel with great fanfare and rejoicing has turned into a disappointment as he repeatedly disobeys the commands of God (1 Samuel 15:11). Because of this, it is time to replace Saul with a new king, and God sends Samuel out to discover who God wishes to anoint. Throughout this story we discover that even though God may have ceded leadership over to Saul as king over Israel, God remains in charge.

God does not immediately indicate to Samuel whom he is to anoint as the new king. Instead, he sends Samuel to the house of a man named Jesse in Bethlehem, and tells Samuel that the new king will be one of Jesse's many sons. Because Samuel is wary of Saul, who may guess at his intentions and try to kill him, God instructs Samuel to treat this as a religious

event to which all of the elders of Bethlehem are invited. Perhaps aware of Samuel's conflict with Saul, the elders are afraid to have Samuel in their midst, but find no exception with the sacrifice for it is a peaceable event.

When Jesse appears at the sacrifice, Samuel invites Jesse to present his sons before God. Beginning with his eldest and most impressive son, Samuel asks God if that son is to be God's newly anointed king. However, despite Eliab's favourable appearance, he is not the one God would choose for the role, declaring that God sees differently. Instead of focusing on outward appearance, God looks into the heart.

The theme of seeing is emphasized in this story several times – the Hebrew word *ra'a* can mean simply "to see," but it can also be used in a more specialized way to mean "to provide," and we find both meanings at play in this text. Thus, in 16:1, God has "seen" (translated as "provided") for a new king, Samuel's looking in 16:6 is contrasted in with God's seeing in 16:7 (same word in Hebrew), and in 16:12, in the Hebrew text it is clearer again that David is handsome in appearance, or for seeing.

Seven sons of Jesse pass by, but they are not who God intends. These seem to be all of the sons Jesse feels necessary to present to Samuel, but Samuel, knowing that God intends to pick one of Jesse's sons and has not yet done so, asks if there is another. It turns out there is one more, the youngest, who was busy tending to chores while the elder sons were allowed to attend the sacrifice. God indicates to Samuel that this is the chosen one, and Samuel anoints this almost overlooked youth before returning to Ramah.

Just as God teaches Samuel the value of things not immediately apparent, Paul teaches us in **2 Corinthians 5:6–10, 14–17** to walk by faith, not by sight. Similarly, in the parable of the mustard seed in **Mark 4:26–34**, Jesus teaches us to trust in God who grows God's realm often in mysterious and invisible ways. The psalmist in **Psalms 20** affirms our faith and trust in a God who responds to our call.

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As people of faith we are often called upon to trust in things that are beyond ordinary means of seeing. While this often means trusting in a God who moves in invisible and mysterious ways, we are also invited to look beyond appearances and see the potential that God sees in all of us. What are some things God has helped you see in your life?

REFLECTION

Loving God, teach us to see with your eyes of compassion and wisdom so that we may understand your will for our world. Help us to discover and hear those who may have been overlooked or ignored, and let us heed each other's voices as we seek your peace and justice in our lives. Amen.