

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

Monday 24th. June -
THE BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

Wednesday 26th. June 10.00 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's

Thursday 27th. June 11.00 am. Ecumenical Ministers meeting
Cyril of Alexandria, 3.00 pm. Parish Council at St. Linus'
Bishop & teacher (d.444)

Friday 28th. June 10.45 am. Reserved Sacrament at Craigcare
Iraaneus of Lyons, Aged Care Facility
Bishop & teacher (d.c.200) 11.00 am. Gospel Reflection group at St. Matthew's
School Term 2 ends

Saturday 29th. June
PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES AND MARTYRS

Sunday 30th. July 9.00 am. Eucharist at St. Linus'
3rd. Sunday 10.30 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's,
after Pentecost

LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday 6th. July - GARAGE SALE , Seconhand Books
and New Craft / Bric-a-Brac at St. Matthew's

Saturday 20th. July - Working Bee at St. Matthew's
- Card Making workshop in Wiseman House

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

St. Linus'
Cnr. Glyndon &
Delta Aves.
Merlynston



PARISH PRIEST: The Reverend Jo-Anne Wells

Phone: 9306 9528

Mobile: 0414 822 095

Email; priest@matthewlinus.org.au

HONORARY ASSOCIATE PRIEST: The Venerable Philip Newman OAM

Mobile: 0419 390 650

Email: pjnewman2@bigpond.com

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
Kerryn Pratchett 0409 306 818

PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR MOBILE PHONE BEFORE THE SERVICE COMMENCES. THANK YOU



**SECOND SUNDAY
after
PENTECOST**

**23rd. June
2019**

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.

**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

GLUTEN FREE COMMUNION WAFERS ARE AVAILABLE

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

Sentence: God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; and he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.
Acts 10. 38;

Collect: Pour out upon us, O God, the power and wisdom of your Spirit, so that we, who have been baptised into Christ, and made your children through faith, may know your Son's power to heal, and, being made one in him, may overcome all barriers that divide us; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Readings

1 Kings 19.1-4, (5-7), 8-15;

Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, 'So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow.' Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there. But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: 'It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors.' He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.' He said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.' Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and

**PLEASE COME AND HELP
WITH THIS FUNDRAISER**

**GARAGE
SALE**

**RUMMAGE
SALE**

SATURDAY 7th. July 2019

9.00 am. to Noon

**in Wiseman House & Church Grounds
cnr. Widford St. & Melbourne Ave.
Glenroy**

COME BROWSE

COME BUY

Secondhand Books

**New Craft
& Bric-a-Brac**

**If you have any fresh ideas for fundraising,
please speak with the Churchwardens,
Bev. Lacock, Beryl Davis, Tom Bowery**

REFLECTION

We listen, God. Sometimes we listen hard, and still nothing comes.
Sometimes we feel sounds are crashing in on us, and we can hear nothing.
Sometimes we find ourselves running away from noise and clamour,
and yet the sound of our heartbeat drowns us out.
And sometimes, God, we listen in the silence, and discover you are there.
Thank you. Amen.



FROM THE TREASURER

Some lovely person is depositing money in to our Parish Bank Account on a regular basis, for which we are very grateful. To keep our Bookkeeper happy, we need to know if this is a donation / regular offering, hall hire or something else - and for St Matthew's or St Linus'. The name attached to these deposits is Matthew Turner, who is unknown to the people I have asked. If you know him or know of him, please ask him to let me know to where this money should be allocated.

Thank You, from Kerry Pratchett

CARD MAKING WORKSHOP

Saturday 20th. July - 10.00 am. to Noon

In front room of Wiseman House at St. Matthew's Anglican Church

Kit to make your own will be available for \$5.

RSVP to Marie Brennan 0438 098 613, to reserve your kit

*If interest is sufficient, future workshops will include -
Knitting, Crochet, Smocking, Macrame*



WORKING BEE AT ST. MATTHEW'S

9.00 am. Saturday 20th. July 2019

Morning Tea provided

'MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK'



they are seeking my life, to take it away.' Then the LORD said to him, 'Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazeal as king over Aram.'

Psalms 42;

- 1 As the deer longs for the running brooks;
so longs my soul for you, O God.
- 2 My soul is thirsty for God, thirsty for the living God;
when shall I come and see his face ?
- 3 My tears have been my food day and night,
while they ask me all day long 'Where now is your God ?'
- 4 As I pour out my soul by myself, I remember this;
how I went to the house of the Mighty One, into the temple of God,
- 5 To the shouts and songs of thanksgiving,
A multitude keeping high festival.
- 6 Why are you so full of heaviness, my soul;
and why so unquiet within me ?
- 7 O put your trust in God;
for I will praise him yet, who is my deliverer and my God.
- 8 My soul is heavy within me;
**therefore I will remember you from the land of Jordan,
from Mizar among the hills of Hermon.**
- 9 Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waters;
all your waves and breakers have gone over me.
- 10 Surely the Lord will grant his loving mercy in the daytime;
and in the night his song will be with me, a prayer to the God of my life.
- 11 I will say to God, my rock, 'Why have you forgotten me;
Why must I go like a mourner, because the enemy oppresses me ?
- 12 Like a sword through my bones, my enemies have mocked me;
while they ask me all day long 'Where now is your God ?'
- 13 Why are you so full of heaviness, my soul;
and why so unquiet within me ?
- 14 O put your trust in God;
for I will praise him yet, who is my deliverer and my God.

Psalms 43;

- 1 Give judgement for me, O God, take up my cause against an ungodly people;
deliver me from the deceitful and unjust.
- 2 For you are God my refuge; why have you turned me away;
why must I go like a mourner, because the enemy oppresses me ?
- 3 O send out your light and your truth, and let them lead me,
let them guide me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.
- 4 Then I shall go to the altar of God, to God my joy and my delight;
and to the harp I shall sing your praise, O God my God.
- 5 Why are you so full of heaviness, my soul;
and why so unquiet within me ?
- 6 O put your trust in God;
for I will praise him yet, who is my deliverer and my God.

Galatians 3. 23-29;

Before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ; There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all

of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

GOSPEL Luke 8. 26–39;

Jesus and his disciples arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, 'What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me' – for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, 'What is your name?' He said, 'Legion'; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss. Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, 'Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.' So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.



Second Sunday after Pentecost
16th. June 2019

Sound of Sheer Silence

A text by Blaise Pascal is often paraphrased as, "there is a God-shaped hole in each of us." Each of us has an emptiness, a longing, for something beyond us; that something is God. The form may differ from time to time and person to person, but the constant is that God does not abandon us. Through all the readings this week we are reminded that when we feel abandoned and alone we can share those feelings with God without fear of judgment. Perhaps there is no greater truth than this.

Focus Scripture

1 Kings 19:1–4, (5–7), 8–15a Elijah experiences abandonment as he flees for his life. Queen Jezebel has vowed to kill him in response to the killing of 450 prophets of Baal. Some scholars question if there really could have been 450 prophets for Elijah to kill, and others wonder why, if the queen were so angry, she didn't just send an assassin to kill Elijah. But to quibble over these things is to miss the point: Elijah fears for his life, and runs away. The story really begins when he goes by himself into the wilderness (verse 4) and declares that he wants to die.

The first clue Elijah gets to God's presence is the command to get up and eat, and discovering some warm flatbread and water. Yet he eats it, and then goes back to sleep. It happened again, and he ate again. This is not only a clear indication of God's assurance but also a reminder of God's compassionate care. It is God saying, "eat, and rest, so you will find strength for your journey." Elijah then carries on, for forty days and forty nights – a Hebrew euphemism for "a long time" rather than a literal measurement.

Yet after being fed by God and journeying for all that time, when Elijah arrives at the cave and God asks him why, Elijah responds, "I've been very passionate for God, and people's response has been violent ignorance of God; I'm the only one left and now they want to kill me, too."

Here God's response is amazing. After telling Elijah to stand outside and listen. Elijah observes wind, an earthquake, and a fire. But God is not present in any of those great, stormy, violent acts. And at the end of it, something the original Hebrew describes as "the sound of fine silence" – "sheer silence" in the New Revised Standard Version; "...a sound. Thin. Quiet" in the Common English Bible and famously in the King James Version, "a still, small voice." The point is that Elijah does not find God in the chaos, rather in gentleness, and a moment of silent clarity. This is followed by the command to "return" and the lesson for this week ends, leaving questions: Does Elijah return? Is he feeling strengthened and renewed after the journey, and the time of rest, and the reassurance that God is present in silence?

There is a powerful strength in this passage for us: God can be found in moments of silence. Certainly God is present in all aspects of life, including the noisy and crazy times, but often when we are overwhelmed we tend to embrace an ever-widening storm, and in the fact of that comes the reminder that sometimes we just need to stop, and regroup – and know that the presence of God's Spirit offers respite and renewal. The truth of it all is that God never abandons us, and there are frequent, if not constant, reminders of this simple fact.

Psalms 42 and 43 – recognized by the vast majority of scholars as really being one psalm – echoes the sense of 1 Kings 19. It begins (as do many psalms) with a sense of being abandoned, only to arrive at an awareness of God's presence at the end. One can imagine the words coming directly from Elijah – especially the awareness that the act of naming and being honest about hurt and despair is the first step of healing. Similarly, **Galatians 3:23–29** expresses God's love for all people, and closes with the well-known phrase that there are no longer any differences that divide us, for we are all one in Christ Jesus.

In **Luke 8:26–39** Jesus heals a man filled with demons, restoring him to a right relationship with God; for his troubles, Jesus is asked to depart. As he does so, he commands the healed man to go and proclaim the message of God's love.

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The heart of God is great and warm, wide enough to embrace all humanity with myriad differences. Regardless of our mood or temperament, God offers refreshment – food and rest, and strength for life's journey. Even when it seems that all is crumbling around us, God offers the reassurance that we are never alone. When have you felt persecuted and abandoned? Where do you find God's comforting voice in those times? How does God strengthen you for tomorrow?