

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

Sunday 5th. March 4.00 pm. Prayer, Praise and Proclamation service at St. Matthew's

Monday 6th. March 1.30 pm. Connect group 'Guided Spiritual Meditation' at St. Matthew's. *please bring cushion or rug, or both. This is an open group, not limited to 3 people. All welcome*

Tuesday 7th. March
Perpetua and her companions, martyrs at Carthage (d. 203)

Wednesday 8th. March 10.00 am. Morning Prayer at St. Matthew's
John of God, worker 11.00 am. Lenten Study at St. Matthew's among the sick and poor, Spain (1550)

Thursday 9th. March
Sister Emma SSA, superior of the Society of the Sacred Advent, Queensland (d.1939)

Friday 10th. March 10.30 am. Holy Communion at Colton Close Aged Care Facility

Sunday 12th. March 9.00 am. Eucharist at St. Linus'
Third Sunday 10.30 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's in Lent 4.00 pm. Healing Service at St. Matthew's

LOOKING AHEAD

Wednesday 15th. March 1.30 pm. Connect: Journalling at St. Matthew's contact Marie 0459 953 658

Tuesday 21st. March 7.30 pm. Connect Men's group: Dinner Fellowship at Bluebonnet 124-126 Lygon St. Brunswick East.
RSVP by 14th. March to Grant 0424 908 336

Please note: *Rev. Rob and Rev. Prashant will not be available Tues, Wed. and Thurs. this week.*

Second Sunday in Lent 5th. March 2023

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
30 Widford St.
cnr. Melbourne Ave.
Glenroy 3046

with

St. Linus'
21 Glyndon
cnr. Delta Aves.
Merlynston 3058



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.
NOT available Tuesday.*

PARISH WEBSITE - www.matthewlinus.org.au

PARISH FACEBOOK - www.facebook.com/matthewlinus

PARISH PODCAST - www.buzzsprout.com/1974085

Associate Priest
The Reverend Prashant Bhonsle 0457 876 622

Authorised Honorary Lay Minister
Glenda Owen 0448 821 218

Authorised Honorary Parish Reader
Kerryn Pratchett 0409 306 818



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: God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. *John 3. 16;*

Collect: God of mercy, you are full of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in mercy, and always ready to forgive; grant us grace to renounce all evil and to cling to Christ, that in every way we may prove to be your loving children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one god, for ever and ever. **Amen**

Readings

First reading is from the book of Genesis 12. 1-4a;

The LORD said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

Hear the word of the Lord, thanks be to God.

Psalm 121; said by alternate half verses;

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills;
but where shall I find help ?
- 2 My help comes from the Lord,
who has made heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not suffer your foot to stumble;
and he who watches over you will not sleep.
- 4 Be sure he who has charge of Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The Lord himself is your keeper;
the Lord is your defence upon your right hand,
- 6 The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor shall the moon by night.
- 7 The Lord will defend you from all evil;
it is he who will guard your life.
- 8 The Lord will defend your going out and your coming in,
from this time forward for evermore.

The second reading is from the letter of Paul to the Romans 4. 1-5, 13-17;

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is the law but null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to

the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations') – Abraham believed in the presence of the God who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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 3. 1-17; Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.'

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

Faith Matters!! Remembering our Baptism vows.

When we repent and turn back to the gospel, we align ourselves with our Baptism vows. This week's gospel readings remind us how we need to die to the world and rise in the new life of Christ. Holy Week is a commitment to the renewal of our relationship. All licenced and ordained have the Chrism Service which includes the renewal of vows. As we celebrate again the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ we remember that through these saving acts we have died and been buried with him in baptism, so that we might rise with him to a new life within the family of his Church. We will use the following vows to affirm our allegiance to Christ and our rejection of all that is evil.

Do you renew and affirm the promises made when you were baptized?

Do you turn in faith to Christ?

Do you then renounce all evil?

Will you obey and serve Christ?

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people, loving your neighbour as yourself?

Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society, by prayer for the world and its leaders, by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?

Have a look at these questions and check in about how you might answer them today. As you continue your journey of Lent, what support do you need to be able to answer them in allegiance to the Lord when you are asked on Resurrection Sunday.

Blessings, Rev Rob.