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 od 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 29th. July Mary and Martha of Bethany

Tuesday 30th. July William Wilberforce, social reformer (d.1833)

Wednesday 31st. July 10.00 am. Morning Prayer at St. Matthew's Joseph of Arimathea; Ignatius of Lovola, priest and founder of the Society of Jesus (d.1556)

Thursday1st. August10.00 am. Playgroup at St. Linus'Holy Men and Women10.45 am. Holy Communion at Colton Closeof the Old TestamentAged Care Facility

Friday 2nd. August 11.00 am. Gospel Reflection group at St. Matthew's

Saturday3rd. August9.30 am. Working Bee at ST. LINUS'Stephen, deacon10.00 am. Book and Craft sales at ST. MATTHEW'SAnd first martyr

Sunday 4th. August 9.00 am. Eucharist at St. Linus' Parish Visit - 10.30 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's, Bishop Kate Prowd

## LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday 17th. August - Card and Christmas gift workshop at ST. MATTHEW'S - Working Bee at ST. MATTHEW'S
Sunday 18th. August - Special Parish event - casual lunch in Wiseman House
Sunday 25th. August - Lunch in Wiseman House for Schools Chaplaincy Fund
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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



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 Honoray Lay Parish Readers Bev. Lacock 9309 2775 Lois Erickson 0421 327 159 Kerryn Pratchett 0409 306 818

# GIVING TO GOD

'But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this ? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand' *1 Chronicles 29. 14:* 



## Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

28th. July 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.

#### 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: Ask and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. Luke 11. 9;

**Collect:** Provident Father, with the prayer your Son taught us always on our lips, we ask, we seek, we knock at your door: help us so to seek that we may truly find, so to ask that we may joyfully receive, and so to knock that the door of mercy may be opened for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

#### Readings:

#### Hosea 1. 2–10;

When the LORD first spoke through Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea, 'Go, take for yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the LORD.' So he went and took Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son. And the LORD said to him, 'Name him Jezreel: for in a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel. and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. On that day I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel.' She conceived again and bore a daughter. Then the LORD said to him. 'Name her Lo-ruhamah. for I will no longer have pity on the house of Israel or forgive them. But I will have pity on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the LORD their God; I will not save them by bow, or by sword, or by war, or by horses, or by horsemen.' When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son. Then the LORD said, 'Name him Lo-ammi, for you are not my people and I am not your God.' Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which can be neither measured nor numbered; and in the place where it was said to them, 'You are not my people,' it shall be said to them, 'Children of the living God.'

## Psalm 85;

- 1 O Lord, you were gracious to your land, you have restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- 2 You forgave the iniquity of your people; and covered all their sin.
- 3 You put aside all your wrath; and turned away from your fierce indignation.

Blessing of Hands...

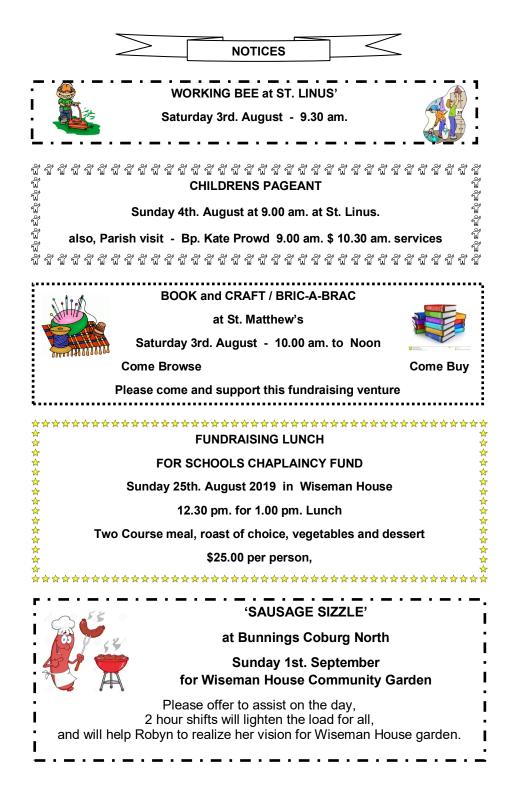
Blessed be these hands that have touched life. Blessed be these hands that have cooked and cleaned. Blessed be these hands that have felt pain and tiredness. Blessed be these hands that have lovingly embraced others with compassion. Blessed be these hands that have been clinched in anger, or been withdrawn in fear. Blessed be these hands that have cleaned bodies and beds. Blessed be these hands that have caressed the sick and suffering, offered blessings and prayers. Blessed be these hands, some still smooth with youth some that have grown stiffer with age.

Blessed be these hands that have comforted the dying and held the dead.

Blessed be these hands and all the creativity

they engage. Blessed be these hands, for with them we hold the future. Blessed be our hands, for they are the work of your hands, O Holy One.





- 4 Return to us again, O God our Saviour; and let your anger cease from us.
- 5 Will you be displeased with us for ever; will you stretch out your wrath from one generation to another?
- 6 Will you not give us life again, that your people may rejoice in you?
- 7 Show us your mercy, O Lord; and grant us your salvation.
- 8 I will hear what the Lord God will speak;
  for he will speak peace to his people,
  to his faithful ones, whose hearts are turned to him.
- 9 Truly his salvation is near to those that fear him; and his glory shall dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall flourish out of the earth; and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
   12 The Lord will also give up all that is produced.
- 12 The Lord will also give us all that is good; and our land shall yield its plenty.
- 13 For righteousness shall go before him; and tread the path before his feet.

## Colossians 2.6-15;

Brothers and sisters, as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

## GOSPEL Luke 11. 1–13;

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial.' And he said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, "Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him." And he answers from within, "Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything." I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you

who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'



#### SEVENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST 28th. July 2019

#### **Disciples' Way of Prayer**

The psalm this week celebrates God's mercy, truth, righteousness, and peace. Hosea starts with negative imagery, borne out in the names of the prophet's children, and yet also promises the people shall one day be called children of the living God. Colossians reminds us that God brings us to new life, and Jesus also teaches that we can trust God to be present and to provide for us. All of this in turn is summed up in the simple pattern of prayer Jesus teaches.

#### Focus scripture

Luke 11:1–13 Many people who have never attended church still know the words and themes of the so-called "Lord's Prayer." In Luke's simple version this prayer formula focuses us in on the things that really matter: God's presence, God's provision, and God's forgiveness. People will sometimes turn to the prayer of Jesus to tell us things that it is not really there to tell. For example, to claim that the praver clearly tells us that we must see God as "father" – a stumbling block for many. If we take the prayer as an example rather than a script, such a claim falls away. Jesus uses the name "father" in the praver, but it is only one way to look at and name God – the Bible gives us many others. Perhaps the word "our" is even more important than a statement about God's "gender," which is a rather alien thought when speaking of a spirit. The prayer of Jesus is - rather ironically, considering two millennia of Christian liturgical practice - not specific words we must say as it is a suggestion of things we ought to include in our praying. Taking the prayer this way liberates it from some of its cultural baggage, and explains some of the differences between the version in the gospel of Luke and the version in the gospel of Matthew (6:9-13). When the disciples ask Jesus for a prayer, Jesus offers important guidelines: name and honour God. Next, pray for God's reign to break down barriers between earth and heaven and be real for us – this and praying for God's will are strong reminders that we are not turning to God with a list of demands, but asking to participate in the great work of making God's presence ever more real in a hungering world. We pray for the things we need, symbolized by daily bread: notice it is "our" and not "mv." We ask for forgiveness, to parallel the forgiveness we offer others. This is not to say that God's forgiveness is conditional on our ability to forgive what others do to us, but perhaps to indicate that we can only accept and appreciate forgiveness in the way we are able to practice. One can even wonder if, in

In the context of an example of prayer, Jesus might even be gently chiding the disciples: you cannot ask for, or expect, something as powerful as forgiveness unless you are ready to practice it. Lastly, we ask not to be led into temptation – not to find ourselves taken in directions that are not in keeping with the will of God with which we began the prayer. Some have taken great pains to explain the differences between concepts such as "trespasses," "sins," and "debts," but again this is less important than the idea of accepting that carrying around baggage encumbers us unnecessarily – the specifics of the baggage may be less important. A series of statements after the prayer seek to clarify that it is quite okay to "pester" God with prayer, and that God of course responds; it is incumbent on us to accept that. We are reminded of the nature of the one to whom we pray. Even when we misunderstand or are unfaithful, God is present and willing to give. God is the epitome of hospitality, always eager to provide support and sustenance. God knows what it is to answer the door at 3 a.m., and to offer food to a child.

This idea of God's ongoing steadfast love comes to play in **Hosea 1:2–10.** God gets angry with the people, to be sure, but God's steadfast love is paramount and ever-present.

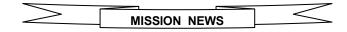
Similarly **Psalm 85** celebrates God's forgiveness and blessing – to the point that "faithful love and truth have met; righteousness and peace have kissed" (verse 10, Common Bible).

In **Colossians 2:6–15**, we are encouraged to be planted and built up in Christ. When we do that, God's reign comes to fullest flower on earth and indeed throughout all creation.

Prayer is a mystery. It can be a hymn of praise and a cry for justice, a quiet moment with God or a public declaration. In what ways is prayer a part of your faith practice? When we pray for God's reign and God's will, how does that transform your living, as individuals and as the church?

#### REFLECTION

Loving God, we pray for your reign to come and for your will to be done on earth, as in heaven. Help us not to leave these as hollow words, but to incorporate them into our living, that what we pray for might be also what we work for. Amen.



## L'ARCHE AUSTRALIA

Vale Jean Vanier 10-09-1928 - 07-05-2019

The founder of L'Arche International, Jean Vanier, died on 7th. May 2019., in Paris with members of his community.. His passing is both a great personal loss for his friends, his community in Trosly, France, and for the many people in the world who try to emulate his message and life.

#### ANGLICAN BOARD of MISSION

An emergency appeal has been launched in response to the recent volcanic eruption in Papua New Guinea. To Donate: www.abmission.org