

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

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Wednesday 16th. May 10.00 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's

Thursday 17th. May 10.00 am. Playgroup at St. Linus'
10.45 am. Holy Communion at Colton Close
Aged Care Facility

Friday 18th. May 11.00 am. Gospel Reflection group at St. Matthew's

Saturday 19th. May
Dunstan, archbishop of Canterbury (d.988)

Sunday 29th. April 9.00 am. Eucharist at St.Linus'
PENTECOST 10.30 am. Eucharist at St.Matthew's
Please wear Red 12.30 pm. Confirmation Preparation at Vicarage

LOOKING AHEAD

BISHOP'S VISIT 24th June 2018

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 mark this date in your diary.

Sunday 29th. July - Lunch at St. Matthew's

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 please note the change

Honorary Lay Pastoral Minister
Glenda Owen 0448 821 218

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



Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sunday after Ascension

13th. May
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

Mother's Day Blessings



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: Jesus prayed, 'Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.' *John 17. 11;*

Collect: Almighty God, your blessed Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: mercifully give us faith to trust that, as he promised, he abides with us on earth until the end of time, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Readings

Acts 1. 15–17, 21–26;

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people). He said, 'Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus – for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry. So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us – one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.' So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.' And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Please clean out your cupboards, garage, shed,

Book a space for the Parish

**CAR BOOT SALE
\$15. per car boot**

OR

**Donate goods to the
GARAGE SALE**

OR

**Come Browse, Come Buy
BOOKS and CRAFT
at ST. Matthew's**

SATURDAY 2nd. JUNE 2018

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* Anglicare Victoria 'IMAGINE' newsletter
2018 Entertainment Book - now available for pre order
contact Kristine Pillai 9412 6125

• Barnabas Fund - Our Religious Freedom
Religious freedom is being significantly eroded in many countries throughout the world in a resurgence of intolerance and uniformity. Barnabas Fund's chief goal has always been to highlight and challenge the worst and most violent forms of global religious persecution. But the creeping and insidious marginalization of faith and the shrinking of our hard-fought-for freedoms has become a concern in recent years.
PO BOX 3527, LOGANHOLME, QLD 4129

• Bush Church Aid Society of Australia
'Help Reach Australia for Christ' donation request
www.bushchurchaid.com.au

• Church Missionary Society - 'Branch Matters' newsletter,
May Prayer diary & donation request
www.cms.org.au/vic



NOTICES

PARISH FUNDRAISING and FELLOWSHIP 20182

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| 2nd. JUNE | Car Boot Sale, Garage Sale, Book & Craft Rooms open at St. Matthew's |
| 7th. JULY
29th. JULY | Book and Craft rooms open at St. Matthew's
LUNCH at St. Mattherw's (Catered) |
| 4th. AUGUST
11th. AUGUST | Book and Craft rooms open at St. Matthew's
HIGH TEA |
| 1st. SEPTEMBER | Book and Craft rooms open at St. Matthew's
PRODUCE and PLANT MARKET |
| 23rd. SEPTEMBER | Patronal Festivals at St. Linus' and St. Matthew's
LUNCH at ST. LINUS' (Catered) |
| 6th. OCTOBER
13th. OCTOBER | Book and Craft rooms open at St. Matthew's
ST. MATTHEW'S FAIR |
| 3rd. NOVEMBER | Book and Craft rooms open at St. Matthew's |
| 1st. DECEMBER
8th. DECEMBER
16th. DECEMBER
30th. DECEMBER | Book and Craft rooms open at St. Matthew's
ST. LINUS' CHRISTMAS FAIR
NINE LESSONS & CAROLS
Movie Afternoon ? |

Other Dates to Note in your Diary -

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|-------------------------|------------------------|
| PENTECOST - | 20th. May |
| TRINITY SUNDAY - | 27th. May |
| CONFIRMATIONS | 24th. June |
| ST. MATTHEW - | 23rd. September |
| ST. LINUS - | 23rd. September |
| Blessing of the Animals | 7th. October |
| All Saints Day | 4th. November |
| St. Martin | 11th. November |
| Christ the King | 25th. November |
| Advent Sunday | 2nd. December |
| Christmas Day | Tuesday 25th. December |

Psalm 1;

- 1 Blessed are they who have not walked in the counsel of the ungodly;
**nor followed the way of sinners,
nor taken their seat amongst the scornful**
- 2 But their delight is in the law of the Lord;
and on that law will they ponder day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted beside streams of water;
that yield their fruit in due season.
- 4 Their leaves also shall not wither;
and look, whatever they do, it shall prosper.
- 5 As for the ungodly, it is not so with them;
they are like the chaff which the wind scatters.
- 6 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand up at the judgement;
nor the sinner in the congregation of the righteous.
- 7 For the Lord cares for the way of the righteous;
but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

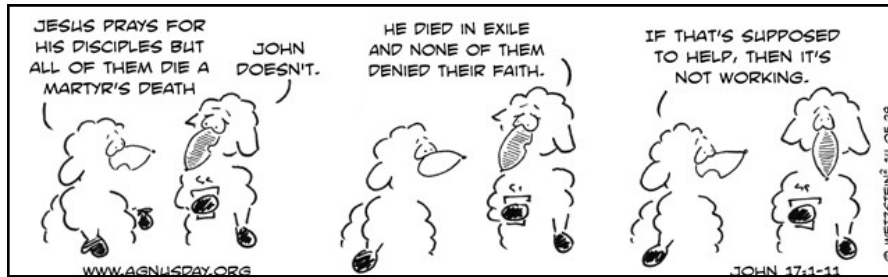
1 John 5. 9-13;

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

GOSPEL John 17. 6-19;

Jesus looked up to heaven and prayed: 'Father, I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not

belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.'



EASTER 7
13th. May 2018

ON YOUR BEHALF

In the focus passage for this week from the gospel of John, Jesus call his followers his friends. There are no grades of friendship, and no rules; everyone is in. It's that simple. That is the message in the Acts passage too; the community of faith is a shelter and a home for everyone, no questions asked.

Focus scripture

In **John 15:9–17** Jesus calls his disciples into a great dance. They are to love each other as Jesus has loved them, and Jesus has loved them like God has loved him. If we want to know what it means to love we must see how Jesus loves us and how God loves him. Throughout the gospel of John there are some clues about God's love for Jesus. God gives Jesus all the world (3:55); therefore love is about generosity. God shares everything with Jesus, bringing Jesus into God's confidence (5:20); therefore love is about trust. God gives Jesus a role to play (1:12); therefore love is about responsibility and meaning. All of these things Jesus modelled for his disciples. He calls them not servants or employees who take instruction and do as they are told, but friends – confidants and intimates. Their relationship is built not with contracts but with the strong bonds of friendship. And, like Jesus himself, they are chosen and called. The disciples

have seen Jesus and John the Baptizer chosen by God (John 1:6). Now the disciples themselves are the chosen. Not just as individuals but as a community of sisters and brothers.

Why are the circumcised believers in **Acts 1:44–48** astonished? Did they not believe Jesus when, as recorded in Luke 24:47–49 and Acts 1:8 he told them that they would take the good news everywhere? Or is it that even after being with Jesus for three years and even having experienced the coming of the Spirit, the years of cultural conditioning of who is in and who is out of the community still remained so strong?

Here is a crucial moment. These Gentiles had received God's gift of the Spirit. What were the Jewish believers to do? The bureaucratic option was always available: create a sub group or an order within the new community that would give these gentile believers certain rights, responsibilities and recognition while restricting others to only the "full" Jewish believers. Of course, the church down through the ages, and still today in many denominations, has put restrictions governing the full involvement of some in community life (women and gay and lesbian believers are the most obvious examples). Peter resists this option and holding his arms wide recognizes that just as the gift of the Spirit is for all, so is the gift of baptism and full and generous membership in the new community of faith.

The poet of **Psalms 98** makes the extraordinary claim that all the superpowers of the world, including Cyrus the Great, the Persian ruler who this psalm probably has in mind, are all acting within the realm of God and to God's plan. It was Cyrus who allowed the Jewish exiles to return home following his defeat of the Babylonian empire. But as the writer of Psalm 98 sees it, this is more than the end of exile, it is the beginning of a time when all creation will rejoice because God will act justly to all creation. In the best of all possible worlds, a parent would never consider withholding love from a child, and siblings would always care for and support each other. It is this best of all possible worlds to which **1 John 5:1–6** points.

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Each of our readings for this week reaches for a world that in our best moments is only just glimpsed on the horizon and much of the time is invisible to us. But Jesus calls us to be part of a community of hope that seeks to live in God's world in the way God calls all humanity. What, at this point in your life sustains your hope in the community of the faithful?

REFLECTION

God, your word says you make the rain to fall on the just and the unjust.

All of us are refreshed by you, no one misses out, no one goes away thirsty.

May we live in the great bounty of your love and acceptance. Amen.