

*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 12th. February 4.00 pm. Healing Service at St. Matthew's  
Tuesday 14th. February  
*Cyril (d.869) and Methodius, bishop (d.885) missionaries to the Slavs*  
Wednesday 15th. February 10.00 am. Morning Prayer at St. Matthew's  
1.00 pm. Connect: Journalling at St. Matthew's  
Saturday 18th. February 10.30 am. Parish Council at St. Linus'  
Sunday 19th. February 9.00 am. Eucharist at St. Linus'  
*Transfiguration* 10.30 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's.  
*Last Sunday after Epiphany* 4.00 pm. Choral Service at St. Matthew's

### LOOKING AHEAD

Tuesday 21st. February 6.00 pm. Parish Pancake Fellowship Gathering at St. Matthew's  
*Help need please, to make pancake mixture and toppings, and to cook pancakes on the night. Those helping please be there from 5.30pm*  
7.30 pm. Connect Men's group : Dinner fellowship at  
*My Mates Pizza847 Pascoe Vale Rd. Glenroy*

Wednesday 22nd. February 10.00 am. Ash Wednesday Service at St. Matthew's  
6.00 pm. Ash Wednesday Service at St. Linus'  
7.00 pm. Ash Wednesday Service at St. Matthew's

**Pew Leaflet Notices:**  
please email [gonana7@bigpond.com](mailto:gonana7@bigpond.com)  
by 4.00 pm. Wednesday

## Sixth Sunday after Epiphany 12th. February 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](mailto:priest@matthewlinus.org.au)

Parish Mobile: 0493 384 108

Parish Phone: 9306 9528

*This week, Rev. Rob can be found at:*  
St. Linus' - Mon. & Thurs. 9 am. to 3 pm.  
St. Matthew's - Wed. & Fri. 9 am. to 3 pm.  
NOT available Tuesday.

PARISH WEBSITE - [www.matthewlinus.org.au](http://www.matthewlinus.org.au)

PARISH FACEBOOK - [www.facebook.com/matthewlinus](http://www.facebook.com/matthewlinus)

PARISH PODCAST - [www.buzzsprout.com/1974085](http://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



**Love. Grow. Serve.**

### 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:** Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord. *Psalm 119. 1;*

**Collect:** Almighty God, you gave the law to guide our lives; grant that we may never shrink from your commandments, but, as we are taught by your Spirit, may fulfil your law in perfect love; through Christ our Lord and Master, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. **Amen.**

### Readings

*First reading is from the book of Deuteronomy 10. 12-22;*

So now, O Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you? Only to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments of the LORD your God and his decrees that I am commanding you today, for your own well-being. Although heaven and the heaven of heavens belong to the LORD your God, the earth with all that is in it, yet the LORD set his heart in love on your ancestors alone and chose you, their descendants after them, out of all the peoples, as it is today. Circumcise, then, the foreskin of your heart, and do not be stubborn any longer. For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them with food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. You shall fear the LORD your God; him alone you shall worship; to him you shall hold fast, and by his name you shall swear. He is your praise; he is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen. Your ancestors went down to Egypt seventy persons; and now the LORD your God has made you as numerous as the stars in heaven.

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

### Psalm 119.1-8;

- 1 Happy are those whose way is blameless;  
**who walk in the law of the Lord!**
- 2 Happy are those who keep his commands;  
**and seek him with their whole heart.**
- 3 Those who do no wrong;  
**but walk in the ways of our God,**
- 4 For you, Lord, have commanded us;  
**to persevere in all your precepts.**
- 5 If only my ways were unerring;  
**towards the keeping of your statutes!**
- 6 Then I should not be ashamed;  
**when I looked on all your commandments.**
- 7 I will praise you with sincerity of heart;  
**as I learn your righteous judgements.**
- 8 I will keep your statutes;  
**O forsake me not utterly.**

*The second reading is from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians 3. 1-9;*

Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarrelling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, 'I belong to Paul,' and another, 'I belong to Apollos,' are you not merely human? What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I

planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labour of each. For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

*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 Matthew 5. 21-37; Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ*

On the mountain, Jesus gathered his disciples around him and taught them, saying: 'You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not murder"; and "whoever murders shall be liable to judgement." But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgement; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, "You fool," you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery." But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell. It was also said, "Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce." But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord." But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be "Yes, Yes" or "No, No"; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

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

### Faith Matters!! As we grow.

This week the passage from Corinthians spoke to me about my calling to the parish, my discussions with the incumbency committee and talks I had with people both now and as I started my ministry at the parish.

The representatives from the parish spoke about renewal and restoration of the primacy of the worship centres in the spiritual life of those who are part of our community. When speaking to people individually, there was a sense of lament about the fact that the we were talking and not doing. There were many things to do but everything seemed to be paused.

In making decisions to move forward as a parish to be a contemporary worship space, I have had the "factional" responses; some belonging to this is how we have always done it, and other reminding me that this is not how previous priests would have done it. It is always important to be reminded of the parish journey and make sure that what has been put in place to allow us to engage with God is not lost. There were some amazing things that were in place when I started which must not be lost, but when we pray for growth, and God blesses us with growth as is happening at the moment, then things will change. The life of faith is a life of change, sometimes predictable and at other times a complete surprise. And the force behind change isn't ourselves or our human leaders or the uncontrollable circumstances of our lives. It is God, because we prayed to God for change to happen. God blessing us with growth means change and keeping within the "factions" is not only wrongheaded but also short sighted as whatever you aligned yourself with today, might not serve us tomorrow as God has set a table for tomorrow that is different to our expectations.

So then, what does it mean to pursue unity as followers of a God who gives growth and promotes change? Maybe parish unity during growth and change has less to do with agreeing on a baseline set of static doctrines, ways of doing things or priorities, than it does with agreeing that we are called to grow and change—and that God is the one who makes this happen.