

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 THS WEEK

Wednesday 18th. December 10.00 am. Eucharist at St.Matthew's,
Thursday 19th. December 10.45 am. Holy Communion at Colton Clos
School Term 4 ends Aged Care Facility
Friday 20th. December 10.45 am. Reserved Sacrament at Craigcare
Aged Care Facility
Saturday 21st. December 5.00 pm Merlynston Carols
THOMAS, APOSTLE and MARTYR
Sunday 22nd. December 9.00 am. Eucharist at St.Linus'
Fourth Sunday of Advent 10.30 am. Eucharist at St.Matthew's,

CHRISTMAS in the PARISH

Tuesday 24th. December - 5.00 pm. All age Christmas Eve service
with a Eucharist, at St Linus'
Tuesday 24th. December - 11.30 pm. Midnight Mass at
St Matthew's
Wednesday 25th. December - 10.00 am Christmas Day Eucharist at
St Matthew's.

Pew Leaflet Notices:

Please give to, or phone Glenda Owen,
Or e-mail: - gonana7@bigpond.com - by 7.00 pm. Wednesday

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 3058



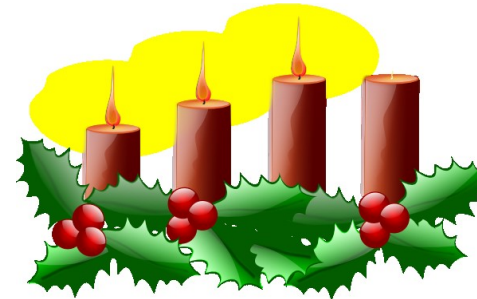
PARISH PRIEST: The Reverend Jo-Anne Wells
Phone: 9306 9528
Mobile: 0414 822 095
Email: priest@matthewlinus.org.au

HONORARY ASSOCIATE PRIEST: The Venerable Philip Newman OAM
Mobile: 0491 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



Third Sunday of Advent

15th. December 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.

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: Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart 'Be strong, do not fear ! Here is your God.'
Isaiah 35. 3-4;

Collect: Sustain us, O God, with the power of your love, on our journey to meet the One who is coming; strengthen our weak hands, make firm our feeble knees, and open blind eyes to the dawning of your kingdom, so that our hearts may rejoice, as we behold the majesty of our God. We ask this through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Readings

Isaiah 35. 1-10;

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.



MERLYNSTON CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Saturday 21st. December 2019

BAIN RESERVE Merlyn St. 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm.

ALL WELCOME

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY PAGEANT

See Mary and Joseph arrive with their Donkey to the stable, surrounded by Angels, Shepherds and the Three Wise Men

Local children will participate in the Nativity story

CAROL SINGING SALVATION ARMY BAND
A VISIT FROM SANTA

Come join us for this community event
BYO chairs, rug, esky

Organised by St. Linus' Anglican Church
& The Salvation Army



HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO DECOMPOSE ?

PAPER TOWEL - 2-4 WEEKS

BANANA PEEL - 3-4 WEEKS

PAPER BAG - 1 MONTH

NEWSPAPER - 1.5 MONTHS

APPLE CORE - 2 MONTHS

CARDBOARD - 2 MONTHS

COTTON GLOVE - 3 MONTHS

ORANGE PEELS - 6 MONTHS

PLYWOOD - 1-3 YEARS

WOOL SOCK - 1-5 YEARS

MILK CARTONS - 5 YEARS

CIGARETTE BUTTS - 10-12 YEARS

LEATHER SHOES - 25-40 YEARS

TINNED STEEL CAN - 50 YEARS

FOAMED PLASTIC CUPS - 50 YEARS

RUBBER-BOOT SOLE - 50-80 YEARS

PLASTIC CONTAINERS - 50-80 YEARS

ALUMINUM CAN - 200-500 YEARS

PLASTIC BOTTLES - 450 YEARS

DISPOSABLE DIAPERS - 550 YEARS

MONOFILAMENT FISHING LINE - 600 YEARS

PLASTIC BAGS - 200-1000 YEARS.

WE REQUEST YOU, PLEASE SHARE THIS PIECE OF INFORMATION IN YOUR NETWORK AS MUCH AS YOU CAN.

THIS WILL CREATE AWARENESS AMONGST PEOPLE THAT PLASTIC IS ONE OF THE MAJOR REASONS RELATED TO THE GLOBAL GREEN HOUSE EFFECT.

PLEASE SUPPORT A GREEN ENVIRONMENT.



Psalm 146;

- 1 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul;
while I live I will praise the Lord.
- 2 While I have any being;
I will sing praise to my God.
- 3 Put not your trust in princes;
nor in flesh and blood, which cannot save.
- 4 For when their breath goes from them, they return again to the earth;
and on that day all their thoughts perish.
- 5 Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob;
whose hope is in the Lord their God.
- 6 The God who made heaven and earth;
the seas, and all that is in them.
- 7 Who keeps faith for ever;
who deals justice to those that are oppressed.
- 8 The Lord gives food to the hungry;
and sets the captives free.
- 9 The Lord gives sight to the blind;
the Lord lifts up those that are bowed down.
- 10 The Lord loves the righteous;
the Lord cares for the stranger in the land.
- 11 He upholds the widow and the fatherless;
as for the way of the wicked, he turns it upside down.
- 12 The Lord shall be king for ever;
your God, O Zion, shall reign through all generations.
Praise the Lord.

James 5. 7–10;

Be patient, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Matthew 11. 2–11;

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to Jesus, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.' As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'



ADVENT 3

15th. December 2019

Isaiah 35:1–10 tells of power reversals that mirror the Magnificat: the blind shall see, the deaf shall hear, the lame shall leap, the desert shall be watery. In interesting contrast to Isaiah 11:1–10, predator beasts are vanquished rather than reconciled. When John the baptizer asks for confirmation of Jesus' identity, **Psalms 146** A Checklist for the Church; Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! We are to praise God, the psalmist tells us, because God is trustworthy and eternal. Then the psalmist reminds us that God gives care to the oppressed, the hungry, prisoners, the blind, the burdened, immigrants, those without financial resources. This is the Old Testament God. And this is what followers of God are called to do. God acts on earth through the people who are gathered to worship and to demonstrate God's power and love. Psalm 146 provides a checklist for each church congregation: What have we done to ensure that prisoners can be released? What have we done to prevent blindness--have we opened an eye-clinic in a poor community, have we helped to distribute glasses to people who can't afford them? What are we doing about immigrants? What attention are we paying to people whose families aren't able to care for them, or to people without family? This psalm begins by acclaiming praise for God and disdaining trust in powerful men. They won't last. God will. According to this psalm, God cares about the oppressed, the hungry, prisoners, the blind, immigrants, orphans, and widows. Jesus lived out this psalm. How is the church doing? **Matthew 11:2–11** reports actions of justice that serve as the witness to Jesus' identity. **James 5:7–10** reminds us to wait, again with a prophetic reversal vision of the vulnerable made strong.

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The promise of coming power-reversals, the elated news of revolution among us, the model of how we might give ourselves to faith in a God who truly steers us towards liberation: Theologian Howard Thurman, African-American survivor of the segregated American south, saw in the Magnificat that "the hope of every generation, is in the birth of the child. The stirring of the child in the womb is the perennial sign of man's attack on bigotry, blindness, prejudice, greed, hate, and all the host of diseases that make of man's life a nightmare and a holocaust

REFLECTION

Giver and receiver of life, hear my thoughts and form my words.
 Turn my anxieties into comfort and embrace for those I love.
 O God, you are the closest and most familiar
 and yet the most unknown.
 Take this life narrowed by what is known
 and open to me a new way of being.
 Lead me into the depth and breadth of love. Amen.



More Mission mail, with donation requests

L'ARCHE AUSTRALIA
<http://www.larche.org.au>

NUNGALINYA COLLEGE
www.nungalinya.edu.au/donate

ANGLICAN BOARD of MISSION
www.abmission.org

ANGLICAN OVERSEAS AID
www.anglicanoverseasaid.org.au

BROTHERHOOD of ST. LAURENCE
support.bsl.org.au

BIBLE SOCIETY
biblesociety.org.au/rebuild

