

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 WEEEK

Monday	8th. October	School Term 4 commences
Wednesday	10th. October	10.00 am. Eucharist at St Matthew's
Thursday	11th. October	10.00 am. Playgroup at St. Linus' 11.15 am. Holy Communion at Plumpton Villa Aged Care Facility
Friday	12th. October	11.00 am. Gospel Reflection Group at St. Matthew's <i>Elizabeth Fry,</i> <i>Prison reformer, England (d. 1845)</i> Sorting and Preparing goods for Parish Community Fair
Saturday	13th. October	8.30 am. Setting out tables etc. for start of Community Fair at 9.30 am.
Sunday	14th. October	9.00 am. Eucharist at St. Linus' <i>Pentecost 21</i> 10.30 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's

LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday 3rd. November	- Craft and Book rooms open at St. Matthew's
Sunday 4th. November	- 9.00 am & 10.30 am. All Saints / All Souls Sunday 5.00 pm. Newcomers Church
Sunday 18th. November	- Parish Annual Meeting
Sunday 25th. November	- Christ the King
Saturday 1st. December	- Book and Craft rooms open 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 3058



LOCUM: The Rev'd Canon James Brady
Mobile: 0422 566 184
Email; priest@matthewlinus.org.au
Parish ph. 9306 9528

PARISH WEBSITE - www.matthewlinus.com

Honorary Lay Minister
Glenda Owen 0448 821 218

Honorary Lay Parish Readers
Bev. Lacock 9309 2775
Lois Erickson 0421 327 159
Kerryn Pratchett 0409306 818

**PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR MOBILE PHONE BEFORE
THE START OF THE SERVICE. Thank You**



**Twentieth Sunday
after
Pentecost**

**7th. October
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

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: Whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it. Mark 10. 15;

Collect: Loving God, you have made us in your own image, creating us male and female, and you have consecrated the covenant of marriage, so that in it is signified the spiritual marriage between Christ and his Church: pour your grace upon all who are called to this holy state, that, keeping their promise of faithfulness to each other, they may reflect in their lives your love for us all: through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Readings

Job 1.1; 2.1-10;

There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil. One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the LORD. The LORD said to Satan, 'Where have you come from?' Satan answered the LORD, 'From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it.' The LORD said to Satan, 'Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason.' Then Satan answered the LORD, 'Skin for skin! All that people have they will give to save their lives. But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face.' The LORD said to Satan, 'Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life.' So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD, and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes. Then his wife said to him, 'Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God, and die.' But he said to her, 'You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?' In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

PLEASE BAKE A CAKE OR TWO

for

Saturday 13th. October 2018

9.30 am. to 1.30 pm.

Books

Plants

Jumping Castle

Pony Rides from 9.30 am. to 11.30 am.

and more



Cakes

Sausage Sizzle

Craft

PARISH COMMUNITY FAIR

and

WISEMAN HOUSE OPEN DAY

For further information in regards to the Community Fair, contact

Colleen - 0438 673 779 OR Sue - 0430 366 073

MISSION NEWS

**FROM ARCHBISHOP PHILIP FREIER
President of Anglican Overseas Aid**

For most of us, the mention of Vanuatu, conjures up images of pristine beaches and smiling people. But a crisis has befallen this tranquil island nation. **Volcanic activity on the island of Ambae has led to a state of emergency and the forced evacuation and resettlement of some 11,000 people.** Their livelihoods have been left behind, and the disaster response has struggled to provide for these people, uprooted by this natural disaster. **Today, the community of displaced people of Ambae need better access to food, water, shelter and health services.** **Anglican Overseas Aid is partnering with ACOM (the Anglican Church of Melanesia) to provide support for these people who have lost so much and who face an uncertain future. But they cannot do it alone. They need financial support to meet this need.**

**PLEASE DONATE
to Anglican Overseas Aid's Rebuilding Lives Spring Appeal.
Www.anglicanoverseasaid.org.au**

NOTICES

TODAY



SUNDAY 7th. October at 5.00 pm. to 6.00 pm.

Informal service at St Linus'
corner Delta Ave & Glyndon Ave, Merlynston
No church experience necessary!
Includes a light meal in our community hall.

PARISH ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday 18th. November at St. Matthew's following the 10.30 am. service

Please start thinking about writing reports and sending them to -
Glenda Owen, gonana7@bigpond.com **before 4th. November.** Thank You.

The following reports are requested -

Locum / Vicar	Churchwardens
Treasurer	Secretary
Aged Care	St. Matthew's Care Groups
Mission report	Gospel Reflection Group
Home Groups	Mothers' Union
St. Linus' Playgroup	St. Linus' Kindergarten
Fundraising and Fellowship	Hall Hire St. Matthew's & st. Linus'
Synod	
Schools Chaplaincy	Homework Tutoring Club



WORKING BEE at ST. M ATTHEW'S

Sunday 21st. October 2018

Following Morning Tea, after the 10.30 am. service

**Then soup and rolls lunch will be available for those
who participate in the working bee**

There are many chores to do



SPIRITUAL CARE WEEK 2018

Hospitality: Cultivating Time

Through Parish Partnerships, a Morning Tea on Tuesday 23rd. October - 10.30
am. to 11.30 am. Will be held for an open conversation to help create some
meaningful time for residents at Colton Close

RSVP by 16th. October to - jim.vaughn@benetas.com.au or call 0427 345 148

Psalm 26;

- 1 Give judgement for me, O Lord, for I have lived with integrity;
I have trusted in the Lord and have not wavered.
- 2 Put me to the test, O Lord, and prove me;
Try my mind and my heart.
- 3 For your steadfast love has been ever before my eyes;
and I have walked in your truth.
- 4 I have not sat with deceivers;
nor consorted with the hypocrites.
- 5 I hate the assembly of the wicked;
I will not sit with the ungodly.
- 6 I wash my hands in innocence, O Lord,
that I may go about your altar.
- 7 And lift up the voice of thanksgiving
to tell of all your marvellous works.
- 8 Lord, I love the house of your habitation;
and the place where your glory dwells.
- 9 Do not sweep me away with sinners,
nor my life with those that thirst for blood,
- 10 In whose hand is abomination;
and their right hand is full of bribes.
- 11 As for me, I walk with integrity;
O ransom me and be favourable toward me.
- 12 My foot stands on an even path;
I will bless the Lord in the great congregation.

Hebrews 1.1-4; 2.5-12;

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. But someone has testified somewhere, 'What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them? You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honour, subjecting all things under their feet.' Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, 'I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.'

GOSPEL Mark 10. 2-16;

Some Pharisees came, and to test Jesus they asked, 'Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?' He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' They said, 'Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.'

But Jesus said to them, 'Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, "God made them male and female." "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.' Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. Jesus said to them, 'Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.' People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

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PENTECOST 20
7th. October 2018

BROKEN AND BLESSED

Today's readings challenge us. Does God really play with our lives, as the introduction to Job suggests? Is lifelong marriage between a man and a woman the only option for living in God's realm? Perhaps, to paraphrase Hebrews, God perfects us through our imperfections. This week's readings can serve as examples and invitations.

Focus scripture

Mark 10:2-16; Several scripture passages can cause pain – inadvertently – and today's gospel reading falls into that category. The first part of this text (verses 2-12) has often been used as a strong affirmation of heterosexuality, and as a blunt statement that divorce is wrong and not to be tolerated. For those who are gay or lesbian, and for those who for any number of reasons are divorced (and possibly remarried) this can cause untold pain; beyond that, it is doubtful that that would be the point of the passage.

The reason given for the dialogue here has nothing to do with divorce. Rather, the question is asked (by the Pharisees) simply to test Jesus, and probably to coax Jesus into making a statement that would offend either them or their opponents, the Sadducees. Yet legal questions abound, and people have often inserted modern understandings and additional text in and amongst the verses.

The Pharisees' question is literally "is it permitted" and the correct answer is, "yes." However, divorce was in fact permitted to the extent that it was often undertaken without much thought. Given that women who were "unattached" to a man (father, husband, or son) were seen as social nobodies, divorce was often unjust.

Jesus points out that Moses permitted divorce because of people's "hardness of heart." In other words, we are not the ideals that God had intended and hoped for, and there are times that relationships simply fail. While Jesus states that "whatever God has joined together no one should separate" begs the further question, "If a relationship breaks down, was it in fact joined by God in the first place?" We simply do not know.

Similarly, Jesus also states a man commits adultery against his wife, and a woman can divorce a man. Except these are not pieces of Hebrew law – adultery was a

crime" against the man who possessed a wife, not against the wife herself; and there was no provision for a woman to divorce a man, suggesting that the second half of verse 16 is probably an addition to the original text. We also need to caution about inserting a modern understanding of marriage into a time when polygamy was permitted (this text does not ban polygamy, although it has been used to justify that) and marriage was first and foremost a business relationship, designed for mutual support and the raising of children. Marriage is viewed very differently today. These teachings of Jesus may have made sense at that time, but times have changed, and Jesus' teachings sound harsh to modern ears. What helps is to move beyond the particularities of marriage breakdown to compassionately acknowledge the more general reality of the many kinds of relationship breakdowns and injustices we both experience and are effected by us as human and earth family.

The concluding verses of the reading remind us of the importance of approaching faith – and life – with the joy, openness, and understanding of children, and we are left with an image of Jesus blessing the children, a powerful reminder of our own belovedness.

Both **Job 1:1, 2:1-10** and **Psalms 26** remind us of the struggle to remember who we are in the midst of the reality of life, and challenge us to remain faithful to who we really are.

Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12 reminds us, too, of Jesus living out his integrity, and emphasizes that Jesus models God's care for all.

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Struggling with difficult readings does not mean we need to reject them, but simply to approach them with caution and enquiry. At the heart of these texts is the compassion of God for all, and the blessing of love. The call to approach God's world as children can enable us to strive harder in our dealings with others. How might we open ourselves to a more child-like embrace of God's reign? What might happen when we do that?

REFLECTION

**God, sometimes we are confused and troubled.
We know you are present in our lives, but sometimes
that presence can seem elusive or even troublesome.
Remind us that you are here no matter what,
and that you love us no matter what. Amen.**

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* * * **ST. MATTHEW'S PEOPLE** * * *

PLEASE can you help - more people are needed for the

Tech. Support (Power point for Services)

Welcomer / Collection

Morning Tea

Church Cleaning Rosters.

ALSO to Launder Weekly the Communion Purificators,
and other Linens as needed.

Please let Glenda know that you are available to be rostered. Thank You.
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