

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 19th. November

Elizabeth of Hungary, princess and philanthropist

Wednesday 21st. November 10.00 am. Eucharist at St Matthew's

Thursday 22nd. November 10.00 am. Playgroup at St. Linus'

Friday 23rd. November 11.00 am. Gospel Reflection Group at St. Matthew's
Clement of Rome, bishop & martyr (d.c.100)

Ember Day

Prayers for the ordained ministry of the Church are appropriate this Ember week [until November 30]

Saturday 24th. November 9.00 am. Working Bee at St. Matthew's

Ember Day

Sunday 25th. November 9.00 am. Eucharist at St. Linus'
CHRIST THE KING
10.30 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's
Last Sunday after Pentecost

Ember Days and Ember Weeks,

In the [liturgical calendar](#) of the [Western Christian churches](#), **Ember days** are four separate sets of three days within the same week — specifically, the Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday — roughly equidistant in the circuit of the year, that are set aside for [fasting](#) and prayer. These days set apart for special prayer and fasting were considered especially suitable for the ordination of clergy. The Ember Days are known in [Latin](#) as the **quattuor anni tempora** (the "four seasons of the year"), or formerly as the *jejunia quattuor temporum* ("fasts of the four seasons").

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



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PARISH WEBSITE - www.matthewlinus.com

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Glenda Owen 0448 821 218

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Bev. Lacock 9309 2775
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**Twenty-sixth
Sunday
after
Pentecost**

**18th. November
2018**

**&
Parish Annual
Meeting**

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: The Lord will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king, and exalt the power of his anointed. *1 Samuel 2.10;*

Collect: O God, welcoming refuge for the outcast, and upholder of justice for the oppressed: maintain the hope of the poor, so that the time may soon come, when no one need want for food and shelter, and all will learn to share freely, following the example of your Son, who gave his very self; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Readings

1 Samuel 1. 4–20;

On the day when Elkanah the husband of Hannah and Peninnah sacrificed, he would give portions to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters; but to Hannah he gave a double portion, because he loved her, though the LORD had closed her womb. Her rival used to provoke her severely, to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb. So it went on year by year; as often as she went up to the house of the LORD, she used to provoke her. Therefore Hannah wept and would not eat. Her husband Elkanah said to her, 'Hannah, why do you weep? Why do you not eat? Why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?' After they had eaten and drunk at Shiloh, Hannah rose and presented herself before the LORD. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the LORD. She was deeply distressed and prayed to the LORD, and wept bitterly. She made this vow: 'O LORD of hosts, if only you will look on the misery of your servant, and remember me, and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a male child, then I will set him before you as a nazirite until the day of his death. He shall drink neither wine nor intoxicants, and no razor shall touch his head.' As she continued praying before the LORD, Eli observed her mouth. Hannah was praying silently; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard; therefore Eli thought she was drunk. So Eli said to her, 'How long will you make a drunken spectacle of yourself? Put away your wine.' But Hannah answered, 'No, my lord, I am a woman deeply troubled; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the LORD. Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation all this time.' Then Eli answered, 'Go in peace; the God of Israel grant the

ANGLICAN OVERSEAS AID

Celebrating 30 years!

So much has happened in the time since Archbishop David Penman set up what was then the Archbishop's International Relief and Development Fund. We responded to the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, the 2004 Asian tsunami, the East African food crisis and many other emergencies that have befallen communities around the world. We have also spent many years working with our dedicated partners in places like Gaza, Ethiopia and the Pacific.

All along, we have attempted to live out the call of God to care for the vulnerable. And all along, you have been with us on the journey. Milestones are often times to celebrate, and we believe this is one of those times. In the last 30 years, the rate of extreme poverty in the world has halved, as has the amount of children under the age of 5 dying each day of poverty-related disease. Your efforts have contributed to this in no small way. It is something for which we thank God.

ACT FOR PEACE - CHRISTMAS BOWL

The tradition of the Christmas Bowl is incredibly important. The Christmas Bowl is about family and friends coming together, pausing to be grateful for what we have, and thoughtful about how we can share this with others.. Now is an opportune time to reflect on those people around the world, less fortunate than ourselves.

Envelopes for your contribution to the Christmas Bowl are available in the Narthex.

CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Prayer Diary and Branch Matters newsletter.
Donation request - CMS Victoria, P O Box 2150, Rangeview 3132

BARNABAS FUND

Donation request to help the persecuted Church throughout the World. Barnabas Fund Australia, PO Box 3527, Loganholme Qld 4129

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday 25th. November - Christ the King

Saturday 1st. December - Book and Craft rooms open at St. Matthew's

Sunday 2nd. December - 9.00 am. & 10.30 am. Advent Sunday
5.00 pm. Newcomers Church at St. Linus'

Saturday 8th. December - Christmas Fair at St. Linus'

Sunday 16th. December - Nine Lessons & Carols at St. Matthew's

Poster found in a Church in
France (translated)

"When you enter this Church
it may be possible that you hear
'the call of God'

However, it is unlikely that He
will call you on your mobile.

Thank you for turning off
your phones. If you want to
talk to God, choose a
quiet place and talk to Him.

If you want to see Him, send
Him a text while driving."

MISSION NEWS

ANGLICARE VICTORIA

Toys and Food Christmas Appeal

Gifts needed for teenagers - sporting equipment such as,
footballs, soccer balls or cricket items;
after-shave, make-up, perfume, jewellery
Games, Lego, Dolls - but NO teddies please,
for babies - bottles, educational toys, bath toys

New items only, thank you, and unwrapped.

Because Anglicare need to distribute gifts to their clients during December, please
bring your donations before **1st. December** for collection next day.

TEAR Australia Useful Gifts Shop

Leading up to Christmas 2016, Ashlee and Pedro Pirzadeh set-up
the TEAR Useful Gifts at St. Matthew's.

On behalf of Ashlee and Pedro, Marie Brennan will again be running
TEAR Useful Gift shop

A display & the catalogue will be available at Morning Tea today

So, this CHRISTMAS, choose a gift, send a card, and fight poverty

.petition you have made to him.' And she said, 'Let your servant find favour in your
sight.' Then the woman went to her quarters, ate and drank with her husband, and
her countenance was sad no longer. They rose early in the morning and
worshipped before the LORD; then they went back to their house at Ramah.
Elkanah knew his wife Hannah, and the LORD remembered her. In due time
Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have
asked him of the LORD.'

For the Psalm - The Song of Hannah p. 429 APBA.

My heart exults in the LORD;
my strength is exalted in my God.
My mouth derides my enemies,
because I rejoice in your salvation.
There is no Holy One like you, O Lord;
Nor any Rock like you, our God.
For you are a God of knowledge;
and by you our actions are weighed.
The bows of the mighty are broken;
but the feeble gird on strength.
Those who were full now search for bread;
but those who were hungry are now well fed.
The barren woman has borne sevenfold;
but she who has many children is forlorn.
Both the poor and the rich are of your making;
You bring low and you also exalt.
You raise up the poor from the dust;
And lift the needy from the ash heap
You make them to sit with the rulers;
and inherit a place of honour.
For the pillars of the earth are yours;
and on them you have set the world.

Hebrews 10. 11–14, 19–25;

Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same
sacrifices that can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a
single sacrifice for sins, 'he sat down at the right hand of God,' and since then has
been waiting 'until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.' For by a
single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. Therefore, my
friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by
the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through
his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us
approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean
from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast
to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful.
And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not
neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another,
and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

GOSPEL Mark 13. 1–8;

As Jesus came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, 'Look, Teacher,
what large stones and what large buildings!' Then Jesus asked him, 'Do you see
these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be
thrown down.' When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple,

Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, 'Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?' Then Jesus began to say to them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and they will lead many astray. When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines.

PENTECOST 26

18th. November 2018

FUTURE HOPE

Earthquakes, terror, economic crises – the times in which we live bring challenge and doubt; our faith can become battered by fear, rather than buoyed by trust. Scripture tells us our ancestors lived in similar times, and by reading their stories, we are reminded of the need for perseverance in the face of our experiences, our times.

Focus scripture

Mark 13:1–8; Like bookends, readings from Mark 13 "bracket" the lectionary year B. Verses 24–37 are read on the first Sunday of Advent, and now 1–8 are used on the next-to-last Sunday of the church year. Chapter 13 is a chapter which confounds scholars (is it Jesus really speaking, or Mark using Jesus to encourage his community **not** to be a part of the revolt against Rome?). It is a chapter that most contemporary Christians ignore.

A child of his time, Jesus was influenced by the ideas of birth pangs (vs. 8) and seems to echo the prophetic and apocalyptic literature which sees the "present age" as a time of suffering. As children of our times, we tend to think that these "little apocalypse" passages, found in Matthew and Luke as well, have little to do with Jesus, much less us, deferring these passages to the "Left Behind" movement. Yet in doing so we may miss out on the important warnings Jesus offers, especially to resist those "recruiters," as one commentator calls them, who would draw us onto false trails guaranteed to lead us to salvation. More importantly, in our lack of concern as to when or if Jesus might return, we miss out on the promises that, while those temples of traditional faith may crumble and the walls built brick by brick out of our preconceptions may fall, God's dwelling place remains among us. Like the early disciples, we are called to look beyond appearances, to look beyond fear, so we might see the reign of God.

Our lives are played out in **1 Samuel 1:4–20**, for the characters are all too real, the story hits close to home. Certainly Hannah had to fear that Elkanah might turn his back on her; that Peninnah would continue to be the mirror in which she looked and saw her barrenness reflected back at her. Yet her fears led her to the sanctuary, where she discovered God waiting, to respond.

While the promise of a child caused Sarah to laugh, Hannah responded with a song. **1 Samuel 2:1–10** is not just Hannah's song, but one which the community is to sing with unbridled joy. Israel's fear-filled future (seemingly closed when the judges disappeared from the scene) has been reopened. Yet in true biblical fashion, this is not a song about a person or nation, but about God. The giver of barrenness responds with new life, hope, wonder. This doxological song, with echoes from Miriam and a foretaste of Mary, sings of God's commitment to a marginal woman, a marginal nation, all marginalized people of every time and place, keeping the promise to dwell with God's people. The author of **Hebrews 10:11–25** asserts we can hope because God is faithful. Difficult times cannot outlast the God revealed in Jesus the Christ. In trusting God, we find not only encouragement for ourselves but also strength and insight to encourage others.

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By God's grace, faithful waiting can bear fruit, despair can be transformed into hope, emptiness can overflow with new life. Where have you discovered God remembering, and responding, to heartfelt prayer? How has faith sustained you through difficult times? When and where have you experienced families, neighbourhoods, congregations persevere against doubt, fear, barrenness?

REFLECTION

**God of our life, impatiently we stamp our feet, yelling "now!"
Yet empty, we are filled with your life; desperate,
we are gifted with your hope;
unable to see your future, you open our eyes to faith.
May it be in the waiting that we find you. Amen.**

NOTICES



WORKING BEES at ST. M ATTHEW'S

WILL NOW BE ON A SATURDAY at 9.00 am.

Dates to be confirmed, but possibly

24th. November & 15th. December 2018



SUNDAY 2nd. December 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.