

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

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins today

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>16th. May</b>	10.00 am to 11.30 am. Playgroup at St. Linus' All Welcome to attend
<b>Friday</b>	<b>17th. May</b>	12.00-1.00pm. Foodbank Pantry open at St. Matthew's
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>18th. May</b>	10.30 am. Parish Council meeting at St. Linus 10.00 am.-2.00 pm. National Day of Prayer, held in the home of Andrew and Melinda, 11 Kalang Rd. Glenroy <i>Be still and know that I am God</i> A Day Devoted to Adoration, Thanksgiving, and prayer Light refreshments will be on offer
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>19th. May</b>	9.00 am. Eucharist at St. Linus'
<b>DAY OF PENTECOST</b>		10.30 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's 4.00 pm. Hindi Eucharist at St. Matthew's
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>26th. May and 2nd of June</b>	National Reconciliation Week services will be held at both worship centers using the Australian Liturgy.

### LOOKING AHEAD

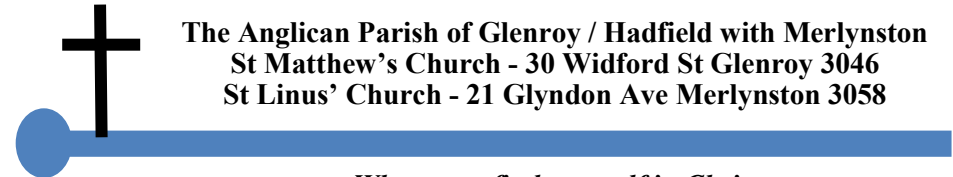
Monday 20th. May 1.30 pm. Connect Meditation: Guided Spiritual Meditation at St. Matthew's. Please bring a cushion or rug or both. All Welcome to participate in a time of relaxation and refreshment Enquiries Glenda 0448 821 218



## Ascension Sunday 12-05-2024

### 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 Church - 30 Widford St Glenroy 3046**  
**St Linus' Church - 21 Glyndon Ave Merlynston 3058**

*Where you find yourself in Christ*

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. 9 am. to 3 pm. St. Matthew's - Fri. 9 am. to 3 pm.  
Available at other times by appointment only.

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)

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; :** ‘Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation,’ says the Lord.  
*Mark 16. 15;*

**Collect:** Eternal God, by raising Jesus from the dead, you proclaimed his victory, and by his ascension, you declared him Lord of all: lift up our hearts to heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### Readings

*The first reading is from the Acts of the Apostles 1: 1-11;*

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. ‘This’, he said, ‘is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.’ So when they had come together, they asked him, ‘Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?’ He replied, ‘It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.’

*Hear the Word of the Lord    Thanks be to God*

*Psalm 93; said by alternate half verses;*

- 1 The LORD is king, and has put on robes of glory;  
**the LORD has put on his glory, he has girded himself with strength.**
- 2 He has made the world so firm;  
**that it cannot be moved;**
- 3 Your throne is established from of old;  
**you are from everlasting.**
- 4 The floods have lifted up, O LORD,  
**the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their pounding.**
- 5 But mightier than the sound of many waters,  
**than the mighty waters or breakers of the sea.**  
**the Lord on high is mighty.**
- 6 Your decrees are very sure;  
**and holiness, O Lord, adorns your house for ever.**

*The second reading is from the letter to the Ephesians 1. 15-23;*

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

*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 Mark 16:15-20; Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ*

<sup>1</sup>And he said to them, ‘Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.’ So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it.

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

### Faith Matters!! Triumphant return to glory!

The Book of Acts tells us that Jesus, after leading his disciples to the Mount of Olives, "was lifted up in their sight while a cloud took him out of their sight" (Acts 1:9). Following the events of the crucifixion and death of Jesus they were overjoyed to have him come to life. The disciples witness their beloved teacher rising into the sky. Awe, wonder, and perhaps a tinge of sadness must have filled their hearts but they were now without Jesus and in 10 days time we find them in a locked room, fearful of doing what Jesus had asked them to do – to go out and make disciples of all.

The Ascension was not Jesus disappearing. We see Jesus himself return to convict Paul to be an Apostle. The gates of heaven are open and Jesus never truly disappears from the world. The Ascension was a triumphant return for our Messiah. Jesus, who humbled himself to become human, who suffered and died for our sins, now ascended to take his rightful place at the right hand of the Father (Mark 16:19). He had completed his mission of redemption, conquering sin and death and would now sit at the right hand of the Father until the second coming.

The Ascension signifies the restoration of the broken relationship between humanity and God. Adam and Eve's disobedience banished us from the presence of God, but Jesus, the perfect Son of Man, has bridged the gap. He is now our constant advocate, interceding for us before the Father.

Today's service is a celebration of victory, power, and promise. Let us live with the confidence of knowing we serve a powerful King, with the joy of having the Holy Spirit as our guide, and with the purpose of sharing the message of salvation with the world.

May the celebration of the Ascension inspire us to live out our faith with renewed dedication, knowing that Jesus, our King, reigns forevermore, and is waiting to show us the way to our room in the Father's house. Let us not be fearful in going out and making disciples of people throughout the world.

*Blessings, Rev. Rob.*