

*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 WEEK

Monday 2nd. December  
*Frances Perry, founder of the Royal Women's Hospital, Melbourne (d.1892)*

Tuesday 3rd. December  
*Francis Xavier, priest and missionary (d.1552)*

Wednesday 4th. December 10.00 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's, including  
*Nicholas Ferrar, deacon, man of prayer (d.637)* M U prayers & fellowship

Thursday 5th. December 10.00 am. Playgroup at St. Linus'  
10.45 am. Holy Communion at Colton Close  
Aged Care Facility

Friday 7th. December 11.00 am. Gospel Reflection group at St. Matthew's  
*Nicholas of Myra, bishop and Philanthropist (d.c.342)*

Saturday 7th. December 9.00 am. for 10.00 am. opening -  
**CHRISTMAS MARKET at St. Matthew's**  
*Ambrose of Milan, Bishop and teacher (d.397)* **Helpers needed please**

Sunday 8th. December 9.00 am. Eucharist at St. Linus'  
**ADVENT 2** 10.30 am. Eucharist at St. Matthew's,

### CHRISTMAS in the PARISH

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>. December - 5.00 pm. All Age Christmas Eve service  
with a Eucharist, at St Linus'

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>. December - 11.30 pm. Midnight Mass at St Matthew's

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>. December - 10.00 am Christmas Day Eucharist at  
St Matthew's.

## 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

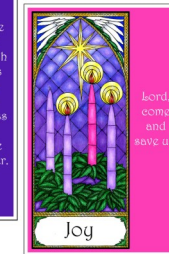
HONORARY ASSOCIATE PRIEST: The Venerable Philip Newman OAM  
Mobile: 0419 390 650 Email: pjnewman2@bigpond.com

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

Honorary Lay Pastoral Minister  
Glenda Owen 0448 821 218

Honorary Lay Parish Readers  
Bev. Lacock 9309 277  
Lois Erickson 0421 327 159  
Kerry Pratchett 0409 306 818

## FIRST SUNDAY of ADVENT 1st. 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:** Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.  
Isaiah 2. 3a;

**Collect:** Faithful God, whose promises stand unshaken through all generations; renew is in hope, that we may be awake and alert, watching for the glorious return of Jesus Christ, our Judge and Saviour, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**From today the READINGS are from Year A of the 3 year cycle**

**Isaiah 2. 1-5;**

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

**Psalms 122;**

- 1 I was glad when they said to me;  
**'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'**
- 2 And now our feet are standing;  
**within your gates, O Jerusalem.**
- 3 Jerusalem is built as a city;  
**where the pilgrims gather in unity.**



**GLENROY**

**CAROLS**

**14th. December 2019**

**WISEMAN HOUSE GARDEN**

**7.00 pm. - 9.00 pm.**

**All Welcome**

**Carol Singing**

**Moreland City**

**SALVATION ARMY BAND**

**Come join us for this**

**Community event**

**Coffee Van**

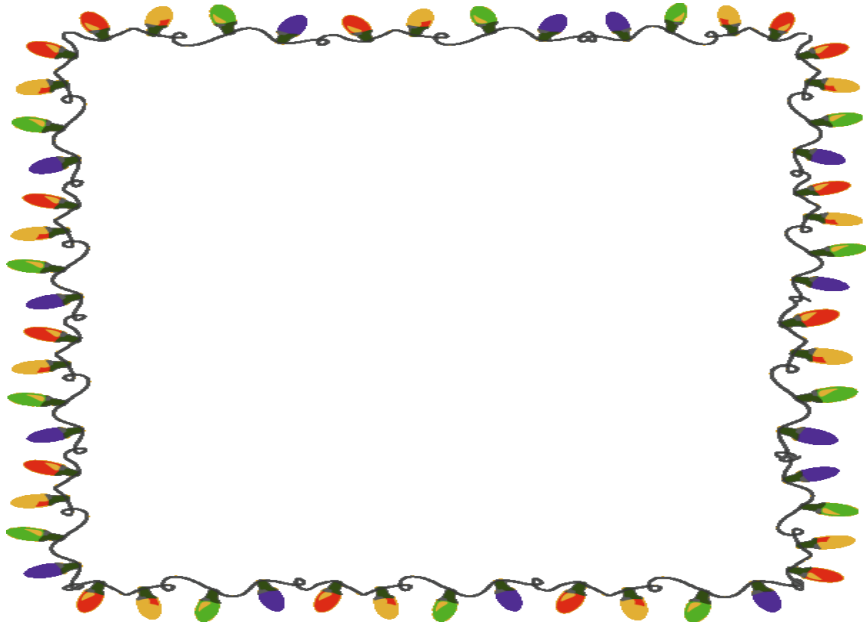
**Sausage Sizzle**

**Face Painting**

**BYO Chairs, Rugs, Picnic, Esky**

**Songsheet available at the event,  
or on website**

**[www.matthewlinus.com](http://www.matthewlinus.com)**



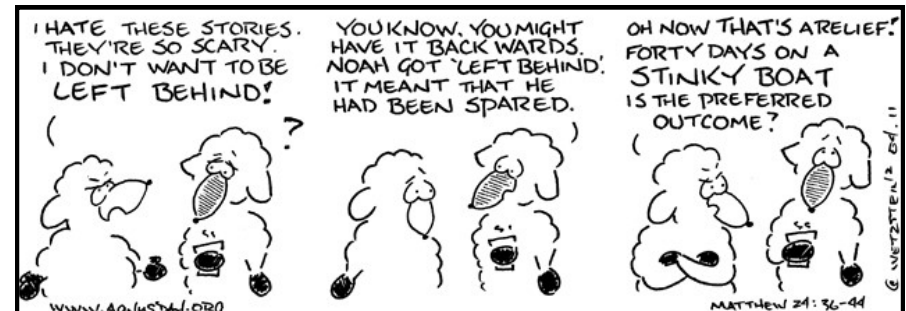
- 4 There the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord;  
**As he commanded Israel,  
to give thanks to the name of the Lord.**
- 5 There are set thrones of judgement;  
**the thrones of the house of David.**
- 6 O pray for the peace of Jerusalem:  
**may those who love you prosper.**
- 7 Peace be within your walls  
**and prosperity in your palaces.**
- 8 For the sake of my kindred and companions;  
**I will pray that peace be with you.**
- 9 For the sake of the house of the Lord our God;  
**I will seek for your good.**

**Romans 13. 11–14;**

Brothers and sisters, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

**GOSPEL Matthew 24. 36–44;**

Jesus spoke to his disciples: 'About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'



**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



**ADVENT 1**  
**1st. December 2019**

**LEARNING PEACE**

In a time of war, wreckage, and fear aplenty, the prophet Isaiah acts boldly in proclaiming God's destruction of war and construction of peace. This impossibly courageous vision of world reconciliation launches our Season of Advent with two ways we are called to act with God: to break down our warring ways, and to build up our peaceful ways.

**Focus scripture**

**Isaiah 2:1–5** War was a nearly daily part of life in ancient Israel, primarily because of the nation's small size and valuable location. A parcel of land smaller than the U.S. state of Vermont, less than half the size of Tasmania, Australia, or Nova Scotia, Canada, ancient Israel was surrounded on all sides by nations who wanted to own it. Biblical scholars remind us that in the lives of ancient Israelites, there was only "war time" and "preparing-for-war time." In this context, to speak of peace and pacifism (a vigorous debate throughout the Hebrew Scriptures) showed especially audacious faith. In a surprising role-reversal, "the nations" are the eager learners of God's teachings of peace, coming to Zion gladly. Elsewhere, the prophets point to the nations as bad influences, but here, Isaiah admonishes Israel to come and relearn God's ways, following the lead of their enemies turned teachers. Zion, Israel's moral centre and locus of worship, is the place where all the world is willingly, gladly travelling to God's word, in order to learn and practice peace. Isaiah could have painted a picture of a time to come when all the nations will only lay down their weapons and live in peace. But acting out God's peace, it seems, means more than just quitting conflict. Crucial to Israel's prophecy is the more active, participatory nature of peacemaking; all must make the journey to a common table to unlearn war. Martin Luther King Jr.'s wisdom echoes loudly: "Peace is not the absence of conflict, but the presence of justice." Seeking justice means action, and the verbs the nations use in verse three ("go up," "teach," and "walk") illustrate this powerfully. The anticipation, powerful vision, active imagining, total reversal – the action and spirit of Israel's testimony to itself – is echoed and amplified in the other passages the lectionary presents to us this week.

**In Matthew 24:36–44** we hear, "stay awake! Be ready for reversals, expect the unexpected!"

**In Romans 13:11–14**, Paul writes with urgency, telling us the time is near. Wake from the various ways we find ourselves numbed, distracted, and asleep, because the glorious new day is not so far away. Further, God wants us in the game, not sleepily awakening to a pile of presents. Our good living and our right action is part of the new vision coming. An interesting tension with the Isaiah image of weapons being smashed into farming tools emerges with Paul's call for believers to "put on the armour of light." In this way, we are reminded how the act of peacemaking requires its own tools. Just as war is learned, so is peace. Like his contemporary Micah (4:1–3), Isaiah proclaims that in God's new world, not only must the weapons be destroyed; they are transformed and repurposed. So it is with our habits, personally and nationally. We cannot simply cease our methods and manners; they must be replaced with new habits, new words, new frames of thought.

**Psalms 122** points to the interconnectedness of inner peace and outer peace.

•••••

When I seek the good of another, I seek the good of myself, and the whole world. To what extent is it possible for us to "see as God sees"? Might we peer into Advent, and glimpse the ways in which our fates are beautifully bound up in one another?

**REFLECTION**

**Holy Spirit of Peace, in a world of war, seen and unseen,  
in a time of trouble and trauma, we dare say, we dare imagine,  
we dare confess: Yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory.  
Open your ancient words for us.  
Help our souls imagine your new vision for us. Amen.**



**ACT for PEACE - NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES in AUSTRALIA  
CHRISTMAS BOWL**

Around the world people are faced with unimaginable hardships. In South Sudan, there has been a delay in the formation of a unity government. In Syria, a new wave of conflict has left more families displaced, struggling to survive. Air raids have killed at least 32 people in Gaza. Many of our partners are battling severe adverse weather as the result of climate change.

Donation envelopes are available at St. Linus' and St. Matthew's  
OR  
[www.actforpeace.org.au/christmas bowl](http://www.actforpeace.org.au/christmas_bowl)

**ANGLICAN BOARD OF MISSION**  
*Working for Love, Hope and Justice*

**Advent & Christmas Envelopes** - available at St. Linus' and St. Matthew's. Please visit the ABM website at [www.abmission.org/ChristmasResources](http://www.abmission.org/ChristmasResources) where you will find Prayer resources, Pew Reflections as well as information about the Advent and Christmas Appeal.

**PARISH ANNUAL MEETING 2019**

The following parishioners are Members of Parish Council for the next 12 months

- |                               |                             |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Churchwardens - Thomas Bowery | Parish Council - May Admans |
| - Grant Diffey                | - Nejah Amori               |
| - Beverley Lacock             | - Gordon Andrews            |
|                               | - Margaret Kalika           |
|                               | - Trevor Leach              |
|                               | - Glenda Owen               |
|                               | - Robyn Panopoulos          |
|                               | - Kerryn Pratchett          |
|                               | - Avril Salter              |

Thank you to Sue Brennan who has served 6 years as a member of Parish Council, therefore to comply with Diocesan ruling has to 'step down' for at least one year.