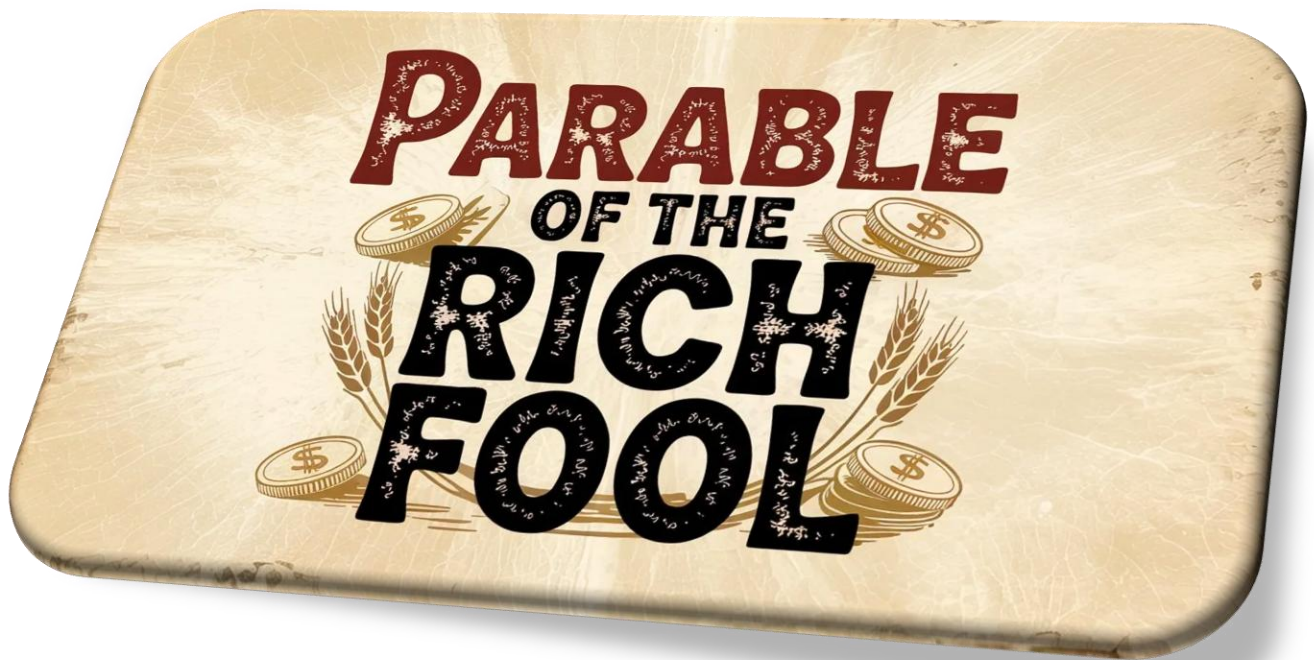


**ST MATTHEW'S ANGLICAN PARISH
CHELTENHAM**

8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST / OS 18

SUNDAY 3RD AUGUST 2025



**CELEBRANT & PREACHER:
FR GERALD LOOS**

**DEACON OF THE MASS
REV'D JILL RENISON**

ORGANIST: MR KEITH FULLARD

*This church stands on the land of the Boon Wurrung people.
We respectfully acknowledge their elders,
past and present, and we pray
for the ongoing work of reconciliation.*

Be still my soul: the Lord is on your side;
 bear patiently the cross of grief and pain;
 leave to your God to order and provide;
 in every change he faithful will remain.
 Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly friend
 through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: your God will undertake
 to guide the future as he has the past.
 Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake,
 all now mysterious shall be clear at last.
 Be still, my soul: the tempests still obey
 his voice, who ruled them once on Galilee.

Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart
 and all is darkened in the vale of tears,
 then you shall better know his love, his heart,
 who comes to soothe your sorrow, calm your fears.
 Be still, my soul: for Jesus can restore
 the trust and hope that strengthened you before.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on
 when we shall be for ever with the Lord,
 when disappointment, grief and fear are gone,
 sorrow forgotten, love's pure joy restored.
 Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
 all safe and blessèd we shall meet at last.



GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.
Amen

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

♪ Cantor – If you have been raised with Christ: seek the things that are above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Invitation to Confession

Silence may be kept.

**Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours
as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you**

in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

♪ Lord, have mercy (x3)
Christ, have mercy (x3)
Lord, have mercy (x3)

The Gloria

♪ Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT

Let us pray,
Living God, Judge of us all, you have placed in our hands the wealth we call our own: through your Spirit give us wisdom, that our possessions may not be a curse, but a means of blessing in our lives. Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Hosea

(Hosea 11:1-11 – found on page 737 in the pew bibles)

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 95.1-2, 6-7, 8-9



R: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

O come, let us sing out to the Lord:
let us shout in triumph to the rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his face with thanksgiving:
and cry out to him joyfully in psalms. **R**

Come, let us worship and bow down:
and kneel before the Lord our maker.
For he is the Lord our God:
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture. **R**

Today if only you would hear his voice—
‘Do not harden your hearts as at Meribah:
as on that day at Massah in the wilderness;
‘When your forebears tested me:
put me to proof, though they had seen my works. **R**

SECOND READING

A reading from Paul’s letter to the Colossians
(Colossians 3.1-11 - found on page 957 in the pew bibles)

For the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel

♪ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

♪ Cantor –Happy the poor in spirit; The kingdom of
heaven is theirs!

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.
(Luke 12.13-21 - found on page 847 in the pew bibles)

For the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sermon

Silence may be kept.

The Nicene Creed

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church

We believe in one God,
the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and
became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he
suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy
catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the world and for the church.

We pray for your beautiful creation, for the wellbeing of the earth, its creatures and its peoples. As a loving mother instructs a child, teach us to set aside the greed that destroys the fragile environment, the greed that robs others of a just livelihood, that we may learn to cherish your creation and share the riches you provide for us.

Generous God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for your church, for its clergy and people, for its mission and ministry in the world. As a father lovingly instructs a child, teach us to set aside the greed that gives grudgingly of time and talents, the greed that counts what is given, but not what is kept, that we may be a church renewed in your image to faithfully proclaim your gospel.

Generous God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the people of this community, for those with whom we work and worship, for our friends, our families and for ourselves. As a mother lovingly instructs a child, teach us to set aside the greed that causes us to value possessions before people, the greed that places economic efficiency before human dignity, that our community may be a place where all your people are welcomed and valued.

Generous God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who suffer, the hungry and homeless, those without proper care, the sick and those who mourn. As a father lovingly instructs a child, teach us to set aside the greed that allows us to ignore the misfortunes of others, the greed that blinds us to our own true needs, that your vulnerable and needy ones may know your love and comfort.

Generous God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We remember those who have died, especially those whose deaths have resulted from greed, cruelty or neglect of others. Teach us to set aside greed and selfishness, that in life we may learn to share our abundance and in death come, with all your saints, to share in the heavenly riches you prepare for those who love you.

Generous God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



THE GREETING OF PEACE

We are the body of Christ.

His spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

**HYMN: As pants the hart for cooling streams
TIS 25**

As pants the hart for cooling streams
in parched and barren ways,
so longs my soul for you, O God,
and your refreshing grace.

For you my God, the living God,
my thirsting soul will pine:
O when shall I behold your face,
your majesty divine?

God of my strength, my tears have been
by day and night my food;
the mockers taunt continually
and say: 'Where is your God?'

Why restless, why cast down, my soul?
Hope still, and you shall sing
the praise of him who is your God,
your health's eternal spring.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.

Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

Pray, my sisters and brothers, that our sacrifice may be
acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise
and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his
Church.**

Lord, let this offering to the glory of your name purify us and
bring us closer to eternal life. We ask this through Christ our
Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

♪ The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary
and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross and rising to new life,
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,

we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name
of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**



Merciful God, we thank you
for these gifts of your creation,
this bread and wine,
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink them
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
 'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.
 Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup,
and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,

 'Drink from this, all of you.
 This is my blood of the new covenant
 shed for you and for many
 for the forgiveness of sins.
 Do this, as often as you drink it,
 in remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:
proclaiming his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming again,
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit,
unite us in the body of your Son,
and bring us with all your people
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father,
in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**



♪ As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,



THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

♪ Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us your peace.

Behold the Lamb of God
who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.
Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word,
and I shall be healed.

The sacrament is given with the following words

The body and blood of Christ keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

♪ Cantor –Jesus said: one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.

Let us pray.

Father, in this eucharist we have shared the joy of salvation.
May this food renew us in Christ, who came to call not the just but sinners to salvation in his kingdom where he is Lord for ever and ever

**Father, we offer ourselves to you
as a living sacrifice
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen**

Please remain seated for some announcements.

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

If you are able, please stand for God's blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast.'
I came to Jesus as I was,
weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one,
stoop down and drink and live.'
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright.'
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till travelling days are done.

All hymns and text used with permission from the Australian Prayer Book of Australia, New English Hymnal, Together in Song. CCLI Licence #5371063

Church News

Soup and bread in hall today
All are invited to stay and enjoy a time of fellowship

‘Feast / Special days

17 August – Mary mother of the Lord

24 August – Daffodil day

21 September – St Matthew

5 October – St Francis of Assisi

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle



St Matthew's will be having a sausage sizzle at Bunnings as a parish fundraiser on Sunday 7 September from 8am onwards. Please support

Service Roster 10 August 2025 - 8th After Pentecost

Volunteer roster:	Readings:
Welcomer: Jan Chalice: Graham Reader: Tao/Chung Family Intercessor: Tao/Chung Family	Isaiah 1:1, 10-20 Psalm 50 Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 Luke 12: 32-40

Prayer Diary:

Monday	4 th	Fr Roger & Anne Wood Priscilla & Henri Van Reesema Pat Ward
Tuesday	5 th	Heidi & Joel Webb Graham & Pam Whitehead Hannah Williamson

Wednesday	6 th	Norma Williamson George Wilson Denise Anderson
Thursday	7 th	Sr Andrea Sr Josephine Sr Sheila-Anne
Friday	8 th	Sr Valmai Carmen Allen Jan Arnfield
Saturday	9 th	CHN St. Matthew's Cheltenham

PASTORAL VISIT

If you would like a pastoral visit, please speak to Fr Gerald
to organize a date and time

If you have a name of someone in need of prayer or pastoral care, please contact Fr Gerald or the parish office. Out of respect for privacy, make sure you have that person's permission.

PASTORAL CARE INITIATIVE – REACHING OUT TO THE LOST SHEEP

As part of our parish's pastoral care ministry, we are seeking to reconnect with members of our community who may have drifted away from the Church or no longer attend regularly. Fr Gerald is planning to personally visit or contact those who have fallen away, to offer care, prayer, and a welcoming invitation back into the life of our parish.

If you know of anyone—family members, friends, or neighbours who has stopped attending church or feels disconnected, please pass their names and contact details confidentially to Fr Gerald.

Together, let us be the hands and heart of Christ, reaching out with love and compassion to all.

“Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.” – Luke 15:6



Today, Jesus is approached by someone asking Him to settle a family dispute over an inheritance. Instead of becoming entangled in the legal issue, Jesus uses the moment to teach a deeper lesson about greed and the dangers of placing ultimate value in material wealth. *“Take care! Be on your guard against*

all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” (v. 15)

At the heart of the parable is a rich man who has a bumper harvest. His barns can’t hold all his grain, so he decides to tear them down and build bigger ones. He tells himself that with his surplus stored away, he can finally relax and “eat, drink, and be merry.” But God calls him a fool—because that very night, his life will be demanded of him. All his careful planning for a comfortable future turns out to be useless.

This parable confronts us with an uncomfortable truth: we can spend so much time preparing for a future that may never come, while neglecting what really matters—our relationship with God and others. The rich man’s mistake was not in being successful, but in thinking that his wealth could guarantee him security, peace, and a good life.

He speaks only to himself—notice how many times he says “I” and “my” in the parable—and he never mentions God, others, or any sense of responsibility. His world is small and self-contained. Jesus warns that such self-centeredness, especially when combined with greed, is a spiritual trap.

This passage calls us to evaluate our own attachments. Are we accumulating more than we need while others go without? Are we planning only for earthly comfort while neglecting the richness of life that comes from love, generosity, and faith?

- What “barns” am I busy building in my life?
- Where am I placing my trust—my possessions, or God?
- What does it look like for me to be “rich toward God” today?

Blessings

Fr Gerald

EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT ST MATTHEW'S

First Sunday of the Month:

8:00am A quiet, said service of Holy Communion

Every Sunday:

9:30am A sung service of Holy Communion
with a Children's Program

Wednesdays (not in January):

9:45am Prayer for Healing, Wholeness and Peace

10:00am A quiet, said service of Holy Communion

Monday, Thursday and Friday mornings:

9:00-9:30 am Morning Prayer via Zoom.

The link can be found in the Parish e-newsletter.

Meeting ID: 796 1738 1243

Passcode: 8hzrij

If you would like to donate to St Matthew's, thank you!

Our bank details are:

St Matthew's Anglican Church

BSB 06 3119 Acc. No. 1044 5437



Contact Details:

Vicar – Fr Gerald Loos SSC

Mobile 0409 149 486

Wednesday – Healing Mass and Home Communion

Thursday – Office Day in Parish Office

Friday – Pastoral Visits

Please note that Fr Gerald will be taking his regular day off on Monday.

Should there be an emergency or if you require urgent pastoral care, he can be contacted on his mobile.

vicar@stmatthewscheltenham.org.au

www.stmatthewscheltenham.org.au