

**ST MATTHEW'S ANGLICAN PARISH  
CHELTENHAM**

**MARY MOTHER OF OUR LORD**

**SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> 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.*

## OPENING HYMN: Ye who own the faith of Jesus

Ye who own the faith of Jesus  
Sing the wonders that were done,  
When the love of God the Father  
O'er our sin the victory won,  
When he made the Virgin Mary  
Mother of his only Son.  
Hail Mary, hail Mary, hail Mary, full of grace.

Blessed were the chosen people  
Out of whom the Lord did come,  
Blessed was the land of promise  
Fashioned for his earthly home;  
But more blessed far the Mother  
She who bare him in her womb.  
Hail Mary, hail Mary, hail Mary, full of grace.

Wherefore let all faithful people  
Tell the honour of her name,  
Let the Church in her foreshadowed  
Part in her thanksgiving claim;  
What Christ's Mother sang in gladness  
Let Christ's people sing the same.  
Hail Mary, hail Mary, hail Mary, full of grace.

Let us weave our supplications,  
She with us and we with her,  
For the advancement of the faithful,  
For each faithful worshipper,  
For the doubting, for the sinful,  
For each heedless wanderer.  
Hail Mary, hail Mary, hail Mary, full of grace.

Praise, O Mary, praise the Father,  
Praise thy Saviour and thy Son,  
Praise the everlasting Spirit,  
Who hath made thee ark and throne;  
O'er all creatures high exalted,  
Lowly praise the Three in One.  
Hail Mary, hail Mary, hail Mary, full of grace.

## 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 – When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son of a woman: so that we might receive adoption as God's children.

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*

**Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and Prince of Peace:  
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary:  
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh and splendour of the  
Father; Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

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.**

♪ **Kyrie eleison (x3)**  
**Christe eleison (x3)**  
**Kyrie eleison (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

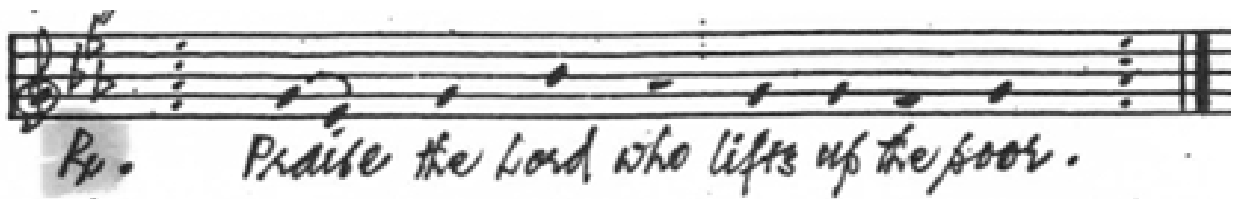
Let us pray,  
Almighty God, who looked upon the lowliness of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary and chose her to be the mother of your  
only Son: grant that we who are redeemed by his blood may  
share with her in the glory of your eternal kingdom; through  
Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with  
you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for  
ever. **Amen.**

## THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Isaiah  
(Isaiah 61:10 – 62: 3 – found on page 604 in the pew bibles)  
For the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM 113



**R:** Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor

Praise the Lord, O sing praises, you that are his servants:  
O praise the name of the Lord.  
Let the name of the Lord be blessed:  
from this time forward and for ever. **R**

The Lord is exalted over all the nations:  
and his glory is above the heavens.  
Who can be likened to the Lord our God:  
in heaven or upon the earth,  
Who has his dwelling so high:  
yet condescends to look on things beneath? **R**

He raises the lowly from the dust:  
and lifts the poor from out of the dung heap;  
He gives them a place among the princes:  
even among the princes of his people. **R**

## **SECOND READING**

A reading from Paul's letter to the Galatians  
(Galatians 4:4-7 - found on page 947 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 - Hail Mary, full of grace: blessed are you among  
women.

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 2:1-7 - found on page 832 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

As we pray to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we say with Mary: Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.  
Holy is your name. **Holy is your name**

Your prophet of old foretold a day when a virgin would  
conceive and bear a son who would be called God-with-us.  
Help us to look forward to your deliverance and to seek the  
fullness of your kingdom. Lord, have mercy on those who fear  
you. **Holy is your name.**



Your angel declared to Mary that she was to be the mother of the Saviour. Help every Christian person to be open to your word and obedient to your will. Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **Holy is your name.**

Mary rejoiced with Elizabeth and sang your praise, 'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord.' Help us to live joyful lives that sing your praise. Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **Holy is your name.**

Mary bore a son of David's line, a king whose reign would never end. Bless all the nations of the world with Christ's gift of peace. Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **Holy is your name.**

The child Jesus grew in wisdom and stature in the home of Mary and Joseph. Strengthen our homes and families and keep under your protection all those whom we love. Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **Holy is your name.**

At the foot of the cross of Christ stood his mother, and from the cross she received his lifeless body in her arms. Give comfort and healing to all who suffer and all who watch the suffering of those they love. Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **Holy is your name.**

The apostle John saw a vision of a woman in heaven, robed with the sun. Bring us with all those who have died in the faith of Christ to share the joy of heaven with Mary and all the saints. Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **Holy is your name.**

Almighty and everlasting God, your handmaid Mary magnified your name and rejoiced in your saving love: trusting in that same love, we ask all these our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **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: Sing we of the Blessed Mother      NEH 185**

Sing we of the blessèd Mother  
who received the angel's word,  
and obedient to his summons  
bore in love the infant Lord;  
sing we of the joys of Mary  
at whose breast that child was fed  
who is Son of God eternal  
and the everlasting Bread.

Sing we, too, of Mary's sorrows,  
of the sword that pierced her through,  
when beneath the cross of Jesus  
she his weight of suffering knew,  
looked upon her Son and Saviour  
reigning high on Calvary's tree,  
saw the price of man's redemption  
paid to set the sinner free.

Sing again the joys of Mary  
when she saw the risen Lord,  
and in prayer with Christ's apostles,  
waited on his promised word:  
from on high the blazing glory  
of the Spirit's presence came,  
heavenly breath of God's own being,  
manifest through wind and flame.

Sing the chiefest joy of Mary  
when on earth her work was done,  
and the Lord of all creation  
brought her to his heavenly home:  
Virgin Mother, Mary blessèd,  
raised on high and crowned with grace,  
may your Son, the world's redeemer,  
grant us all to see his face.

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.**

God our Father, we celebrate the beginning of our salvation.  
On this feast of Mary, the Mother of God, we ask that our  
salvation will be brought to its fulfilment. 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.**

It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and our salvation,  
almighty Father, ever-living God,  
to give you thanks and praise  
for the work of your grace in the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
For by the overshadowing of your Holy Spirit  
she conceived and bore the Word made flesh.  
At the cross she kept her vigil,  
and saw the saving work of your Son  
brought to its perfection.  
She rejoiced in his resurrection,  
and joining her prayers with those of the apostles,  
was filled with the gift of your promised Spirit.  
In her you show us the greatness of your love,  
and the wonderful purpose you intend for all your children.  
Therefore we join our voice with hers,  
and all the company of heaven,  
as they sing with joy the hymn of your glory:

**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,

Our Fa ther in hea ven hal lowed be your name your king dom come  
your will be done, on earth as in hea ven  
Give us to day our dai ly bread For give us our sins as we for give those  
who sin a gainst us. Save us from the time of tri  
al and de li ver us from e vil. For the king -  
dom, the power, and the glo ry are yours now and for e ver. A men.

## 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.

♪ Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
Grant us 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 -all generations will call me blessed: for the  
Almighty has done great things for me.

Let us pray.

Father, as we proclaim the Virgin Mary to be the mother of  
Christ and the mother of the Church, may our communion  
with her Son bring us salvation.

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*

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill you with his grace  
to trust his promises and obey his will; 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.**

**HYMN: Tell out my soul the greatness of the Lord**  
**NEH 186**

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!**  
**Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;**  
**tender to me the promise of his word –**  
**in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.**

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!**  
**Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;**  
**his mercy sure, from age to age the same –**  
**his holy name: the Lord, the Mighty One.**



Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!  
Powers and dominions lay their glory by;  
proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,  
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!  
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure:  
tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord  
to children's children and for evermore!

*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

Morning tea hall today  
Parish Council @ 11:00am

### **'Feast / Special days**

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 24 August 2025 - Daffodil Sunday**

<b>Volunteer roster:</b>	<b>Readings:</b>
Welcomer: Sandra	Hosea 6:1-3
Chalice: Sandra	Psalm 23
Reader: Rory	James 5:13-16:a
Intercessor: Deb P	Matthew 8: 14-17

## Prayer Diary:

Monday	18 <sup>th</sup>	David Evans Fr Roger & Finola Featherstone Keith Fullard
Tuesday	19 <sup>th</sup>	Dagma Ginger Jill Goodes George Halvaxis
Wednesday	20 <sup>th</sup>	Fr. Andre Hassing Jose Hassing Margaret & Robert Henry
Thursday	21 <sup>st</sup>	Deborah Howard Janet Jeffery Fr Russell & Elizabeth Joyce
Friday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Doug Kennedy & Nicole Tanner Chloe Lampard Anne Leegel
Saturday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	CHN St. Matthew's Cheltenham

## 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***

Mary stands at the heart of the Christian story—not as a distant figure, but as a living witness to faith, humility, and courage. Chosen by God to bear His Son, Mary responded not with fear or resistance, but with a quiet, profound “Let it be to me according to your word.” (Luke 1:38). In that moment, she opened herself to the mystery of divine grace and the weight of a calling that would forever change the world.



Mary's strength is found not in loud proclamations or grand gestures, but in her faithful presence. From the stable in Bethlehem to the foot of the Cross, she remains—steadfast, contemplative, and obedient to God's will. She teaches us that true discipleship often looks like listening, pondering, and trusting—especially when the path ahead is uncertain.

As the Theotokos, the God-bearer, Mary reminds us that God chooses the lowly to do great things. Her Magnificat—“My soul magnifies the Lord”—proclaims the upside-down Kingdom of God where the humble are lifted up and the hungry are filled.

Mary also knows the sorrow of discipleship. Simeon prophesied that a sword would pierce her own soul (Luke 2:35), and she experienced this as she watched her Son suffer and die. Yet even in grief, Mary does not lose faith. At Pentecost, she is there with the disciples, waiting and praying. She is the first to receive the Word and among the first to receive the Spirit.

Today, Mary continues to inspire countless Christians. Not as an unattainable icon of perfection, but as a fellow pilgrim who walked the road of faith before us. She is a mother not only to Jesus but to the Church—to all who seek to say yes to God's call.

In Mary, we see what it means to carry Christ—not only in the womb, but in the heart, in daily life, and in the world. May we, like her, respond with trust and say: “Here I am, the servant of the Lord.”

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](mailto:vicar@stmatthewscheltenham.org.au)

[www.stmatthewscheltenham.org.au](http://www.stmatthewscheltenham.org.au)