



### St Matthew

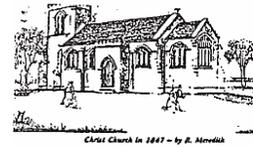
*He sat to watch o'er customs paid,  
 A man of scorned and hardening trade,  
 Alike the symbol and the tool  
 Of foreign masters' hated rule.  
 But grace within his breast had stirred;  
 There needed but the timely word:  
 It came, true Lord of souls, from thee,  
 That royal summons, 'Follow me.'  
 Enough, when thou wast passing by,  
 To hear thy voice, to meet thine eye:  
 He rose, responsive to the call,  
 And left his task, his gains, his all.  
 O wise exchange! with these to part,  
 And lay up treasure in the heart--  
 Who now with crown of light doth shine  
 Among the apostolic line.  
 Come, Saviour, as in days of old;  
 Pass where the world has strongest hold,  
 And faithless care and selfish greed  
 Are thorns that choke the holy seed.  
 Who keep thy gifts, O bid them claim  
 The steward's, not the owner's name;  
 Who yield up all for thy dear sake,  
 Let them of Matthew's wealth partake.*

[William Bright 1824-1901 – TNEH 189]



### TOMATO PLANTS

I will be selling a limited number of tomato plants in about a month (Sweet Bite – tall vine type; and a mix of tommy toe and grape). They will be by order only; and I will let people know when to pick them up from the Church, Laurie Christian



## The Anglican Parish of Christ Church Geelong



"A community of faith in service to others"

[www.christchurchgeelong.com.au](http://www.christchurchgeelong.com.au)

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### Mission Statement

Christ Church seeks to be a centre for the worship of Almighty God, providing strength and assistance for all who enter, and enabling God's love in Christ to reach out to the community and world in which we live.

## MATTHEW, APOSTLE, EVANGELIST & MARTYR

20<sup>th</sup> September 2020

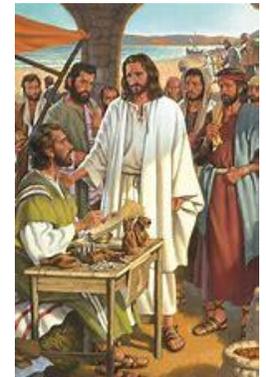
Liturgical Colour: Red

### Sentence

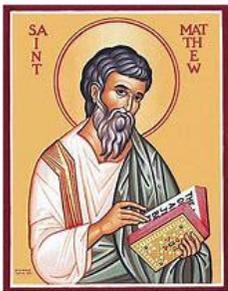
Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.  
 I have come not to call the righteous, but sinners.

### Prayer of the Day \*

Almighty God,  
 who through your Son Jesus Christ  
 called Matthew from the selfish pursuit of  
 gain  
 to become an apostle and evangelist:  
 free us from all greed and love of riches  
 so that we may follow the steps of our Lord  
 Jesus Christ in the way of self-living love;  
 who lives and reigns with you  
 and the Holy Spirit, one God,  
 world without end. Amen



## The Vicar Writes



Saint Matthew the Evangelist was a tax collector who responded faithfully to the call of Christ, he was later known to have preached the good news in Ethiopia as well as Italy. He was martyred in Ethiopia. Matthew was a Hebrew and originally preached to Hebrews but because he was a tax collector he would have been despised as a traitor to Rome and as such would have been seen as an outcaste. It is significant that Jesus accepted him and called him into his fold of intimate disciples.

Jesus was criticised for eating and drinking with tax collectors and sinners by the puritanical orthodoxy. Jesus however was concerned with the heart of a person, their sincerity and not the outer circumstances they found themselves in. A person may be very good in their heart and sincere but due to circumstances may be found in a position that is compromised. Sincerity to be true to God is the important ingredient that creates an opening for God's transforming power to have effect.

The Lord is within our heart and is always calling and prompting us as conscience and intelligence. If we really want to have a close relationship with the Lord, God will eagerly make all arrangements for us to come into contact with those who will help us on the way. In Matthew's case Jesus himself came to him and brought him into the deepest level of discipleship right away. For Matthew to be able to respond in this way he must have had a very open heart that was seeking God with all sincerity.

We remember Matthew today as saint, apostle and martyr. We pray for his intercessions and trust that we will join him one day in the heavenly kingdom.

The Lord be with you, Fr Russell

† *Please note that due to Covid19 restrictions, services cannot still be held in the church! However, everyone is welcome to come and pray Monday to Friday (not Saturday or Sunday) and during the hours of 12 Noon to 2pm only!!*

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Our Parish supports this appeal run by Samaritan's Purse each October. The Appeal is a hands-on way for you to bless children in need across the world by filling shoeboxes with toys, hygiene items, school supplies, and fun gifts etc.

For further details, either:

Go to their website: <https://www.samaritanspurse.org.au>;

Refer to the item on Page 5 in the recent edition of "The Christ Church Chronicle"; or contact Jan McGowan on her mobile: 0409 176409.



### "Psalm 19:1-6"

The heavens declare the glory of God:  
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

One day tells it to another:  
and night to night communicates knowledge.

There is no speech or language:  
nor are their voices heard.

Yet their sound has gone out through all the world:  
and their words to the ends of the earth.

There he has pitched a tent for the sun:  
which comes out as a bridegroom from his chamber,  
and rejoices like a strong man to run his course.

Its rising is at one end of the heavens,  
and its circuit to their farthest bound:  
and nothing is hidden from its heat.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

**THE WORLD:** All those suffering the aftermath of natural disasters, including California's wildfires

**THE CHURCH:** The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan; Diocese of Ballarat; Caulfield Grammar School; Parish of St Paul's, Inverleigh w. St John's, Bannockburn and Church of the Epiphany, Meredith; Parish of St John's Cranbourne w. Christ Church, Tooradin; St Agnes, Glenhuntly; Christ Church, Newport. Give thanks for the Archbishop of Canterbury as he leads the Anglican Communion.

**THE PARISH/COMMUNITY:** Loyalty and faithfulness are esteemed by the writer of Proverbs. Pray that our loyalties and fidelity may first be to God, and then to anyone or anything that promotes an inclusive common good (Source: ABM)

**THOSE IN SPECIAL NEED:** Those on our prayer list and in our hearts.

**THE DEPARTED:** Our own departed and those whose yearly remembrance falls at this time: (Mena Hatton). We remember with thanks: Sergius of Moscow, abbot and teacher, d.1392 (Friday); Lancelot Andrewes, bishop of Winchester, d.1626 (Saturday)

NEXT SUNDAY -27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Readings: Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 78:1-4 & 11-16;

Philippians 2:1-13 Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32

