



Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Project Regenerate: Explore. Rejoice. Give.

Easter 4
26 April 2026

Happy Easter Everybody!

I hope that you've had a great week, and that you have been able to find hidden treasures in a bookshelf or shed or wherever - in the wake of resurrection morning.



Today, Thursday 23rd April, we had a record number of participants in the Shed Project. Eighteen participants - I know, that's a lot of saws and screws and glue and jigsaws and varnish and biscuit joiners - ALL GOING AT ONCE!

I don't know how Brian is going at the moment, but it has certainly taken me a while to find my 'equilibrium' again. I say 'equilibrium' - in truth I love that 'organised chaos' from time to time ... no-one lost a finger. Oh, there was one splinter I believe. A few proud young people took home their creations - and I imagine that there will be a couple of proud parents also. This was always my dream - a shed FULL of creativity and positive energy and achievement and endeavour and ... I am so grateful to all who have supported this project.

One of my all-time influences is a book called, "The Man Who Planted Trees" which I read as a young adult when I was in the UK in the 1990's. I have been inspired by the simple way in which a person can really make a difference and adapt their circumstances to the changing nature of the world around them and putting simple thoughts (dreams, ideas etc) into practise. I cannot remember whether it is just a good tale or a true story ... essentially the point is that you and I CAN make this world a better place. The real challenge is will we continue to try - even if we don't get to see the results of our own efforts and convictions. Truth is - we will be given glimpses - just enough to keep us going and enable us to keep trying again and again - even when faced with difficulty.

Much emphasis in John 10 is placed on 'The Good Shepherd' - and this is an apt and appropriate Biblical metaphor for much of our ministry. However, I have come to discover that 'the Gate' is more profound - arguably more important to spend some reflection upon. Will you walk through it this week? *Rev James*



Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry; for Fiona & family;
- For the Episcopal Discernment Committee (*I'm actually not sure what they are called*) as they prepare the process of electing a new Bishop;
- For all who are hungry, thirsty and seeking shelter around the globe;
- For the people of the Middle East;
- For the people of Haiti;
- For the Leaders of all Nations;
- For those of leadership and influence to act for the common good;
- For all facing natural disaster: flood, fire, earthquake, cyclone, famine;
- For our neighbours;
- For those in our Aged Care Facilities;
- For those we know whom are unwell;
- For all back at school, Principals, Staff, Education Support, Wellbeing;
- For light that dispels darkness; for hope that dispels despair; for love that dispels fear and discord;
- For all those we love, near and far away;

Years Mind: Stella LIERSCH (1992), Irene ELLIS (1994), Sarah (Sally) COLLINS (1987), William GLARE (1990), Robert POWELL (1997), June ROBINSON (2010), Christine TURK, Isabell MILNER, Gladys MARTIN (2013), Bruce BAXTER (2021)

“Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.”

Services - 2026

Easter 4 – 26 April

9.30am Warracknabeal

5.00pm Café Church

Tuesday 28 April

7.00 for 7.30pm Parish Council

Easter 5 – 03 May

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

11.00am Areegra

Easter 6 – 10 May

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Easter 7 – 17 May

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Pentecost – 24 May

9.30am Warracknabeal

5.00pm Café Church

Trinity – 31 May

10.30am Warracknabeal

Lunch at the Creekside- 12.00pm

Annual Mission Day

“We would like to invite you to our Annual Mission Day to be held on Thursday 14th May 2026 at the Keith Warren Fellowship Centre - 2.00pm.

There will be a guest speaker, some light entertainment, afternoon tea and a cake and produce stall.

A collection plate will go toward the work of the missions.

A warm welcome is extended to all.

Bev Callander -
Secretary Beulah UCAF”

More details

Contact: Bev 5390 2387

TODAY'S READINGS

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading:

Acts 2:42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm:

23

Response: *The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.*

1. The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose; beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul. **(R)**

2. He guides me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side with your rod and your staff that give me courage. **(R)**

3. You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. **(R)**

4. Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for years to come. **(R)**

Second Reading:

1 Peter 2:1-10

A reading from the first letter of Peter

Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. As you come to him, the living Stone – rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him – you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says: 'See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.' Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, 'The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,' and, 'A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.' They stumble because they disobey the message – which is also what they were destined for. But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! **Alleluia!**

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!

Gospel:

John 10:1-10

***A reading from the Holy Gospel
according to John***

‘Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognise a stranger’s voice.’ Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them. Therefore Jesus said again, ‘Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE PROPERS

Sentence: 'I am the good shepherd' says the Lord. 'The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.'

Collect: God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: make us perfect in every good work to do your will, and work in us that which is well-pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

