



Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Pentecost 4

25 June 2023

Sunday Services: 9.30am & 5.00pm Café Church - Warracknabeal



Hello Everyone! I hope that I find you well and in good spirits.

As I mentioned last week, I want to share some thoughts about SABBATH - a biblical command and invitation to renewal, revival and restoration.

"Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy." (Exodus 20:8) Like God the Creator - we too are invited in our faith lives to 'rest' and honour all that we have achieved or experienced or endeavoured to accomplish through our vocation.

"Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude. On the sixth day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation." (Genesis 2:1-3)

When I was ordained, I was determined - inspired by Leviticus 25 to institute a Sabbath Rhythm of having a sabbatical year every 7 years. I achieved this after my first gig in Bega (and before Queanbeyan), and in 2015 I took 3 months - and walked the Camino. In Aug & Sept I will be taking 2 months annual leave & long service leave to honour my sabbatical commitment to myself. I have accepted that taking 3-6 months (let alone a year) is unrealistic in current ministry circumstances - mainly due to 'momentum' (*which is another conversation*).

Sabbath - is not just about rest, although there is an emphasis on doing so: sabbath - is not just about 'holiday' although new places and experiences are helpful in the sabbath process: sabbath - is more about deep renewal - a sacred journey that addresses the parts of the mind or body that are really tired and therefore has an element of 'worship' & prayer that feeds the soul - like taking a drink from God's deep well of Grace. For me, it is necessary to take time to 'recalibrate the machine' for the next phase.

In this vein we are ALL encouraged to take a Sabbath - whether daily, weekly or yearly so that our heart's desire is God's heart's desire for us also. If you want to know more - I'm happy to explain.

Every blessing, Rev!



Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry;
- For those who hunger for food;
- For those who thirst for clean water;
- For those who seek peace amidst war & violence and abuse;
- For those brokering JUSTICE;
- For the people of Ukraine;
- For the people in the Middle East;
- For those experiencing tragedy & grief;
- For Christian Emergency Food Centre;
- For those we know who are unwell – in mind, body or heart;
- For our friends and families;
- For those who are fighting depression, anxiety, isolation and alienation;
- For those who are battling addictions;
- For our Christian witness in our daily lives;
- For the Spirit's guidance into understanding and openness;
- For those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries, and milestones;
- For our neighbour;
- For seasonal weather;

Years Mind: Ellis Emmett, Cyril McCross, Rex Schulz, Phyllis Lynch

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

Services – July

Pentecost 4 – 25 June

9.30am Warracknabeal

5.00pm Café Church

Pentecost 5 – 02 July

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

11.00am St Mark's Areegra

Pentecost 6 – 09 July

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Pentecost 7 – 16 July

10.30am Warracknabeal

12.00pm AGM – Sandwich & Soup

Pentecost 8 – 23 July

10.30am Warracknabeal

12.00pm Mission Lunch

5.00pm Café Church

Pentecost 9 – 30 July

10.30am Warracknabeal



Parish Annual General Meeting

Sunday 16th July at 12.00pm

(following the 10.30am service)

Soup & Sandwich Lunch

Soup - will be provided.

Please bring sandwiches to share.

Tea & Coffee also available.

PC Nomination Forms available at back of Church.

We also need to elect three Synod Reps for the next three year Synod cycle. Please use the same form.

Talk to Rev or Sarah-Jayne for more info!

TODAY'S READINGS

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

First Reading : Genesis 21:8-21

A reading from the book of Genesis

The child grew and was weaned, and on the day Isaac was weaned Abraham held a great feast. But Sarah saw that the son whom Hagar the Egyptian had borne to Abraham was mocking, and she said to Abraham, 'Get rid of that slave woman and her son, for that woman's son will never share in the inheritance with my son Isaac.' The matter distressed Abraham greatly because it concerned his son. But God said to him, 'Do not be so distressed about the boy and your slave woman. Listen to whatever Sarah tells you, because it is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned. I will make the son of the slave into a nation also, because he is your offspring.' Early the next morning Abraham took some food and a skin of water and gave them to Hagar. He set them on her shoulders and then sent her off with the boy. She went on her way and wandered in the Desert of Beersheba. When the water in the skin was gone, she put the boy under one of the bushes. Then she went off and sat down about a bow-shot away, for she thought, 'I cannot watch the boy die.' And as she sat there, she began to sob. God heard the boy crying, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, 'What is the matter, Hagar? Do not be afraid; God has heard the boy crying as he lies there. Lift the boy up and take him by the hand, for I will make him into a great nation.' Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. So she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink. God was with the boy as he grew up. He lived in the desert and became an archer. While he was living in the Desert of Paran, his mother got a wife for him from Egypt. This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

Psalms: 86:1-10. 16-17

Response: *Lord, you are good and forgiving*

1. Incline your ear to me, O God, and answer me: for I am poor and in misery. Preserve my life, for I am faithful: My God, save your servant who trusts in you. **(R)**
2. Be merciful to me, O Lord: for I call to you all the day long.
O make glad the soul of your servant: for I put my hope in you, O Lord. For you, Lord, are good and forgiving: of great and continuing kindness to all who call upon you. **(R)**
3. Hear my prayer, O Lord: and give heed to the voice of my supplication. In the day of my trouble I call upon you: for you will surely answer. Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord: nor are there any deeds like yours. **(R)**
4. All the nations you have made shall come and worship before you: O Lord, they shall glorify your name. For you are great and do marvellous things: and you alone are God. **(R)**
5. Turn to me and be merciful, give your strength to your servant: and save the child of your handmaid. Show me some token of your goodness: that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed, because you, Lord, are my helper and my comforter. **(R)**

Second Reading: Romans 6:1-11

A reading from the letter to the Romans

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning, so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised

into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin – because anyone who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, **Alleluia**

I am the way, the truth and the life, says the Lord; No one comes to the Father, except through me. **Alleluia**

Gospel:

Matthew 10:24-39

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

‘The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for students to be like their teachers, and servants like their masters. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household ! ‘So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. Do not be

afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father’s care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. ‘Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven. ‘Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to turn “a man against his father , a daughter against her mother , a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law – a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.” ‘Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ!

THE PROPERS

Sentence: Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for Jesus’ sake will find it.

Collect: Gracious God, we who were baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death: we pray that, as you raised him from death, so by the power of the Holy Spirit we may live the new life to your glory, knowing ourselves to be dead in sin but alive for you in Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**