



Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Epiphany
03 January 2021

Welcome to the New Year!

'Chaos' (it seems with recent COVID transmission on the East Coast) could become the norm for a little while longer as we try and negotiate our summer travel and recreation and anything else we had planned. I am led to believe that 'chaos' is borrowed from the Greek word that means "abyss." In ancient Greece, 'Chaos' was originally thought of as the abyss or emptiness that existed before things came into being.

Richard Rohr reflects that; *"The word change normally refers to new beginnings. But transformation more often happens not when something new begins but when something old falls apart. The pain of something old falling apart—disruption and chaos—invites the soul to listen at a deeper level. It invites and sometimes forces the soul to go to a new place because the old place is not working anymore."* He suggests that, *"The mystics use many words to describe this chaos: fire, darkness, death, emptiness, abandonment, trial, the Evil One. Whatever it is, it does not feel good and it does not feel like God. We will do anything to keep the old thing from falling apart."*

Epiphany - or 'the revealing' - therefore takes on a new meaning potentially as we face the ravaging of the COVID virus and everything associated with it. Where is God in all of this pandemic? No matter where we are, who we are - GOD IS HERE, right beside us and our struggles and anxiety and whatever else we are dealing with.

Rohr goes on to say, *"Transformation usually includes a disconcerting reorientation. Change can either help people to find a new meaning, or it can cause people to close down and turn bitter. The difference is determined by the quality of our inner life, or what we call 'spirituality.'"*

As we embrace the unknowns of a New Year - and all that will be revealed, I encourage each and every one of us to nurture our 'inner life' that can guide, equip and help us to embrace our endeavours with renewed energy and insight. How we do that is up to our individual disciplines and expressions. I also hope that as a faith community we can help show others what is possible through the 'revealing' nature and truth of a God who loves us, and calls us each by name. Rev James

NO COFFEE MORNING ON Tuesdays.

Will resume in February,
but I'm not sure what day just yet.



Epiphany youTube from Rev

What will you bring...?!

<https://youtu.be/oG2fzG4pRjg>



Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry;
- Rest and renewal for ALL;
- Summer travel & holidays;
- for people of FIJI, Yemen, UK;
- Project REGENERATE – Stronger Communities Grant Application
- Project REGENERATE – Parish Revamp plans & discussion.

Community:

- For those feeling lonely;
- New Years' resolutions and desire for transformation;
- for all those feeling unwell, in hospital, recovering from sickness;
- for those experiencing injustice of any kind;
- All affected by COVID;
- Civic Leaders and politicians.

Years Mind: Mona Payne, Ian Rebertson,
Sheila Potter, John Wood

Service Times January

Epiphany – 03 January 2021

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal
11.00am Areegra

Baptism of Jesus -10 January 2021

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Epiphany 2 – 17 January 2021

10.00am Warracknabeal

ONE Service only

Epiphany 3 – 24 January 2021

9.30 & 5.00pm Warracknabeal
2.00pm Dunmunkle, Minyip

Epiphany 4 – 31 January 2021

10.30am - Warracknabeal

ONE Service only

**Project
REGENERATE
Renew PEOPLE.
Revive PROJECTS.
Restore PLACE.**

Rev's REVOLUTION

**Rev has reached HALF-WAY in both
targets! Thanks to all for your
contributions and encouragement.**

Kilometres travelled

2,526.05

Pledged & Donated

\$12,579.19



TODAY'S READINGS

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

A reading from the book of Isaiah

'Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. 'Lift up your eyes and look about you: all assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the hip. Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come. Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the Lord. This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm: 72

Response: *Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.*

1. God, with your judgment endow the king, and with your justice, the king's son;
He shall govern your people with justice and your afflicted ones with judgment. **(R)**
2. Justice shall flower in his days, and profound peace, till the moon be no more.
May he rule from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. **(R)**

3. The kings of Tarshish and the Isles shall offer gifts;
the kings of Arabia and Seba shall bring tribute.

All kings shall pay him homage, all nations shall serve him. **(R)**

4. For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him.
He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor; the lives of the poor he shall save. **(R)**

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:1-12

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles – Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus. I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold

wisdom of God should be made known to where the Messiah was to be born. 'In the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, **Alleluia!**

We have seen his star in the East:
and have come to adore the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel:

Matthew 2:1-12

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

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.' When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them

Bethlehem in Judea,' they replied, 'for this is what the prophet has written: "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."' Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, 'Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.' After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

THE PROPERs

Sentence: Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Collect: Everlasting God, who brought the nations to your light and kings to the brightness of your rising: fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the nations; through him who is the true light and the bright morning star,
Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God. now and for ever. **Amen.**

Wise * Men



Still Seek
Him