



# Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

**Lent 4**  
**19 March 2023**

**Sunday Services: 9.30am Warracknabeal**  
**5.00pm Retreat in Daily Life Commission & Light meal**



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

First, thanks to Russell and Curl who have put a bucket load of time into the Boys' Shed again this week. They have been creating our North-West entry feature - and completing small and time consuming jobs related to the insulation and internal wall claddings. Thank you gentlemen.

Secondly, I invite all parishioners to participate in our 'Retreat in Daily Life.' It is an opportunity to intentionally go on an internal journey with each other during this particular week in Lent - just to try something different for one, but also reinforce our own personal disciplines as a faith community.

I don't know if it'll 'work' or not. It doesn't really matter. The important thing is that we become more aware of God's presence or 'voice' during the normal occurrences and circumstances of our daily life - without the discomfort of having to 'go anywhere.' I have prepared a 'Retreat in Daily Life' guide - which will be made available for all parishioners: via email and hardcopy. If you would like a hard copy - please ask Rev to print you one.

In the spirit of the man born blind - part of the 'intention' of the Retreat is to 'open our hearts' a little more. I know that from time to time - I get stuck in a certain way of being, or bringing a 'certain' attitude to some situations - and I remain 'blind' and 'closed' to the true possibility of something new happening. Healing is a mysterious journey that God delights in! Sure - it may bring us a few tears, or challenge our 'comfort zone' - but essentially - we have the capacity for more of the Holy Spirit, not less. We have the capacity to be the hands and feet of God and God's Son on earth in our own little town and region. That's radical!

The 'Walk of the Cross' preparations continue. There are a few things that make this initiative a success and I am grateful for all who have volunteered so far. I realise that this particular week in Warrack is a busy one! *Every blessing, Rev!*



## **Prayer in the Parish**

### **In the Parish & Beyond:**

- +Garry; the people in Horsham & Fr Robert; Project Regenerate;
- For Belinda – for rehab and a swift recovery;
- For the people of Ukraine;
- For the people of Palestine; Türkiye; Syria; Malawi;
- For the people of Vanuatu;
- For those who face violence, hatred, injustice and exploitation;
- For those experiencing grief;
- For those living with illness and disease;
- For Christian Emergency Food Centre;
- For those we love – near and far away;
- For all those in Education;
- For YFest preparations and all who ‘sail in her’;
- For ‘Walk of the Cross’ preparations;
- For those working on Boys’ Shed;
- For our personal Lenten journeys – that we may be open to God’s voice and guidance;
- For those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries and milestones;

**Years Mind:** Anne Roder, Allan Pickering, Kate McGuire

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

## **Services – March/April**

### **Thursday 16 March**

Lenten Reflection in Rectory  
6.00-8.00pm with simple meal

### **Lent 4 – 19 March**

9.30am Warracknabeal  
5.00pm Retreat in Daily Life begins  
Café Church style – bring a plate

### **Monday 20 March**

Coffee at Peppercorn Café  
9.30-10.30am

### **Wednesday 22 March**

Lenten Reflection in Rectory  
4.00-6.00pm

### **Lent 5 – 26 March**

9.30am Warracknabeal  
5.00pm Retreat in Daily Life concludes

### **Tuesday 28 March**

Lenten Reflection in Rectory  
5.00-7.00pm

### **Parish Council 7.00pm for 7.30pm**

### **EASTER Services**

### **Palm / Passion – 02 April**

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal  
11.30am St Mark’s Areegra

### **Walk of the Cross – 04-06 April**

### **Maundy Thursday – 06 April**

Seder Meal in Parish Centre  
6.00pm for 6.30pm

### **Good Friday – 07 April**

9.30am – Reflections at Cross

### **EASTER SUNDAY – 09 April**

9.30am Warracknabeal

### **Easter 1 – 16 April**

9.30am Warracknabeal

# TODAY'S READINGS

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading :

1 Samuel 16:1-13

### ***A reading from the first book of Samuel***

The Lord said to Samuel, 'How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king.' But Samuel said, 'How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me.' The Lord said, 'Take a heifer with you and say, "I have come to sacrifice to the Lord ." Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate.' Samuel did what the Lord said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, 'Do you come in peace?' Samuel replied, 'Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord . Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me.' Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord 's anointed stands here before the Lord .' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.' Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, 'The Lord has not chosen this one either.' Jesse then made Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, 'Nor has the Lord chosen this one.' Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' So he asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' 'There is still the youngest,' Jesse answered. 'He is tending the sheep.'

Samuel said, 'Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.' So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the Lord said, 'Rise and anoint him; this is the one.' So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.

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)**

***A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians***

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible – and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. This is why it is said: ‘Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.’

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**

**Gospel:**

**John 9:1-41**

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

As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, ‘Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?’ ‘Neither this man nor his parents sinned,’ said Jesus, ‘but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.’ After saying this, he spat on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man’s eyes. ‘Go,’ he told him, ‘wash in the Pool of Siloam’ (this word means ‘Sent’).

So the man went and washed, and came home seeing. His neighbours and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, ‘Isn’t this the same man who used to sit and beg?’ Some claimed that he was. Others said, ‘No, he only looks like him.’ But he himself insisted, ‘I am the man.’ ‘How then were your eyes opened?’ they asked. He replied, ‘The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see.’ ‘Where is this man?’ they asked him. ‘I don’t know,’ he said. They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man’s eyes was a Sabbath. Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. ‘He put mud on my eyes,’ the man replied, ‘and I washed, and now I see.’ Some of the Pharisees said, ‘This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.’ But others asked, ‘How can a sinner perform such signs?’ So they were divided. Then they turned again to the blind man, ‘What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened.’ The man replied, ‘He is a prophet.’ They still did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they sent for the man’s parents. ‘Is this your son?’ they asked. ‘Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that now he can see?’ ‘We know he is our son,’ the parents answered, ‘and we know he was born blind. But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don’t know. Ask him. He is of age; he will speak for himself.’ His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders, who already had decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. That was why his parents said, ‘He is of age; ask him.’



A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. 'Give glory to God by telling the truth,' they said. 'We know this man is a sinner.' He replied, 'Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!' Then they asked him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He answered, 'I have told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples too?' Then they hurled insults at him and said, 'You are this fellow's disciple! We are disciples of Moses! We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this fellow, we don't even know where he comes from.' The man answered, 'Now that is remarkable! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly person who does his will. Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.' To this they replied, 'You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!' And they threw him out. Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Who is he, sir?' the man asked. 'Tell me so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you.' Then the man said, 'Lord, I believe,' and he worshipped him. Jesus said, 'For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.' Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, 'What? Are we blind too?' Jesus said, 'If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains.

This is the gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

### The Propers

**Sentence:** 'I am the light of the world,' says the Lord; 'those who follow me will have the light of life.'

**Collect:** Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**FREE YOUR SPIRIT.  
FORGET SAFETY.  
LIVE WHERE YOU FEAR TO  
LIVE.  
DESTROY YOUR REPUTATION.  
BE NOTORIOUS.**

**RUMI**

*Life is short.  
Break the rules.  
Forgive quickly.  
Kiss slowly.  
Love truly.  
Laugh uncontrollably.  
And never regret  
ANYTHING  
that makes you smile.*

**Mark Twain**

Chocolate should be  
enjoyed by children

**NOT MADE  
BY THEM**

Increasingly, companies are fighting for children's rights, establishing systems to prevent child labour. But there is still a long way to go.

On the Be Slavery Free blog we explore how companies can identify child labour, take action when it's found, and prevent the risk of it happening in the first place.

**Read more:** [Chocolate should be enjoyed by children, not made by them — Be Slavery Free](#)

## **GOOD EGGS**

Chocolate might be sweet but often the way it's made is anything but. That's why we've surveyed your favourite chocolate brands to see who is doing good for people and planet, and who still has some work to do. How did your favourite brand go?



**View the CHOCOLATE Scorecard:**  
[Chocolate Scorecard 2022](#)

Together we can Be Slavery Free  
Fuzz Kitto & Carolyn Kitto  
National Directors

**What are five things that you are grateful for this week?**

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

**Given an opportunity to change the world – how would you do that in three easy steps?**



## The Walk of the Cross Pilgrimage – 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Rev James will be walking from Hopetoun to Warracknabeal again this year during Holy Week - the third such biennial 'pilgrimage'. We are seeking several volunteers to help make the 'Walk of the Cross' possible. Are you able to help in some of the following ways please?

### A driver/s for Escort vehicle:

1. **Tues 4<sup>th</sup>** = Hopetoun to Beulah – *no longer covered – will split:*  
9.00am-1.00pm: Hopetoun to Rosebury  
1.30-5.30pm Rosebury to Beulah
2. **Weds 5<sup>th</sup>** = Beulah to Brim: approx. 10.00am-3.30pm.
3. **Thurs 6<sup>th</sup>** = Brim to Lah – approx. 9.30-10.30am (Rev will walk down the creek to Warrack) *You may be able to cover a couple of hours or several.*

### A driver for Rev's Car & Camper Van:

1. **Tues 4:** from Hopetoun Catholic Church to Beulah Caravan Park.
2. **Weds 5:** from Beulah Caravan Park to Brim Bowling Club.
3. **Thurs 6:** from Brim Café to Rectory.

*There is a suggestion that Rev's car could potentially be the 'escort' vehicle – in which case ... someone would just need to get a lift to designated spots. Still working things out as we go etc!*

**Catering:** Please contact Sandra Taylor – 0408 991 235 - if you can assist.

**High-vis Vests:** Does anyone have a couple of these that we can borrow please?

Would you like to join Rev for part of the way?

We have established a good schedule for each of the three days and depending on your capabilities – it may be something you would like to try. Or maybe join the 'Escort vehicle' for a time of prayer and 'SLOW' reflection? (*pending escort driver's consent.*)

Meals included. There will be a booking process and \$5.00 registration.

*Participants should consider that temperatures may be very high and that the road edge is not completely flat. Rev suggests that you have suitable footwear and clothing to match the conditions and the challenge.*

Contact Rev James: 0438 233 630 or via email: [warrackanglican@gmail.com](mailto:warrackanglican@gmail.com)