



Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Lent 2
28 February 2021

Hello Everyone - Greetings!

“The greater danger for most of us lies not in setting our aim too high and falling short; but in setting our aim too low and achieving our mark.” Michelangelo

I have 'returned to earth' so to speak after the excitement and drama of the Perseverance Rover touch-down in Jezero crater on Mars last Friday morning. The 'desert' that is Mars from the images we are receiving, was once filled with water scientists believe - or are hoping to prove. Will we ever know? Actually?

What about your heart - in this second week in Lent?

Is it desert-like - that was once filled with life and hope?

Or is it overflowing with encouragement and life-giving streams of joy?

Has God turned up this week - in that living 'temple' within us?

All I know - is that God wants to meet us there; desires to meet us there; urges us to 'speak' to God in truth and with grace - in that holy place within us. No matter what our hearts hold before God - nothing is too much, or too insignificant, or too difficult for the God who died, was buried and rose again for us! God's last word is LIFE, not death. God never abandons us.

“Never be in a hurry.

Do not expect to hear God's word immediately on your arrival in the desert. You must wait in silence.

Your whole being should be in an attitude of listening.

All other activities should be subordinated to the act of waiting for God. And God may speak through His word or through His silence.”

“Solitude is genuine only when it is inhabited. And the best way not to have people in your way is to let them into your heart.”

Alessandro Pronzato

[“The Desert” © 1997 John Moses. Canterbury Press: UK]

Coffee Mornings

I have been hoping to try and instigate our regular coffee mornings once again. I miss the fellowship and gentle catch-up that it offers during the week.

Alas - I have literally 'run out of time' at the moment. However, if anyone needs to catch up for a chat - do get in touch with me: to help our Lenten disciplines and encourage our faith! Thanks, Rev



Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry; the news & issues in dNews;
- for people in Pacific Islands still recovering from cyclone damage;
- Coffee Van Crew – this Sunday 28th;
- Concept Plan preparation for Parish Centre Revamp;
- Project REGENERATE – for understanding and implementation of our projects and vision;
- GLAD at WSC this week;
- Tony & Julie Tamblin.

Community:

- Give thanks for COVID Free Shire;
- All experiencing financial pressures;
- for all those feeling disconnected with loved ones and family;
- all feeling vulnerable and isolated;
- All affected by COVID.

Years Mind: Raymond Mann, Jean Westerland, Donald McKenzie

Service Times Feb/March

Lent 2 – 28 February

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal
8.30-12.30 – Coffee Van
2.00pm Dunmunkle Lodge

Lent 3 – 07 March

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal
11.00am Areegra

Lent 4 – 14 March

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal
8.30-12.30 – Coffee Van

Lent 5 – 21 March

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal
6.00-8.00pm SHINE Youth Group

Palm Sunday 28 March

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal
8.30-12.30 – Coffee Van
2.00pm Dunmunkle Lodge

Walk of the Cross

30 March - 01 April

Easter Bonfire – Sat 03 April

From 5.00pm at Areegra



**Kilometres
travelled**

3,276.24

Pledged & Donated

\$15,129.19

World Day of Prayer – Vanuatu

Friday 5th March – 2.00pm

at Lutheran Church.

Contact Bev Schultz 5398 1950

Women & Men welcome!

TODAY'S READINGS

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

A reading from the book of Genesis

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers.' Abram fell face down, and God said to him, 'As for me, this is my covenant with you: you will be the father of many nations. No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. God also said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm: 22:24-32

Response: I will praise you Lord in the assembly of your people

1 O praise the Lord, all you that fear him:
hold him in honour, O seed of Jacob,
and let the seed of Israel stand in awe of him.

For he has not despised nor abhorred
the poor man in his misery:
nor did he hide his face from him,
but heard him when he cried. **(R)**

- 2 From you springs my praise in the great congregation:
I will pay my vows in the sight of all that fear you;
The meek shall eat of the sacrifice and be satisfied:
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him—may their hearts rejoice for ever! **(R)**
- 3 Let all the ends of the earth remember and turn to the Lord:
and let all the families of the nations worship before him.
For the kingdom is the Lord's:
and he shall be ruler over the nations. **(R)**
- 4 How can those who sleep in the earth do him homage:
or those that descend to the dust bow down before him?
But he has saved my life for himself:
and my posterity shall serve him.
This shall be told of my Lord to a future generation:
and his righteousness declared to a people yet unborn,
that he has done it. **(R)**

Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression. Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring – not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. As it is written: 'I have made you a father of many nations.' He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he

believed – the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not. Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, ‘So shall your offspring be.’ Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead – since he was about a hundred years old – and that Sarah’s womb was also dead. Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. This is why ‘it was credited to him as righteousness.’ The words ‘it was credited to him’ were written not for him alone, but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness – for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

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

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.

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

Bishop Garry’s youTube message

At the start of Lent

<https://youtu.be/rDYK-uSZcgo>

Rev's youTube message - Lent 2

LIFE - not death!

<https://youtu.be/KIzgFT3Z0vw>

Gospel:

Mark 8:31-38

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. ‘Get behind me, Satan!’ he said. ‘You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.’ Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: ‘Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels.’

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

THE PROPERS

Sentence: If you want to become a disciple of Jesus, deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow him.

Collect: God of all times and places, in Jesus Christ, who was lifted up on the cross, you opened for us the path to eternal life: grant that we, being born again of water and the Spirit, may joyfully serve you in newness of life and faithfully walk in your holy ways; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**