

Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

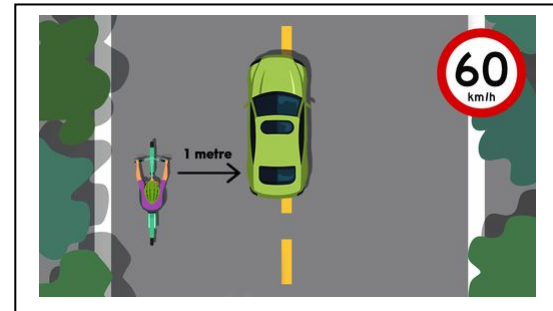
Sunday After Ascension *16 May 2021*

Hello Everybody! Greetings!

I hope that you are well.

It is very kind of people to give me feedback that they 'miss' my ramblings from the pew sheet. I am glad to share a few thoughts with you.

Firstly, I am more than delighted - in fact passionately encouraged by the fact that Victorian Legislation has caught up with the rest of Australian States and Territories - and it is now **LAWFUL** to give cyclists appropriate space when we share the road together. In a 60km/h zone = 1 metre; in speed zones above 60km/h = 1.5 metres.



Despite popular sentiment and debate - cyclists do have a right to be on the road like everyone else, and with a few close calls of my own over the last few months I encourage us all to heed the latest changes. You will also be aware that; a) a cyclist may need to take up the whole lane - particularly if it is narrow, and b) they are allowed to ride two abreast as long as they are not 1.5 apart. You have no idea how grateful cyclists are in giving them space wherever you may be travelling. Thank you!

Second, our Diocesan Registrar will be visiting us next weekend by invitation from the Parish Council. In our endeavours to fulfil our Business Plan (2020) and Project Regenerate aspirations, it is important that we are transparent and accountable within Diocesan structures, governance and good stewardship practise. It is also important for our Diocesan 'family' to understand that our ministry and mission initiatives in Warracknabeal are not ideals, but rather **REAL** projects, with **REAL**

people, with REAL consequences for the parish and our region. We are therefore encouraging an attitude and culture of openness and dialogue that can endorse our aspirations within all our limitations, and seek guidance from people like the Registrar on taking bold steps of faith forward that will increase the value and effectiveness of our ministry and projects.

Third, I have heard a few murmurings about the 'division of the parish' - or more relevant the grief around the reality of our two service Sunday liturgical rhythm. There are a number of reasons for our grief (or dissatisfaction) with this current reality. I cannot address them all here - all I can say at this point, is that I am glad this issue is bubbling to the surface so we can address it in a healthy way.

As I have raised before - 'CHANGE' is something none of us really enjoy, but 'CHANGE' is the constant and will always remain a catalyst for either dissention (and potentially death) or opportunity for more (LIFE)!

I will always return to the life and manner of Jesus - walking into the places that the religious institution of the time were too scared or lazy to go; upsetting local social customs and their prejudices and implied local 'caste system'; meeting people where they were eating and drinking and begging and screaming (Mark 5:1-20); sharing intimacy with those the 'educated' and 'accepted' community despised and rejected for their own comfort to hide their own insecurities.

My issue is this - what are we offering the people of our town to nurture their inherent spiritual life? What are we inviting someone to experience if we were to invite them to church? Can this be done in one service a Sunday? Is there something I/we need to be doing differently to respond to current needs and understanding or expectations of our sacred liturgy and customs?

I wish I had some clarity around all this. I wrestle. Constantly.

Finally, I am really proud of our current Project Regenerate endeavours. I am under 900kms from my cycling target and we are over \$18,000 'richer' for it. Our Coffee Van continues to grow - as another young person joined for the first time last Sunday, and as far as I know - only our young people were allowed in the van to make and serve coffee to our thirsty public. The Boys' Shed welcomed two new members this week (one on Mon & one Thurs). SHINE is proving to be a really fun place to develop friendship and faith - with approx 13 young people attending.

Our ZMorph machine was working again this week - this time we tried the Laser Etcher. I am trying to put a video together to show you how it works ... it is taking a little longer than expected as my technical assistant in these matters seems to be pre-occupied with several other endeavours around the region.

The GLAD Program - funded by the Leith Charitable Trust - which affords Rev a day a week - is running 5 programs in Warracknabeal and Hopetoun for participants from yr3 through to yr 9. Rev's day at Warracknabeal on Tuesdays as part of the GROW Team (National Chaplaincy Scheme) is nothing less than FULL. As well as classroom support, the team has begun "G-Force" which essentially is a hands-on program for selected students, and we are about to launch a new initiative for yr5&6 to help deal with relevant peer issues around resilience and healthy relationships. Changing lives!

With half of us in Warrack hospital at the moment - maybe I need to have a midday Sunday service there! See you soon - wherever I may find you. Rev James



Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry; Diocesan office;
- Fr Charles Helms; Margaret Thompson;
- All our scientists, teachers, adventurers;
- Anglicare Victoria; Bush Church Aid;
- SHINE – this Sunday;

Community:

- For seasonal weather; all our farmers and those who support them;
- For all those grieving;
- For those facing the Black Dog;
- for all those feeling hungry; our local community groups;
- All COVID sufferers.

Years Mind: Derek Close, Carl Adler, Thelma Hose, Mary Ridoutt, Olive Gregson

Service Times May

Sunday After Ascension – 16 May

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal
2.00pm Dunmunkle Lodge, Minyip
6.00pm SHINE

Pentecost – 23 May

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal
8.30-12.30pm Coffee Van
12.00pm Lunch at Creekside
1.00 for 1.30pm Meeting with Registrar – both in 'Library'

Trinity – 30 May

10.30am Warracknabeal
ONE SERVICE ONLY



**883.53 kms
to go!**

**Pledged & Donated
\$18,229.49**

TODAY'S READINGS

SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION

First Reading:

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about a hundred and twenty) and said, 'Brothers and sisters, the Scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through David concerning Judas, who served as guide for those who arrested Jesus. He was one of our number and shared in our ministry.' Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus was living among us, beginning from John's baptism to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these must become a witness with us of his resurrection.' So they nominated two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias. Then they prayed, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen to take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs.' Then they cast lots, and the lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the eleven apostles.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm:

1

Response: Blessed are they who have put their trust in the Lord.

1. Blessed are they who have not walked in the counsel of the ungodly: nor followed the way of sinners, nor taken their seat amongst the scornful.

But their delight is in the law of the Lord: and on that law will they ponder day and night. **(R)**

2. They are like trees planted beside streams of water: that yield their fruit in due season. Their leaves also shall not wither: and look, whatever they do, it shall prosper. **(R)**

3. As for the ungodly, it is not so with them: they are like the chaff which the wind scatters.

Therefore the ungodly shall not stand up at the judgement: nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the Lord cares for the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish. **(R)**

Second Reading:

1 John 5:9-13

A reading from the first letter of John

We accept human testimony, but God's testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son. Whoever believes in the Son of God accepts this testimony. Whoever does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because they have not believed the testimony God has given about his Son. And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord. I will come back to you, and your hearts will rejoice. **Alleluia!**



more than I am of the world. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

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

Gospel:

John 17:6-19

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

'I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled. 'I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any

THE PROPERS

Sentence: Jesus said, 'You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit.'

Collect: Loving God, your Son has chosen us and called us to be his friends: give us grace to keep his commandments, to love one another, and to bear fruit which will abide; through him who is the vine, the source of all our life, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

[Rev's youTube message](#)

Love One Another

<https://youtu.be/I-eOL-vmL6Q>

Bishop Garry's 54th Instalment
youTube message - Easter 6

<https://youtu.be/oc5hphwfaqQ>

Parish Mission Luncheons are returning!

Next lunch – Sunday 06th June at 12.00pm

\$25 for three courses

See you there!

Please book a seat or a table with

Sandra Taylor: 0408 991 235

New one-metre road rule a win for safety

A new road rule means drivers must allow a minimum distance when overtaking bikes.

Victorian motorists will be required to allow a minimum one-metre distance when passing a cyclist from Monday 26 April as the mandatory passing distance law comes into force.

The new law, which requires drivers to leave at least one metre when passing a cyclist in speed zones 60kmh or lower, and 1.5 metres when passing at speed limits over 60kmh, comes after campaigning by RACV, the Amy Gillett Foundation and other cycling safety bodies for Victoria to follow every other Australian state and territory and introduce mandatory passing distance rules.

RACV senior manager transport, planning and infrastructure, Peter Kartsidimas, has welcomed the introduction of the minimum passing law.

“Many Victorians have told us they want to ride more, but they want to feel safe to do so,” Peter says. “The introduction of this rule will go a long way to ensuring all road users, including cyclists, are kept safe.”

Under the updated rule, drivers and motorcyclists can briefly cross painted lines to give cyclists the space they need, but only when they have a clear view ahead and it’s safe to do so (see below for more detail).

The Department of Transport’s deputy secretary network planning, Robyn Seymour, says: “The message is clear – when you see a cyclist, slow down. If you have a clear view ahead, choose a safe gap in traffic to pass at a metre or more. It can make all the difference in everyone making it home.”

Transport Accident Commission (TAC) figures show that serious accidents involving cyclists are on the rise. Between 2016 and 2020, 52 cyclists were killed on Victorian roads and 24, or almost half those fatalities, involved vehicles travelling parallel to their bike. Around 15 per cent of all hospitalisation claims also involved parallel vehicles.

Two cyclists have been killed on Victorian roads so far this year, and last year 13 lost their lives, well up on the five-year average of 10 cyclist deaths annually.

Peter urges the Victorian government to continue its road-user education programs, and to encourage the uptake of bike riding for transport by prioritising suitable bike infrastructure such as the bike super-highways that were proposed by RACV and endorsed by Infrastructure Australia.

The TAC will conduct a public campaign to educate Victorians about the new road rule, including reminders such as, ‘if it’s not safe to pass, wait’, and ‘drivers, give the space to ride safe’.

[<https://www.racv.com.au/royalauto/moving/cycling/one-metre-passing-rule-cyclists.html>]



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