

# Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

## Lent 3

## 12 March 2023

**Sunday Services: 9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal**



### **International Women's Day - let's celebrate all the women we know!**

I don't remember the exact time and place I realized that I was a 'feminist'. It just kind of dawned on me. Maybe it was because of my experiences in Europe as a young man - the vibrancy and culture of London, visiting friends in European countries - women seemed to have a different 'power'. When I returned to Australia - there were huge disparities ... we have a long way to go!

The biggest mistake of the 'feminist movement' - was that it didn't recognise or value the incredible contribution of many women who chose not to work, or fight, or *demand* equality. Women plainly deserve equality - even if gender roles require different skill-sets or approaches. It's time to grow up people. Women keep our world together!

A female friend of mine used to say, "*All women are psycho. All men are stupid!*" probably not the most helpful quote to advance the ethos and culture of equality - whatever our workplace or social group we interact with. Women have certain skills that men just cannot fulfill in certain roles and workplace realities. Women deserve recognition for the contribution they make to the wellbeing of our households and community organisations to which we belong. Women have a lot of power - **USE IT LADIES!** - without putting men down or belittling 'our' own confused role within our modern society.

Empowerment and inter-dependence are absolute keys to the future and wellbeing of women's roles within our society. It grieves me that so many of the world's women do not have access to education, appropriate sanitation and continue to be devalued through violence, ignorance and fear. I believe that our western culture still does not truly understand how to deeply respect 'the feminine' in all of us - let alone the issues of self-worth (or lack of it) that I confront in many women I know - which I think leads to much of the confusion related to this issue. Let's pray for deep healing. *Every blessing, Rev!*



## **Prayer in the Parish**

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

- +Garry; the people in our Parish & all ministry; Project Regenerate;
- For Belinda – for rehab and a swift recovery;
- For the people of Ukraine;
- For the people of Palestine; Türkiye; Syria; South Sudan; Democratic Republic of Congo;
- For the people of Vanuatu;
- 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 Health and healing Industry; Doctors, Nurses, Physio's, Osteo's and all support staff; for Masseurs, Pilates & Yoga Instructors;
- For our Business owners in town; for new ventures and established practices;
- 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:** John Menzel, Murray Moloney, Sybil Flett, Marjorie Sherwell, Idwen Harries, Stephen Jeffrey

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

## **Services – March/April**

### **Lent 3 – 12 March**

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

### **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

### **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

## **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

Some people have been asking me what I get up to in my week.  
So here is a snapshot for information and prayer.

**Monday:**

11.00am Yarriambiack Lodge (weekly)

2.00pm Boys' Shed prep & 3.30-5.00pm Primary age Boys' Shed (weekly)

**Tuesday:**

8.30am-4.00pm – Warracknabeal Primary School

My role as part of the GROW Team (Growth. Resilience. Opportunity & Wellbeing) includes: Year 5 – Peer Leadership Program; two sessions of 'G-Force' – hands on learning and engagement with selected Yr6 boys at the moment (this will include girls from next term); individual and group sessions for educational and wellbeing support; ES meetings; CHILL Zone – a quiet space at lunchtimes for any student; Staff Wellbeing sessions and support – various times during the term.

7.00-9.30pm Parish Council (monthly) 7.00pm Townscape Committee (monthly)

**Wednesday:**

GLAD Program – Allied Education and facilitated programs through 'Wild Echidna Enterprises' - Rev's sole trader business (enabled by Leith Charitable Trust funding).

Term 1: WSDS – 9.00-10.00am 'The Rite Journey' for Group4&5 students – essentially a journey from adolescence to adulthood through activities, discussion and appropriate challenges and simplified ritual. WSDS - 10.15-11.00am – DRUMBEAT for Group 2&3 and any who choose from Groups 4&5. In Term 2 – will include two separate sessions at Hopetoun P-12 College: Yr7 Rock&Water; Yr3-6 DRUMBEAT. Hopetoun Kinder 1.00pm weekly - Drumming For Fun with 4yr olds.

**Thursday:**

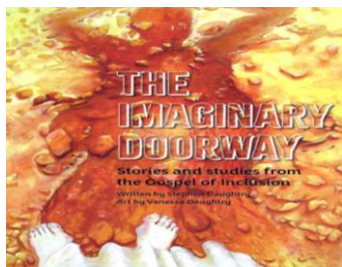
11.00am Hopetoun Lodge (monthly): 2.00pm Dunmunkle Lodge (fortnightly):

10.30am-1.30pm Deanery (monthly).

3.45-5.30pm (fortnightly) – High School age Boys' Shed

**Friday & Saturday:** Day Off

Got any further questions – ask Rev!



Rev James has 1 Lenten study booklet from ABM – “The Imaginary Doorway”. If you would like this copy get in touch! (*You don't need to attend the study to get a booklet*)

**Lenten study dates:**

**In Rectory – all ages welcome**

Thurs 16 March: 6.00-8.00pm (meal)

Weds 22 March: 4.00-6.00pm (cuppa)

Tues 28 March: 5.00-7.00pm (snack)

**Retreat in Daily Life**

**19<sup>th</sup> March – 26<sup>th</sup> March**

Enter an intentional 'journey' with our God - doing what you normally do throughout the week. Maybe add an extra time of reflection, prayer or action each day to extend your Lenten experience.

No experience required.

Rev will produce a booklet for guidance and nourishment.

Get in touch for more info.

**Commissioning – 5.00pm 19<sup>th</sup> Mar**

# TODAY'S READINGS

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading : Exodus 17:1-7

### ***A reading from the book of Exodus***

The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, travelling from place to place as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. So they quarrelled with Moses and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses replied, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the Lord to the test?' But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, 'Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?' Then Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me.' The Lord answered Moses, 'Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink.' So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites quarrelled and because they tested the Lord saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

Psalm: 95:1-2, 6-9

**Response: *If today you hear his voice,  
harden not your hearts.***

1. Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD; let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to him. **(R)**

2. Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the LORD who made us.

For he is our God, and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides. **(R)**

3. Oh, that today you would hear his voice: "Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as in the day of Massah in the desert, Where your fathers tempted me; they tested me though they had seen my works. **(R)**

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-11

### ***A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans***

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be



saved through his life! Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Acclamation:**

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

Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again

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

**Gospel:**

**John 4:5-42**

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

So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Will you give me a drink?' (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?' (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.' 'Sir,' the woman said, 'you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?' Jesus answered, 'Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.'

The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.' He told her, 'Go, call your husband and come back.' 'I have no husband,' she replied. Jesus said to her, 'You are right when you say you have no husband. The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.' 'Sir,' the woman said, 'I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.' 'Woman,' Jesus replied, 'believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.' The woman said, 'I know that Messiah' (called Christ) 'is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.' Then Jesus declared, 'I, the one speaking to you – I am he.' Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, 'What do you want?' or 'Why are you talking with her?' Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, 'Come, see a man who told me everything I've ever done. Could this be the Messiah?' They came out of the town and made their way towards him. Meanwhile his disciples urged him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you know nothing about.' Then his disciples said to each other, 'Could someone have brought him food?' 'My food,' said Jesus, 'is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work.'

Don't you have a saying, "It's still four months until harvest"? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. Thus the saying "One sows and another reaps" is true. I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labour.' Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I've ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. And because of his words many more became believers. They said to the woman, 'We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Saviour of the world.' This is the gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

### The Propers

**Sentence:** God proves his love for us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

**Collect:** Lord God, our Redeemer, who heard the cry of your people and sent your servant Moses to lead them out of slavery: from the tyranny of sin and death and, by the leading of your Spirit, bring us to our promised land; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Nola Browell's funeral service will be held at Christ Church Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 1.30pm with a graveside to follow.

Please give thanks for Nola's life and surround her family in prayer.



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

## The Feminist Image of God

*Sr Joan Chittister writes:*

If Scripture means what Scripture says, then humanity is nature alive with the energy of God. The concept charges our ideas of life and human community with new meaning. If we are all made in the image of God, if we all spring from the expression of the divine, then every human being born brings an intuition of God to us. The ideas fix the heart in a kind of perpetual awe.

We are, if we are to take Scripture seriously, surrounded by the presence of God in one another. The implications of that kind of theological worldview turn the social system upside down. If we are all words of God, then we all have something to say. We are all a message to the rest of the world of the nature and mind of God. We are all meant to be word to one another.

The feminist challenge to contemporary theology is a simple one: Whose word will a woman be? Her own or someone else's?

It is precisely woman's experience of God that this world lacks. A world that does not nurture its weakest does not know God the birthing mother. A world that does not preserve the planet does not know God the creator. A world that does not honor the spirit of compassion does not know God the Spirit. God the lawgiver, God the judge, God the omnipotent being have consumed Western spirituality and, in the end, shriveled its heart. The results are plain to see.

The loss to the human race and the spiritual tradition of the enrichment, depth, perspective, and fullness that the full equality of women would bring to every institution leaves the world listing heavily toward destruction over development and the churches more concerned with law than with life. The soul sinks at the thought of the imposition of such limitations in the name of God. The Jesus who was born of a woman without the intervention of a man shakes his head in disbelief at such a perversion of creation.

Feminist spirituality would bring to the church a new sense of presence, of vision, of understanding. Feminist spirituality brings with it a new image of God to liberate all people from the God of the medieval courts and ancient battlefields, the rules and the stopwatch, the transcendently distant and the powerfully masculine.

The feminist image of God is humble and feeling, nonviolent and empowering. Jesus, the feminist image of God, cures and loves, is vulnerable and receptive, laughs and dances at wedding feasts, cries tears and feels pain. This glimpse of God is the glimpse of otherness at its ultimate. It is in this model of otherness that the feminist puts hope for equality, for recognition, for respect, for the end of the sexism that is the end of a healthy spirituality.

The world needs the voice of this otherness in order to hear the cries of the whole human race. The world needs the presence of otherness to redeem it from its headlong plunge for profit, power, comfort, control, individualism, and dominance. The world needs respect for this otherness, not simply patronizing approval.

[from Heart of Flesh: A Feminist Spirituality for Women and Men, by Joan Chittister (Eerdmans)]



## 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 – 9.00am-5.00pm (*COVERED – I think!*).
2. **Weds 5<sup>th</sup>** = Beulah to Brim: approx. 9.00am-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.

### A Cat-minder:

To feed the cats: Tues 4 am&pm, Weds 5 am&pm & Thurs morning.

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

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.

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