



# Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

**Lent 5**  
**26 March 2023**

**Sunday Services:** 9.30am Warracknabeal  
5.00pm Café Church - Retreat in Daily Life Ends



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

Apparently, the Norwegians have a saying: *'There is no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing.'* It has intrigued me the last few weeks - and particularly in this season of Lent ... the weather we cannot change; however, we are responsible for how we deal with it - especially if we're going to 'enter it.'

As a metaphor - could we apply it to many aspects of our lives? There are just some things we're not in control of. I know - it is annoying and at the same time completely liberating. Certain aspects of how the world works are just not my responsibility, and to waste energy in worrying or getting frustrated at things I cannot change seems a waste of time.

However, when does it become my responsibility?

In our modern society, Racism is unacceptable! We have a direct responsibility (in my opinion) to confront it and eradicate it from our culture. Excluding or judging certain people on skin colour alone is abhorrent. Behaviour - whatever skin colour is a different issue.

The 'megalomaniac's' of our society have a lot to answer for in our modern world. This is probably a little unfair on each of us - but can we be sure that the 'Putin's' and 'Netanyahu's' of our own heart are kept checked and will not wreak havoc in the interactions and relationships in our own lives. Because it is as simple and as complicated as that. Are we people for peace? Or will we blame those around us constantly to justify our actions and exclusivity and bad behaviour? Will we choose to 'put to death' those we feel are not worthy (for the common good - you understand)? Or do we - raise them up, "unbind them, and let them go."

As the Easter celebration draws ever closer, I invite us to start thinking about what you and I will bring to the foot of the cross for transformation. Rev!



## **Prayer in the Parish**

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

- +Garry; the people in Parish of West Wimmera & Fr Chris; for Project Regenerate in our own parish;
- 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 loneliness and anxiety & depression;
- For Christian Emergency Food Centre;
- For those we love – near and far away;
- For all those in Health, Aged Care and Assisted Home Care;
- 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:** Honor Whyte, Eric Croser, Ernest Hooper, Ivan Walsgott, Catherine Smith, John Fyfield, Lily Wood, Coral Smith

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

## **Services – March/April**

### **Lent 5 – 26 March**

9.30am Warracknabeal

5.00pm Café Church & 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

*Welcome to Ben Petschel to the 'Liturgy Team'*

*Ben is a local lad from the region who will be assisting Rev in our liturgy every fortnight. Please make him feel welcome!*

*There will be a variety of roles that Ben will undertake over time - and I hope that he will be able to exercise his gifting and skills within our midst with energy and good humour.*

*Pray for us as we 'do our dance'!*

# TODAY'S READINGS

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading : Ezekiel 37:1-14

### ***A reading from the prophet Ezekiel***

The hand of the Lord was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me to and fro among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. He asked me, 'Son of man, can these bones live?' I said, 'Sovereign Lord, you alone know.' Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones and say to them, "Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord."' So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to it, "This is what the Sovereign Lord says: come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.'" So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet – a vast army. Then he said to me: 'Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.'" Therefore prophecy and say to them: "This is what the Sovereign Lord says: my people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel.

Then you, my people, will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the Lord have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord."

This is the word of the Lord

### **Thanks be to God**

Psalm: 130:1-8

### **Response: *With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.***

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD; LORD, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to my voice in supplication. **(R)**
2. If you, O LORD, mark iniquities, LORD, who can stand? But with you is forgiveness, that you may be revered. **(R)**
3. I trust in the LORD; my soul trusts in his word. More than sentinels wait for the dawn, let Israel wait for the LORD. **(R)**
4. For with the LORD is kindness and with him is plenteous redemption; And he will redeem Israel from all their iniquities **(R)**

Second Reading: Romans 8:6-11

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

The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is

subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in 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 resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will never die.

*A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John*

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

**Gospel:**

**John 11:1-45**

Now a man named Lazarus was ill. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay ill, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) So the sisters sent word to Jesus, 'Lord, the one you love is ill.' When he heard this, Jesus said, 'This illness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it.' Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed where he was two more days, and then he said to his disciples, 'Let us go back to Judea.' 'But Rabbi,' they said, 'a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, and yet you are going back?' Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the daytime will not stumble, for they see by this world's light. It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no

light.' After he had said this, he went on to tell them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up.' His disciples replied, 'Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better.' Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. So then he told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead, and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.' On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. 'Lord,' Martha said to Jesus, 'if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha answered, 'I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?' 'Yes, Lord,' she replied, 'I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.' After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. 'The Teacher is here,' she said, 'and is asking for you.' When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there. When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would

not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. 'Where have you laid him?' he asked. 'Come and see, Lord,' they replied. Jesus wept. Then the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?' Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. 'Take away the stone,' he said. 'But, Lord,' said Martha, the sister of the dead man, 'by this time there is a bad odour, for he has been there four days.' Then Jesus said, 'Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, 'Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Take off the grave clothes and let him go.' Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

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

## THE PROPER

**Sentence:** 'I am the resurrection and the life,' says the Lord; 'whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.'

**Collect:** We thank you, heavenly Father, that you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: we pray that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his presence abiding in us he may raise us to joys eternal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

Hello All,

Immediate needs centre around escort vehicle: if you are able to help please get in touch with Rev immediately!

#### **Tues 4th:**

1.30-5.30pm (approx.) Rosebury to Beulah

#### **Weds 5th:**

10.00-3.30pm (Beulah to Brim) OR

#### *Two separate sessions:*

10.00-12.30pm Beulah to Galiquil

12.45-3.30pm Galiquil to Brim

#### Registration for Walk:

For anyone wanting to join Rev on the walk – you are required to register via 'try booking' site with link below:

Rego will cost \$5.00

<https://www.trybooking.com/CHANN>

Catering is sorted – thanks to Sandra!

High-vis vests are sorted!

We're almost there!

*From 'The Imaginary Doorway' - ABM Lenten reflections 2023.*

*Mark 5:24-35*

*"There was no question which one he was. The air vibrated on the note of hope. I was transfixed. To me he was a beacon, lit from within, and as I walked the crowd simply parted. Power surged from him. Others didn't seem to notice. I had long ago run out of prayers, run out of words. I knew that all I needed was to touch him, his clothes, his sandals. My hand reached out. Flesh on fabric. Rapture. Gasping intake of breath, as if I'd been underwater for a decade. Slow burning, surging flood of tears.*

*No blood. No blood. Dry, and clean, and over.*

*No-one noticed. I was invisible. The crowd moved on.*

*Then he turned. "Who touched me?" they laughed. Who hadn't.*

*"Who touched me?" Eyes on me. Fixed. Understanding. I knelt. I confessed.*

*"Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."*

*He took my hand. Dared to touch me. He raised me to my feet.*

*He set me free.*

*No blood.*

*Three years now and there has been nothing but the normal blood. I am like the others. There has been no blood now for five months. Life stirs.*

*Benjamin brings me dates. Eli will be fifteen soon and he will marry. We are still learning each other, after all those years of separation. His children will play at my feet, and I will cook for them and teach them to greet each morning as a gift. I will speak to them of Jesus, who the elders say is dead - but who they desperately fear is alive. Jesus, who bled. We have learned much of what he said, and Benjamin and I break the bread and share the wine with others foolish enough to hope.*

*There is so much bleeding in the world. There is so much healing to be done."*



# Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies." John 11:25 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on John 11:1-45 (NIV).



L A Z A R U S E S L E E P M P  
 Q E N T R A N C E B D F L Y U  
 L J O A S O W D Y L I F E V L  
 F N I K T W E I X L G T O M B  
 X Y K S C Q E S F O E D Z N R  
 P R A Y E D P C F V R E E E D  
 B K Q W E S I I A E C A H V X  
 G L F K K N N P O A V T C V R  
 R L A Z U K G L G T O H G A E  
 I W O H F E E E Z R R H H V R  
 S F C R X J W S B J T T E S A  
 E H W Y Y N Y B N S R I U W A  
 L W B P O M A R Y A L S H M K  
 G C Q L W H J S M E E R A X G  
 B H A E U U Q H B J S I C K V

MARY	WAKE	SICK	LAZARUS	BROTHER
JESUS	STONE	DISCIPLES	LIFE	BELIEVE
PRAYED	WEEPING	GLORY	MARTHA	RISE
ENTRANCE	LOVE	DEATH	TOMB	SLEEP