



Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Epiphany 4
28 January 2024

Sunday Services: **9.30am - Warracknabeal**
 5.00pm - Café Church returns!



Hello everyone!

Just in case you're wondering - I made it! My silent retreat was a lovely gift - and as my friend Holger says: "I stopped - and I allowed my soul to catch up."

As always it is good to be home - and I am looking forward to getting into the weekly rhythm once again. School chaplaincy at WPS begins next Tuesday, and the GLAD Program will resume in February. The Boys' Shed will return to the Rectory Garage very soon, and Lent is just around the corner. How wonderful!

A couple of things to 'spice' our life up as we get into the year:

Prayer List: I am going to encourage parishioners to 'spice' up our prayer life with personal prayer requests. You don't have to be close to death to get into the prayer list. For instance, it might be: Jemima - who just got a new job. Or, Horacio - who just started school (as the principal) ... I think you get the picture. The only stipulation - is that you get permission from the person you would like named in the pew sheet.

Phase Two: I am also inviting parishioners to a couple of conversations (*to start with*) regarding PHASE TWO - of our concept plans that particularly focus on the Parish Centre. Even though we haven't finished the Boys' Shed yet, I would like to re-visit our concept plans and begin community consultation about what we would like to see improved etc. It will not be a decision making forum - but more a chance for people to ask questions and offer ideas that Parish Council can then determine some action. The dates: **Tues 13th Feb at 5.15-6.00pm**, and **Tues 12th March at 5.00-6.00pm in the Rectory**.

I hope that you have a good week and trust that your endeavours for 2024 are shaping up nicely. **Every blessing, Rev James**

Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry; for Acting Registrar;
- For all returning to school – staff, education support and students;
- For all embarking on year 12;
- For those in new employment;
- For those dealing with too much water;
- For the people of Ukraine;
- For the people of Peru; Colombia;
- For the people of the Israel & Palestine;
- For all brokering peace around the globe;
- For those who hunger for food; for those who thirst for water;
- For those hunger for meaning and purpose; for those who thirst for companionship and community;
- For all seeking asylum around the world;
- For those who are grieving;
- For those in discomfort in heart, mind or body; for those facing disease;
- For all those less fortunate than ourselves;
- For all who call Australia home; for our First Nations sisters and brothers;
- For genuine reconciliation and healing in our Great Southern Land;
- For the Christian Emergency Food Centre in Horsham; for Bev and all the volunteers;
- For all our new year endeavours;

Years Mind: Rebecca Dempsey, Kim Chong, Lorna Grant, Florence Kenyon, Leslie Sherwell, Jack Pickering, Vi Vallance, Gwynne Pickering, Gordon Liersch

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

Service Times Jan/Feb

Epiphany 4 – 28 January 2024

9.30am – HC Warracknabeal
5.00pm Café Church

Epiphany 5 – 04 February 2024

9.30am & 5.00pm – Warracknabeal
11.00am Areegra

Eucharist – Tuesday 06 February 2024

5.00pm - Warracknabeal

Transfiguration – 11 February 2024

9.30am & 5.00pm – Warracknabeal
12.00pm Lunch in Rectory

Phase Two Conversation – Tues 13 February

5.15-6.00pm in the Rectory

Lent 1 – 18 February 2024

9.30am – Warracknabeal

Lent 2 – 25 February 2024

10.30am – Warracknabeal

(+Garry to visit)

12.00 – Mission Lunch

5.00pm Café Church

*I felt in need of a great
pilgrimage
so I sat still for three
days
and God came
to me.
Kabir*

**Donations of grain – of any quantity
can be made using the Church's
NGR number: NGR 12439740**

TODAY'S READINGS

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

First Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. For this is what you asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, 'Let us not hear the voice of the Lord our God nor see this great fire any more, or we will die.' The Lord said to me: 'What they say is good. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him. I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name. But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, is to be put to death.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm:

Response: The Lord will remember his covenant for ever

1. O praise the Lord. I will praise the Lord with my whole heart:
in the company of the upright and among the congregation.
The works of the Lord are great: and studied by all who take delight in them. **(R)**
2. His deeds are majestic and glorious: and his righteousness stands for ever. His marvellous acts have won him a name to be remembered: the Lord is gracious and merciful. He gives food to those that fear him: he remembers his covenant for ever. **(R)**

3. He showed his people the power of his acts: in giving them the heritage of the heathen.

The works of his hands are faithful and just: and all his commandments are sure; They stand firm for ever and ever: they are done in faithfulness and in truth. **(R)**

4. He sent redemption to his people, he ordained his covenant for ever: holy is his name and worthy to be feared. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and of good understanding are those that keep his commandments: his praise shall endure for ever. **(R)**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Now about food sacrificed to idols: we know that 'We all possess knowledge.' But knowledge puffs up while love builds up. Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know. But whoever loves God is known by God. So then, about eating food sacrificed to idols: we know that 'An idol is nothing at all in the world' and that 'There is no God but one.' For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many 'gods' and many 'lords'), yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live. But not everyone possesses this knowledge. Some people are still so accustomed to idols that when they eat sacrificial food they think of it as having been sacrificed

to a god, and since their conscience is weak, it is defiled. But food does not bring us near to God; we are no worse if we do not eat, and no better if we do. Be careful, however, that the exercise of your rights does not become a stumbling-block to the weak. For if someone with a weak conscience sees you, with all your knowledge, eating in an idol's temple, won't that person be emboldened to eat what is sacrificed to idols? So this weak brother or sister, for whom Christ died, is destroyed by your knowledge. When you sin against them in this way and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother or sister to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause them to fall.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, **Alleluia!**

People in darkness have seen a great light; radiant dawn shines on those lost in death.

Alleluia!

Gospel:

Mark 1:21-28

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are – the Holy One of God!' 'Be quiet!' said Jesus sternly. 'Come out of him!' The impure

spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek. The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, 'What is this? A new teaching – and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him.' News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

THE PROPER

Sentence: Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness.

Collect: God of compassion, you have shown us in Christ that your love is never ending: enable us both to love you with all our heart and to love one another as Christ loved us. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Next Mission Lunch

Sunday 25th February at 12.00pm following the 10.30am service.

\$25 - please place your name on the list at the back of the church or

contact:

Sandra Taylor: 0408 991 235

Jill Bibby: 0438 909 202

Mission focus to be decided.

Any ideas to PC members.

Next Tuesday Eucharist

06th February at 5.00pm

Next Healing Eucharist

05th March at 5.00pm