



Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Easter 6
09 May 2021

Richard Rohr writes: What Do We Do with This Pain?

We have heard the word *trauma* a lot in the last thirty years or more. I am not sure if it is happening more, or if we finally have a word to describe what has probably always been happening.

When we examine history, we know that there has scarcely been a time period, community, or country which did not regularly experience war, famine, torture, families separated by death or distance, relentless injustice against which people felt powerless, domestic violence, sexual abuse, imprisonment, natural disasters, disease, even wholesale enslavement, persecution, and genocide. All of these are emotionally traumatic for the human psyche; such memories are held in the body itself—so much so that, in many cases, the mind cannot remember the trauma until years later.

Reflecting on trauma has made me think that much of the human race must have suffered from what we now call Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). It is heartbreaking to imagine, but it gives me much more sympathy for the human person caught in repeated cycles of historical violence.

Could this be what mythology means by “the sacred wound” and the church describes as “original sin,” which was not something we did, but the effects of something that was done to us? I believe it is.

If religion cannot find a meaning for human suffering, humanity is in major trouble. All healthy religion shows us what to do with our pain. Great religion shows us what to do with the absurd, the tragic, the traumatic, the nonsensical, the unjust. *If we do not transform our pain, we will most assuredly transmit it.* It's no surprise that the Christian logo became a naked, bleeding, suffering man. What do we do with this pain, this sadness, this disappointment, this absurdity? At the end of life, and probably at the beginning of life, too, that is the question. When I led men in rites of passage, this was the biggest question for the largest

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percentage of those in the middle of life: what do we do with what has already happened to us? How do we keep from the need to blame, to punish, to accuse, to sit on Job's eternal dung heap and pick at our sores (Job 2:8)? It seems to me that too high a percentage of humanity ends up there.

It is no wonder that Jesus teaches so much about forgiveness, and shares so much healing touch and talk. He does not resort to the usual moral categories, punishment practices, the frequent blame, or the simplistic sin language of most early-stage religious people. That is why he is such a huge spiritual master. Christians almost avoided seeing this by too glibly calling him "God." He offers everything to us for our own transformation—everything! Not to change others but to change ourselves. Jesus never "cancels" other people or groups.



Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry; Diocesan committees;
- Fr Charles Helms; Margaret Thompson;
- All those exploring space and working to find the answers we're all intrigued to know about our Universe;
- Coffee Van – this Sunday;

Community:

- For seasonal weather; all our farmers and those who support them;
- For all those grieving;
- for all those feeling angry; Our local business owners.

Years Mind: Margaret Kennedy, Jeffrey Kay, Phyllis Nuske, Dorothy Smith, Charles O'Bryan, John Cowan, Lynette Kay

Service Times May

Easter 6 – 09 May

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

Easter 7 – 16 May

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal
6.00pm SHINE

Pentecost – 23 May

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

Trinity – 30 May

10.30am Warracknabeal
ONE SERVICE ONLY



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TODAY'S READINGS

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading:

Acts 10:44-48

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said, 'Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptised with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.' So he ordered that they be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm:

98

Response: The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

1. Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done wondrous deeds; His right hand has won victory for him, his holy arm. **(R)**
2. The LORD has made his salvation known: in the sight of the nations he has revealed his justice. He has remembered his kindness and his faithfulness toward the house of Israel. **(R)**
3. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation by our God. Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands; break into song; sing praise. **(R)**

Second Reading:

1 John 5:1-12

A reading from the first letter of John

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. This is the one who came by water and blood – Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that testify: the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement. 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.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

*Rev is still seeking willing volunteers for various roles in Sunday services.
Get in touch via usual channels. Best contact: 0438 233 630*

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him.

Alleluia!

Gospel:

John 15:9-17

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

'As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit – fruit that will last – and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: love each other.

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Sorry - NO YouTube message

this week

Thanks to volunteers for the wood raffle last week and all the community support.

Thanks Russell for donating the wood!

All proceeds to Project Regenerate!

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.

WORKING BEE - Friday 14th May

Come and join us for a working bee in the church, parish centre, gardens and surrounds - from 9.30am this Friday.

Contact Russell - 0428 982 514

Beulah Mission Day

Thursday 13th May – 2.00pm

If you would like to attend – Jenny Taylor is co-ordinating transport etc – please contact her directly **0417109732**

Can you volunteer in the

Warracknabeal Christian Bookshop -

Mondays, Tuesday or Wednesdays?

Please contact Jenny Taylor with your preferred day and time - 0417 109 732

Parish Mission Luncheons

are returning!

Next lunch – Sunday 06th June at

12.00pm

\$25 for three courses

See you there!