



Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Project Regenerate: Explore. Rejoice. Give.

Easter 6
10 May 2026

Happy Easter Everybody!

*I hope that you've had a good week; loving and inspiring
- in the wake of resurrection morning. Rev James*



Someone once said that: *"Nothing is good or bad - only thinking makes it so."* William Shakespeare said it through Hamlet - and more often than not I think he was onto something.

It is not a denial of suffering or evil or disappointment. It is a recognition that the human mind shapes how we live within circumstance. Fear can turn challenge into despair. Trust can turn hardship into courage. The Christian life is not naïve optimism. It is disciplined trust. The mind shaped by fear becomes imprisoned by circumstance. The mind shaped by Christ becomes free enough to love, endure, and act boldly even in uncertainty.

Jesus promises us the Spirit's accompaniment throughout life - not the removal of difficulty, but the presence of strength within it. The world may change around us, but our inner life need not collapse. Circumstances may remain the same, but the Holy Spirit changes the way we stand within it.

Neuroscience increasingly shows that resilience is shaped not only by circumstances, but by perception, meaning, and cognitive response. It suggests that our minds are stronger and more capable than any circumstance we are confronted with - when we choose to exercise it in its full capacity.

Viktor Frankl wrote:

"Everything can be taken from a man but one thing: the last of the human freedoms - to choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances."

I hope you have a ripper of a week!

Every blessing, Rev James



Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry; for Fiona & family;
- For the Bishop 'Board of Electors' Committee as they prepare the process of electing our new Bishop;
- For all who are hungry, thirsty and seeking shelter around the globe;
- For the people of the Middle East;
- For the people of Myanmar;
- For the Leaders of all Nations;
- For those of leadership and influence to act for the common good;
- For all facing natural disaster: flood, fire, earthquake, cyclone, famine;
- For our neighbours;
- For those in our Aged Care Facilities;
- For those we know whom are unwell;
- For seasonal weather;
- For shelter, warmth and comfort;
- For our farmers and their families;
- For all who support our parish life;
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- For all those we love, near and far away;

Years Mind: Robyn IZZARD (1993), Betty KENT (2002), Archie TICKNER (2025), John SHELL (1986), Nora DULTON (1988), Lloyd TARRANT (1991), Margaret KENNEDY (2019), Ada BLACK (1991), Jeffrey KAY (2003), Phyllis NUSKE (2005), Dorothy SMITH (2005)

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

Services - 2026

Easter 6 – 10 May

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Easter 7 – 17 May

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Pentecost – 24 May

9.30am Warracknabeal

5.00pm Café Church

Trinity – 31 May

10.30am Warracknabeal

Lunch at the Creekside- 12.00pm

Pentecost 2 – 07 June

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Pentecost 3 – 14 June

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Saturday 20 June

11.00am – Fiona's Ordination

Pentecost 4 – 21 June

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Pentecost 5 – 28 June

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

A Prayer for a Bishop

Eternal God, shepherd and guide, in your mercy give your Church in this diocese of Ballarat, a shepherd after your own heart who will walk in your ways, and with loving care watch over your people. Give us a leader of vision and a teacher of your truth. So may your Church be built up and your name glorified; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

TODAY'S READINGS

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading:

Acts 17:22-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: 'People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god . So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship – and this is what I am going to proclaim to you. 'The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. "For in him we live and move and have our being." As some of your own poets have said, "We are his offspring." 'Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone – an image made by human design and skill. In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm:

66:1-7, 16

Response: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

1. Shout joyfully to God, all the earth, sing praise to the glory of his name; proclaim his glorious praise.

Say to God, "How tremendous are your deeds! **(R)**

2. "Let all on earth worship and sing praise to you, sing praise to your name!" Come and see the works of God, his tremendous deeds among the children of Adam. **(R)**

3. He has changed the sea into dry land; through the river they passed on foot; therefore let us rejoice in him. He rules by his might forever. **(R)**

4. Hear now, all you who fear God, while I declare what he has done for me. Blessed be God who refused me not my prayer or his kindness! **(R)**

Second Reading:

1 Peter 3:8-22

A reading from the first letter of Peter

Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. For, 'Whoever would love life and see good days must keep their tongue from evil and their lips from deceitful speech. They must turn from evil and do good; they must seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.' Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good?

But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. 'Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened.' But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behaviour in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. For it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits – to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, and this water symbolises baptism that now saves you also – not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience towards God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand – with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

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 14:15-21

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

'If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you for ever – the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me any more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will realise that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE PROPERS

Sentence: 'Those who love me will keep my word,' Jesus promises, 'and my Father will love them, and we will come to, them and make our home with them.'

Collect: Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant that we may walk in his way, rejoice in his truth, and share his risen life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**