



Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Pentecost 19

03 October 2021

Joan Chittister writes; I believe in....

Belief is not contrary to fact. It simply transcends it. To believe something is to know its truth not so much in our minds but in the centre of our souls.

We believe in goodness, for instance, because, however effective evil seems to be, it contradicts the highest aspirations of humanity. We believe in love rather than hate, because love draws out the best in us, while hate feeds on our smallness. We believe in people whose hearts we hold in our hands, whatever the situations that challenge that certainty, because we ourselves are nourished by that relationship. We believe in the spiritual because the material is simply not enough to justify the sense of the unfinishedness of life that lurks in every human heart. In sum, belief is the ability to know what we cannot see. None of our beliefs, if they are really "belief," are sure in the way that chemicals on scales are sure. Belief is sure in the way that truth is sure. It rings in our hearts like tines of crystal.

But belief is not supernatural sleight of hand designed to save us from the exigencies of life. "There are those who say in winter," the Sufi story teaches, "I shall not wear warm clothes. I will trust in God to keep me warm." But they forget, the story says, "that the God who made winter gave human beings the power to protect themselves from it." Belief is not fantasy. Belief is not an excuse for irrationality. Faith is not what gives us the tricks it takes to control God.

Belief is a basis for personal development and a topographical map of life that signals a way through the valleys and plains, raging rivers and vast oceans of experience in which we grow. Belief makes of life more a quest than a place. Belief is not what makes it possible for us to settle down complacent in our goodness, certain that if we keep the rules we will have life without having to live it. "I went to church every week, I did everything I was told to do, I believed in God," people say. "How could this divorce have happened?" As if belief were some kind of insurance policy against life. On the contrary. Belief is what enables us to weigh our options in the light of what is really real, what is really important and, in the end, stay the course.

[from [*In Search of Belief*](#) by Joan Chittister (Liguori)]



Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry; Deanery of Ballarat
- For the people of South Africa, Europe, all those in Refugee camps;
- Peter & Dianne; Nola Browell;
- Project Regenerate;
- Daily outreach to friend, family and neighbour;

Community:

- For seasonal weather;
- For students and teachers approaching the staggered return to school;
- For VCE students preparing for end of year exams
- For all those feeling anxious, depressed, exhilarated, energised;
- All facing natural disaster and disease;
- All COVID consequences;

Years Mind:

THE PROPER

Sentence: Whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it

Collect: Loving God, you have made us in your own image, creating us male and female, and you have consecrated the covenant of marriage so that in it is signified the spiritual marriage between Christ and his Church: pour your grace upon all who are called to this holy state, that, keeping their promise of faithfulness to each other, they may reflect in their lives your love for us all; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Service Times October

Pentecost 19 – 03 October

Morning Prayer – 9.30am Christ Church

Pentecost 20 – 10 October

Morning Prayer – 9.30am Christ Church

8.30-12.30pm Coffee Van

Pentecost 21 – 17 October

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

6.00pm SHINE

Pentecost 22 – 24 October

Morning Prayer – 9.30am Christ Church

8.30-12.30pm Coffee Van 1st Birthday



**DON'T FORGET
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
STARTS THIS
WEEKEND**



ORDINARY time

TODAY'S READINGS

PENTECOST 19

First Reading:

Job 1:1, 2:1-10

A reading from the Prophet Job

In the land of Uz there lived a man whose name was Job. This man was blameless and upright; he feared God and shunned evil. On another day the angels came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came with them to present himself before him. And the Lord said to Satan, 'Where have you come from?' Satan answered the Lord, 'From roaming throughout the earth, going to and fro on it.' Then the Lord said to Satan, 'Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil. And he still maintains his integrity, though you incited me against him to ruin him without any reason.' 'Skin for skin!' Satan replied. 'A man will give all he has for his own life. But now stretch out your hand and strike his flesh and bones, and he will surely curse you to your face.' The Lord said to Satan, 'Very well, then, he is in your hands; but you must spare his life.' So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord and afflicted Job with painful sores from the soles of his feet to the crown of his head. Then Job took a piece of broken pottery and scraped himself with it as he sat among the ashes. His wife said to him, 'Are you still maintaining your integrity? Curse God and die!' He replied, 'You are talking like a foolish woman. Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?' In all this, Job did not sin in what he said.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm:

Response: *May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.*

1. Blessed are you who fear the LORD,
who walk in his ways!
For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork;
blessed shall you be, and favoured.
(R)
2. Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine
in the recesses of your home;
your children like olive plants
around your table. **(R)**
3. Behold, thus is the man blessed
who fears the LORD.
The LORD bless you from Zion:
may you see the prosperity of
Jerusalem all the days of your life.
(R)
4. May you see your children's
children.
Peace be upon Israel! **(R)**

Second Reading:

Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12

A reading from a letter to the Hebrews

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs. It is

not to angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking. But there is a place where someone has testified: 'What is mankind that you are mindful of them, a son of man that you care for him? You made them a little lower than the angels; you crowned them with glory and honour and put everything under their feet.' In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them. But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honour because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. He says, 'I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters; in the assembly I will sing your praises. This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

If we love one another, God remains in us and his love is brought to perfection in us.

Alleluia!

Gospel:

Mark 10:2-16

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

Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking, 'Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?' 'What did Moses command you?' he replied. They said, 'Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away.' 'It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law,' Jesus replied. 'But at the beginning of creation God "made them male and female." "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.' When they were in the house again, the disciples asked Jesus about this. He answered, 'Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her. And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery.' People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ