

# Anglican Parish of Christ Church, Warracknabeal

1886-2026

140 years of  
Prayer, Praise and Proclamation



21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2026



The Anglican Diocese of Ballarat



A special welcome to ALL our guests  
who have gathered on this momentous occasion -  
+Garry Weatherill, previous parishioners, returning pilgrims and  
all our friends from the town and region of Warracknabeal.

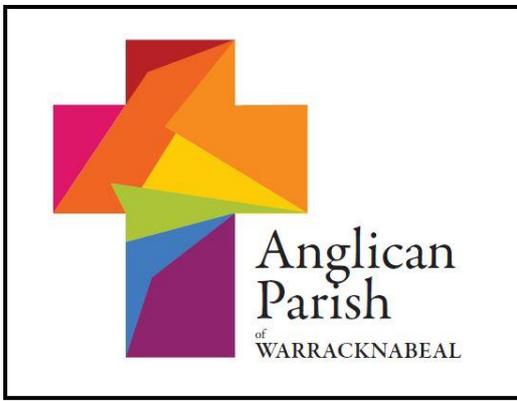
You are most welcome.

Today's liturgy will be followed by a BBQ & salad lunch  
in the Parish Centre and we hope you will be able to join us  
as we celebrate 140 years of Prayer, Praise and Proclamation.



**“Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate.  
Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.  
It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us.  
We ask ourselves, Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous?  
Actually, who are you *not* to be? You are a child of God.  
Your playing small does not serve the world.  
There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't  
feel insecure around you.  
We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make  
manifest the glory of God that is within us.  
It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone.  
And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people  
permission to do the same.  
As we are liberated from our own fear,  
our presence automatically liberates others.”**

*Marriane Williamson*



# Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Project Regenerate: Explore. Rejoice. Give.

## Lent 5

### 22 March 2026

**Sunday Service: 140 YEARS of Prayer, Praise and Proclamation!**

**10.30am - Warracknabeal**



Hello everyone! Hope you've had a good week.

As you know, I love a good quote. The piece opposite by Marianne Williamson is one of my favourites of ALL time - and for me at least it sums up our charge to live as 'Resurrection people.' Sure, it takes courage. It takes vulnerability - to truly dispel fear, to 'shine' without impediment, to be distinctive when the world really wants 'beige' most of the time.

As we celebrate the last 140 years of spiritual service to our community and region this weekend - as we honour the bravery, commitment and conviction of those who have gone before us - who do we want to be as the people of God in Warracknabeal for all that lies ahead?

Will our neighbour see God's 'light' shining through our thoughts, words and deeds? Will strangers feel welcome in our presence as we embrace Christ's radical call to serve as he served us? Will we enable healing where there is hurt or discontent - unbinding the chains of convention or apathy or depression to live freely in God's presence?

Will we be prepared to 'follow' Jesus - to freedom and transformation within our own lives this Lent and Easter ... as we liberate others to experience God's JOY and extravagant Grace? I hope so!

Happy Celebrating! *Peace, Rev James*

Extracts of Letters of  
**Reverend Frederick  
Arthur Booth** –  
First Anglican Priest in  
Warracknabeal.

April-May 1891

Page 24/25: Living at the McKinnon's – still awaiting new parsonage. I have felt the want of a new parsonage today, for the Chinese Missionary, Mr Cheok Hong Cheng who is now paying a visit and he had to put up at a hotel.

Last night I stayed on at Sheep Hills and this morning I met Mr Chang there and drove him to Warracknabeal as he preferred this to going in the train. I enjoyed his company very much – he is just like a cultured Englishman. His son is at Trinity College and intends to take orders in the Church of England. From his successes so far it is likely that he will carry all before him at University. *(cont, page 8)*



## Prayer in the Parish

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

- +Garry; for our Diocese and all who dwell in her; West Wimmera Deanery;
- For faithfulness and perseverance; for courage and hope; for love that dispels fear and hatred;
- For those facing the consequence of war, violence, exploitation and injustice;
- For the people of the Middle East;
- For the people of Ukraine, Syria, Haiti, Pacific Nations, Taiwan;
- For all who are hungry, thirsty and seeking shelter around the globe;
- For the Leaders of all Nations; for those of leadership and influence to act for the common good; for United Nations;
- For our farmers and their families;
- For all facing natural disaster: flood, fire, earthquake, cyclone, famine;
- For our neighbours;
- For all those we love, near and far away;

**Years Mind:** Jean CROSER (1995), William ARMSTRONG (1970), Daniel DALBY (1999), Francis HARMER (1988), John ARNOLD (1992), Anne RODER (2002), Norma McLEISH (1989), Allan PICKERING (2004), Phyllis LEACH, Keith HOFMAIER (1994), Gladys SHALDERS (1992), Faye LIERSCH (1993), Kate McGUIRE (2006), Brian WILSON (2021), Tom WOOD (2025)

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

## **Services - 2026**

### Sunday 22 March – Lent 5

**10.30am 140year Liturgical Celebration  
& BBQ Lunch (No 5.00pm)**

### Tuesday – 24 March 2026

5.00pm Eucharist & pot luck supper  
7.30pm Parish Council

### Palm/Passion – 29 March 2026

9.30am Warracknabeal  
5.00pm Café Church

### Tuesday – 31 March 2026

5.00pm Eucharist & pot luck supper

### Maundy Thursday – 02 April

6.00pm Christian Seder Meal  
7.30pm Washing of the Feet Liturgy

### Good Friday – 03 April

9.30am Reflections at the Foot of the Cross

### Easter Sunday – 05 April

6.00am Lighting of the New Fire  
9.30am Easter Celebration

Thank you to EVERYONE who has helped us get ready for our 140year Celebrations - the organising, the cleaning, the mowing, the catering, the praying, the encouraging, the believing, the Project Regenerating, the volunteering, the laughing, the singing ...the JOY of God within!

**Donations of SALADS are required for our BBQ lunch on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.**

**Service at 10.30am – lunch to follow.  
ALL are invited.**

**Thanks, the Catering Team!**

# 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

### **Response: *Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD. Lord, hear my voice!***

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD. Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! **(R)**
2. If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. **(R)**
3. I wait for the LORD; my soul waits and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning. **(R)**
4. O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem. It is he who will redeem Israel from all its 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.

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

**Gospel:**

**John 11:1-45**

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

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 day-time 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.**

### *Need a counsellor or 'life coaching'?*

*Anneene Venter - is offering holistic mental health coaching and counselling to deal with depression, trauma and behaviour.*

*She provides a safe and supportive space for you to navigate life's complexities and achieve your goals.*

*Working from a Christian background, needs are tailored for individual personal challenges and provides an opportunity to unlock your full potential - including stress management, mindfulness and creating a balanced lifestyle.*

*For more information, contact  
**Anneen; Mobile: 0402282440***

**Website:**

<https://www.anneenholisticcoachingandwellbeing.com.au/>

**Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61586100844055>

Chocolate should be  
enjoyed by children

**NOT MADE  
BY THEM**

We eat chocolate for comfort, celebration, and indulgence. Cocoa is the key ingredient in chocolate. What is really going on with the sourcing of cocoa? We surveyed the world's biggest chocolate companies to find out!

### GOOD EGGS

Each year we invite chocolate companies, traders, processors, manufacturers, and retailers to participate with us in reporting on progress in seven social and environmental areas essential to a sustainable sector. It allows the sector to explore what 'good' sustainability looks like. Questions are specifically designed for companies to track their own progress. The Chocolate Scorecard is presented to enable consumers to make choices for better chocolate.

**View the CHOCOLATE Scorecard**

**2026: [Chocolate Scorecard](#)**

Together we can 'Be Slavery Free'  
Fuzz Kitto & Carolyn Kitto  
National Directors

*(Extracts ...cont from Page 3)*

This afternoon Mr Cheng and I visited the Chinese camp here and spent about half an in the house of a Chinese shoe-keeper. We arranged to have a service for the Chinese in the church tonight. About 25 attended and Mr Cheng preached to them for about 40 minutes and they listened very attentively.

Attended a marriage in Dimboola to propose the health of the bride and groom and respond to the toast – 6 bridesmaids beautifully dressed. Unfortunately, the bride had to attend court in Warracknabeal in connection with a robbery of some of her jewellery a few weeks earlier while staying there. I had to act as organist and played the Wedding March as they left. The caught the express to Adelaide after the court case.

*Page 28:* Arthur won the tennis tournament (2 pounds prize – will purchase a splendid racquet and gets engraving on the silver shield). Football match on at the same time – more spectators at half time. Important football match against Rupanyup – 2000 attended. Special train brought 200 people up here.

Parsonage proceeding – hopes for 300 pounds at the planned Bazaar.

Showing the importance of Warracknabeal ... Janet Achurch & Company are to play here 3 nights this week ... on their way to Adelaide and have selected Warracknabeal to any town this side of Ballarat (though 60 extra miles). This surely speaks well for the reputation Warracknabeal is getting.

Arthur turning 30 this week.