



Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Pentecost 16
08 September 2024

Sunday Services: 9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal



Hello Everyone - I hope that you've had a good week!

As you know, I get to roam around the countryside having a good time with drums, saws and bits of wood - among other things.

A few weeks ago, while working with WSDS Explorers & Adventurers (I think that's right) - one participant was quite verbally upset because it seemed as though nothing was happening with his project. Although I didn't catch every word - the tone and intention was to give me 'what for' as it seemed that I was responsible for the lack of progress. To be fair, it was a tricky design, and with sixteen other participants in the room there was a lot of action happening in EVERY corner of the room.

Anyway, I decided to dedicate the several minutes that followed in trying to craft some pieces of timber (weird angles etc) that would enable to sway their discontent. "Thank God!", as I would say, the pieces needed to 'progress' this particular project were finally ready to assemble, and there was great delight in our participants demeanour as the drilling and screwing and creating came together - not without some difficulty, but none the less achieved a reasonable outcome under the circumstances.

Well, at school on Tuesday - there was a cry from 50 yards - "HEY! Rev James!" I turned and here was the same participant with hand outstretched, smile as big as the Mississippi River - and our hands clasped in the cool street style (I think it was 'cool street style') with a chest bump and much delight. Never give up on the small stuff. Never give up on doing the small and significant things that are important to others.

I've always said, 'People don't expect much, but if you don't meet those expectations you're in a bucket of trouble.' As I have said before, I feel inadequate a lot of the time, and I continue to reflect on who I am and what I need to do as we build our faith community together.

Jesus did the small stuff - with ordinary (or extraordinary) people like you and me. The small stuff became BIG STUFF. Life transforming. Redeeming. Healing. Inspiring. Challenging. Confronting. Community building. Freeing. Life-giving moments that allowed people to see themselves and their God for who we and God truly is. I hope you can find the time this week - to do some small things - seen or unseen, that encourage this same life-giving Spirit of Jesus.

Every blessing, Rev James

Project REGENERATE. Renew PEOPLE. Revive PROJECTS. Restore PLACE

Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry, and rehab routine and recovery;
- The Registry Staff and machinations of running the Diocese and preparing for Synod; Synod reps;
- For the leaders of all Nations, those with influence to act for the Common Good;
- For the people of Papua New Guinea; Bangladesh; Yemen; West Africa; Taiwan; Ukraine, and Palestine;
- For Paralympics in Paris – for excellence, courage and perseverance;
- For those who hunger for food; For those who thirst for water; For those seeking shelter from violence, exploitation, and injustice of any kind;
- For all who are grieving;
- For Peace in our world; for peace in our hearts; for peace in our homes;
- For Pain Revolution movement and safety for all in the Outreach Tour next week;
- For all health professionals in our region; for all in our aged care facilities; for all undergoing surgery; for all who are in pain – in body, mind or spirit;
- For all known to us in hospital; for those known to us who are unwell;
- For our pets;

Years Mind: Vi Taylor, Betty Golder

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

Due to my lack of attention to detail, there are some people who have been left off the Years Mind list in recent months. I sincerely apologise – and appreciate it if you could remind me etc if this is so. I will endeavour to rectify this in the coming week.

Service Times Sept/Oct

Pentecost 16 – 08 September

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Pentecost 17 – 15 September

9.30am Warracknabeal

Pentecost 18 – 22 September

9.30am Warracknabeal

5.00pm Café Church

Pentecost 19 – 29 September

10.30am Warracknabeal

Pentecost 20 – 06 October

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

11.00am St Mark's Areegra

Tuesday 08 October

5.00pm Healing Eucharist

Pentecost 21 – 13 October

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Synod – 18-19 October

Pentecost 22 – 20 October

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Pentecost 23 – 27 October

9.30am Warracknabeal

5.00pm Café Church

‘Free your spirit.

Forget safety.

Live where you fear to live.

Destroy your reputation.

Be notorious.’

Rumi

TODAY'S READINGS

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

First Reading: Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23

A reading from the book of Proverbs

A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold. Rich and poor have this in common: The Lord is the Maker of them all. Whoever sows injustice reaps calamity, and the rod they wield in fury will be broken. The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor. Do not exploit the poor because they are poor and do not crush the needy in court, for the Lord will take up their case and will exact life for life.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm: 146

Response: *Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord, O my soul*

1. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul: while I live I will praise the Lord; While I have any being: I will sing praises to my God. **(R)**

2. Put not your trust in princes: nor in flesh and blood, which cannot save. For when their breath goes from them, they return again to the earth: and on that day all their thoughts perish. **(R)**

3. Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob: whose hope is in the Lord their God, The God who made heaven and earth: the sea, and all that is in them, Who keeps faith for ever: who deals justice to those that are oppressed. **(R)**

4. The Lord gives food to the hungry: and sets the captives free. The Lord gives sight to the blind: the Lord lifts up those that are bowed down. The Lord loves the righteous: the Lord cares for the stranger in the land. **(R)**

5. He upholds the widow and the fatherless: as for the way of the wicked, he turns it upside down. The Lord shall be king for ever: your God, O Zion, shall reign through all generations. Praise the Lord. **(R)**

Second Reading: James 2:1-10, 14-17

A reading from the book of James

My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favouritism. Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, 'Here's a good seat for you,' but say to the poor man, 'You stand there' or 'Sit on the floor by my feet,' have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong? If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, 'Love your neighbour as yourself,' you are doing right. But if you show favouritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as law-breakers.

For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,' but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia! May I never boast except in the cross of your Lord through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.. **Alleluia!**

Gospel:

Mark 7:24-37

A reading from the gospel according to Mark

Jesus left that place and went to the vicinity of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know it; yet he could not keep his presence secret. In fact, as soon as she heard about him, a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an impure spirit came and fell at his feet. The woman was a Greek, born in Syrian Phoenicia. She begged Jesus to drive the demon out of her daughter. 'First let the children eat all they want,' he told her, 'for it is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs.' 'Lord,' she replied, 'even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.' Then he told her, 'For such a reply, you may go; the demon has left your daughter.' She went home and found her child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of

the Decapolis. There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged Jesus to place his hand on him. After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spat and touched the man's tongue. He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, 'Ephphatha!' (which means 'Be opened!'). At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosed and he began to speak plainly. Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it. People were overwhelmed with amazement. 'He has done everything well,' they said. 'He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.'

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

THE PROPERS

Sentence: So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty.

Collect: Almighty and everlasting God, increase our faith, hope, and love, and, that we may receive all you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**