



Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Easter 3
18 April 2021

Sacred Relationship

Richard Rohr writes: Depth psychologist and author David Benner has been a great source of wisdom and kindness for me over the years. He highlights how modern forms of friendship rarely become the life-giving relationships that our souls desire:

The ancients viewed friendship as the crown of life, the fulfillment of all that is most distinctively human. Moderns all too often assess its value primarily in terms of its usefulness for achieving material ends (friends as business contacts) or minimizing boredom and loneliness (friends as people to kill time with). . . .

Most people also have colleagues with whom they work or associates with whom they spend regular time. But this still falls short of the ideals of friendship. The coin of friendship has been continuously devalued by being applied to these lesser forms of relationship. Relationships between acquaintances or associates involve little of the intimacy, trust, commitment and loyalty of real friendships.

Friendships may grow out of these more casual relationships but are not the same. Unfortunately, true friendships are also much more rare.

Friendship is one of God's special gifts to humans. Remarkably, *friendship* is one of the terms God uses to describe the relationship [God] desires with us. Friendship is therefore no ordinary relationship. [1]

In contrast to the transactional relationships we often settle for today, the twelfth-century Cistercian monk Aelred of Rievaulx (1110-1167) viewed friendship with other people as a way to deepen our friendship with God in Christ. In his classic work Spiritual Friendship, he writes: "How happy, how carefree, how joyful you are if you have a friend with whom you may talk as freely as with yourself, to whom you neither fear to confess any fault nor blush at revealing any spiritual progress, to whom you may entrust all the secrets of your heart and confide all your plans. And what is more delightful than so to unite spirit to spirit and so to make one out of two that there is neither fear of boasting nor dread of suspicion?" A friend's correction does not cause pain, and a friend's praise is not considered flattery. The wise man says, "a friend is medicine for life."

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Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- All our Diocesan sisters and brothers; Rev Netta Hill & Allan (Port Fairy);
- The people of Timor Leste; Myanmar; Papua New Guinea; Mozambique; Sudan; Niger; Yemen; Syria;
- All refugees and those seeking asylum;
- All people suffering through natural disaster, injustice, violence, prejudice;
- Coffee Van Project – this weekend;

Community:

- Return to school or work;
- for all those feeling under financial pressure & worried about matters of consequence in life;

Years Mind: Betty Ryan, Richard Garner, Bess Peters, Edna Fernandes, Peter Taylor, Raymond Mitchell, Reginald Erhardt, Bronc Schilling

Service Times April/May

Easter 3 – 18 April

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal
8.30-12.30pm Coffee Van
2.00pm Dunmunkle Lodge, Minyip

Easter 4 – 25 April

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Easter 5 – 02 May

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal
11.00am Areegra
6.00pm SHINE

Easter 6 – 09 May

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



**Kilometres
travelled**

3,846.57

Pledged & Donated

\$17,579.49

Coffee Van Project

This Sunday – 18th April

Outside the Visitor's Centre

Warracknabeal – 8.30am-12.30pm



Good Coffee!

Good vibe!

**Giving young people an
opportunity to gain
skills and serve their
community.**

Rev's EASTER 3

youTube message

“Find a beach!”

<https://youtu.be/XSeGCrXyReA>

Bishop Garry's youTube message

“Bearing Witness”

<https://youtu.be/8XsLq0POC2Y>

TODAY'S READINGS

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading:

Acts 3:12-20

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When Peter saw this, he said to them: 'Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see. 'Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you – even Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm:

4

Response: Lord, let your face shine on us.

1. When I call, answer me, O my just God, you who relieve me when I am in distress; have pity on me, and hear my prayer! **(R)**

2. Know that the LORD does wonders for his faithful one; the LORD will hear me when I call upon him. **(R)**
3. O LORD, let the light of your countenance shine upon us! You put gladness into my heart. **(R)**
4. As soon as I lie down, I fall peacefully asleep, for you alone, O LORD, bring security to my dwelling. **(R)**

Second Reading:

1 John 2:15-17, 3:1-6

A reading from the first letter of John

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For everything in the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives for ever. See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us;
make our hearts burn while you speak
to us. **Alleluia!**



Gospel:

Luke 24:35b-48

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.' When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, 'Do you have anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate it in their presence. He said to them, 'This is what I told you while I was still with you: everything must be

fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.' Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, 'This is what is written: the Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

This is the gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

THE PROPERS

Sentence: Turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.

Collect: Lord of life, by submitting to death, you conquered the grave; by being lifted upon the cross, you draw all peoples to you; by being raised from the dead, you restore to humanity all that was lost through sin: be with us in your risen power, that in word and deed we may proclaim the marvelous mystery of death and resurrection. For all praise is yours, now and throughout eternity.
Amen.

From front page... The wise man says, "*a friend is medicine for life.*" What a striking metaphor! No remedy is more powerful, effective, and distinctive in *everything that fills this life than to have someone to share your every loss with compassion and your every gain with congratulation. Hence shoulder to shoulder, according to Paul, friends carry each other's burdens [Galatians 6:2]. . .*

Indeed such great honor, remembrance, praise, and wishes are attached to friends that their lives are considered worthy of praise and their deaths precious. One truth surpasses all these: close to perfection is that level of friendship that consists in the love and knowledge of God, when one who is the friend of another becomes the friend of God, according to the verse of our Savior in the Gospel: "I shall no longer call you servants but friends" [John 15:15]. [2]

[1] David G. Benner, *Sacred Companions: The Gift of Spiritual Friendship & Direction* (IVP Books: 2002), 61-62. [2] Aelred of Rievaulx, *Spiritual Friendship*, trans. Lawrence C. Braceland, ed. Marsha L. Dutton (Liturgical Press: 2010), 72-73, 73-74. Italics in original.