

Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Second Sunday of Easter
19th April 2020

The building might be closed, but the CHURCH IS OPEN!



Hello everyone!

I hope that you're settling into a good rhythm - and while we can acknowledge that we've never had an Easter like this ... our faith and our relationship with God can still deepen and be nourished by God's Word, our prayer and outreach to neighbor, friend and family.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer from "Letters and Papers From Prison" wrote: "I am sure we honour God more if we gratefully accept the life he gives us with all its blessing, loving it and drinking it to the full, grieving deeply and sincerely when we have belittled or thrown away any of the precious things of life."

Charles Ringma comments: "Discipleship does not mean that we live a life of deprivation, but rather a life of appreciation, thankfulness, and sharing. It is only the person who has drunk deeply at the well of life who can voluntarily lay aside things for the sake of others. But even then, one needs to return again and again to be filled, stimulated, and encouraged. Discipleship is not throwing blessings

away in order to be able to identify with the poor and needy. It is drawing others in to share in the blessings that God gives."

[Seize the Day with Dietrich Bonhoeffer' © 2000. NavPress:CO, USA.]

As difficult as it may seem under the current circumstances - we are called to remain disciples of Jesus - and to hold before God those much worse off than ourselves. And there are plenty of people around the world in dire situations who not only have to face pandemic - but natural disaster, exploitation and injustice!

Let us really seek to discern how God may be able to use us and our faith to inspire others or help assist those around us, and practice those 'fruits of the Spirit' (Galatians 5:22-23) that seem to elude us or that we find difficult to embrace as part of our human being. Do not be afraid!

With every blessing to you, and those you love; this day and always.

Rev James Wood M: 0438 233 630 E: warrackanglican@gmail.com

The sign at front of Christ Church was placed on Wednesday 15th – and was paid for by generous parishioner. Thank you!

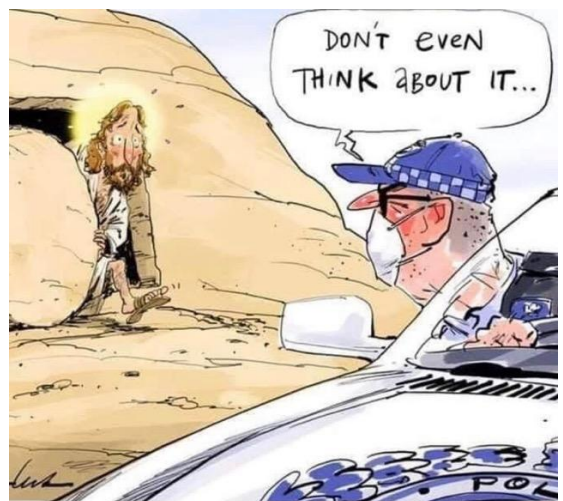
EASTER 2 youTube from Rev:

"It Takes Time"

<https://youtu.be/G55mOOeDivo>

Another daily prayer resource:

<https://pray-as-you-go.org/>



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Prayer in the Parish

Please pray and give thanks for:

In the Parish & Beyond: +Garry; our neighbour, our family and friends, ourselves; Prue & Frank and their family as they mourn Lindsay's death (13th April 2020).

Community: Front-line health care workers; those feeling lonely; those feeling bored; teachers and students; school Principals.

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

THE PROPER

Sentence: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Collect: Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life of all who put their trust in him: raise us, we pray, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; that we may ever seek the things which are above, where he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Rev James Wood: P: 5398 1251 M: 0438 233 630 E: warrackanglican@gmail.com

TODAY'S READINGS

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading : Acts 2:14a, 2:22-32

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: 'Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. 'Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. David said about him: "I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest in hope, because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, you will not let your holy one see decay. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence." 'Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm: 16

Response: Lord, you will show us the path of life

1. Preserve me, O God, for in thee I take refuge. I say to the Lord, "Thou art my Lord." The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; thou holdest my lot. **(R)**
2. I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. **(R)**
3. Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also dwells secure. For thou dost not give me up to the power of death or let thy godly one see the Pit. **(R)**
4. Thou dost show me the path of life; in thy presence there is fullness of joy, right hand are pleasures for evermore. **(R)**

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:1-12

A reading from the first letter of Peter

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, exiles, scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance. Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be

revealed in the last time. In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith – of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire – may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls. Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of the Messiah and the glories that would follow. It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, **Alleluia**

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! **Alleluia**

Gospel:

John 20:19-31

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

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood

among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, 'Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.' And with that he breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.' Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord!' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.' A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.' Thomas said to him, 'My Lord and my God!' Then Jesus told him, 'Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.' Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ