



Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Pentecost 15
01 September 2024

Sunday Services: 9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal
11.00am St Mark's Areegra



Richard Rohr writes: [a paradigm for the transformative process of spiritual maturity]

It seems quite clear that we grow spiritually by passing beyond some perfect Order, through an often painful and seemingly unnecessary Disorder to an enlightened Reorder or "resurrection." This is the "pattern that connects" and solidifies our relationship with everything around us.

ORDER: At this first stage, if we are granted it (and not all are), we feel innocent and safe. Everything is basically good. It is our "first naïveté." Those who try to stay in this first satisfying explanation of "how things should be" tend to refuse and avoid any confusion, conflict, inconsistencies, or suffering. Disorder or change is always to be avoided.

DISORDER: At some point in our lives, we will be deeply disappointed by what we were originally taught, by where our choices have led us, or by the seemingly random tragedies that take place in all our lives. There will be a death, a disease, a disruption to our normal way of thinking or being in the world. It is necessary if any real growth is to occur.

Some people try to return to the original Order and do not accept reality, which prevents them from further growth. Others, especially today, seem to have given up and decided that "there is no universal order." Permanent residence in this stage tends to make people rather negative and cynical, usually angry, and quite opinionated and dogmatic as they search for some solid ground.

REORDER: Only in the final Reorder stage can darkness and light coexist, can paradox be okay. We are finally at home in the only world that ever existed. This is true and contemplative knowing. Here death is a part of life, and failure is a part of victory. Opposites collide and unite, and everything belongs.

At the Reorder stage, we come to that true inner authority where I know something, and the only nature of the knowing is that *it is okay because God is in every moment no matter what happens*. Nothing needs to be excluded. I can live and work with all of it because apparently God can. For some unbelievable reason, contrary to logic and common sense, everything belongs. [Sunday 25th August, 2024]

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 Archdeacons;
- For our Parish Counsellors; for a fruitful meeting last Tuesday;
- For the leaders of all Nations, those with influence to act for the Common Good;
- For our Boys' Shed Project and for all Boys' Shed participants;
- For the people of Papua New Guinea; Bangladesh; Yemen; West Africa;
- For Paralympics in Paris and all who will compete and support participants;
- For the people of Ukraine and Palestine;
- For our Pacific brothers and sisters of faith; for all regional connections with Australians – via family, work or circumstance;
- 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 Pain Revolution;
- For all in our Aged Care Facilities; all known to us in hospital; for those known to us who are unwell;
- For our pets;

Years Mind: Margaret Powell, Dorothy Newell, Monie Forsyth, Marie Griffiths, Noel Parsons, Kevin Thompson, Rhonda Taylor, Margaret Wood

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

Service Times September

Pentecost 15 – 01 September

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal
11.00am St Mark's Areegra

Tuesday Eucharist – 03 September

5.00pm Warracknabeal

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

Many, many thanks to
Sonya Marshman's Family
for the flowers placed on the altar at
Christ Church and for the hall.

They look great and we are most
grateful. Thank you!!!

As you will most probably be aware,

Boyce Holland,

*our beloved brother in Christ returned to
God's Presence recently. Our heartfelt
sympathy is extended to Gwen, David &
Graeme and your families,
& all Boyce's friends!*

*We seek God's guidance and blessing as we
prepare to say farewell.*

Thursday 5th September – 1.00pm

Christ Church Warracknabeal & Brim Cemetery

TODAY'S READINGS

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

First Reading: Song of Songs 2:8-13

A reading from the Song of Songs

Listen! My beloved! Look! Here he comes, leaping across the mountains, bounding over the hills. My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look! There he stands behind our wall, gazing through the windows, peering through the lattice. My beloved spoke and said to me, 'Arise, my darling, my beautiful one, come with me. See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land. The fig-tree forms its early fruit; the blossoming vines spread their fragrance. Arise, come, my darling; my beautiful one, come with me.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm: 15

Response: The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord

1. Whoever walks blamelessly and does justice;
who thinks the truth in his heart and slanders not with his tongue. **(R)**
2. Who harms not his fellow man, nor takes up a reproach against his neighbour;
by whom the reprobate is despised, while he honours those who fear the Lord. **(R)**
3. Who lends not his money at usury and accepts no bribe against the innocent.
Whoever does these things shall never be disturbed. **(R)**

Second Reading: James 1:17-27

A reading from the book of James

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of first fruits of all he created. My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent, and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you. Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom and continues in it – not forgetting what they have heard but doing it – they will be blessed in what they do. Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless. Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia! The Father willed to give us birth by the word of truth that we may be kind of first fruits of his creatures. **Alleluia!**

Gospel:

Mark 7:1-8, 14-23

A reading from the gospel according to Mark

The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. When they come from the market-place they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.) So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, 'Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?' He replied, 'Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: "These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules." You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions.' Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, 'Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them.' After he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about this parable. 'Are you so dull?' he asked. 'Don't you see that nothing that enters a person from the outside can defile them? For it doesn't go into their heart

but into their stomach, and then out of the body.' (In saying this, Jesus declared all foods clean.) He went on: 'What comes out of a person is what defiles them. For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come – sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and defile a person.'

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

THE PROPERS

Sentence: Jesus said, 'It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.'

Collect: Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**