



Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Baptism of Our Lord *15 January 2023*

Sunday Service: 9.30am Warracknabeal

Richard Rohr writes:

Healthy religion gives us a foundational sense of awe. It re-enchants an otherwise empty universe. It gives people a universal reverence toward all things. Only with such reverence do we find confidence and coherence. Only then does the world become a safe home. Barbara Holmes describes this awakening so well and poetically:

"When we are fully alert in spirit, mind, and body, we are more than we imagine and can accomplish more than we suppose. Moments of awareness occur as a dawning of meaning, when the familiar suddenly becomes infused with new insights or unfamiliar ideas merge with the wellspring of experiences and beliefs that pervade human consciousness. Such occasions feel like personal discoveries. "Eureka! I have just awakened to a long-standing reality that an inner unveiling has finally allowed me to see." . . .

An awakening is necessary to reconnect us to our origins and one another.

Instead of nurturing awe, reconnection, and awakening, I'm sorry to say that today we have a lot of ideological hysteria and junk religion. Junk religion is similar to junk food because it only satisfies enough to gratify the momentary desire but does not really feed the intellect or the heart. Junk religion is usually characterized by fear of the present and fear of the future. What we experience when people have really met God is that there is no fear of the present because it is always full. There's no fear of the future because a loving God is in charge. There's no fear of the past because it has been healed and forgiven. Then people do not use God to avoid reality or to fabricate a private, self-serving reality. They let God lead them into the fullness of Reality; not away from dilemmas and paradoxes, but right onto the horns of the human dilemma! Whatever reconstruction we're going to do cannot be based on fear or on reaction. *It has to be based on a positive and fully human experience of God as a loving Presence.* True religion is ready to let God be God, and to let God lead us into a new future that we do not yet understand—and no longer even need to understand. [Source unknown] *Every Blessing, Rev!*



Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry; for all our Chaplains – schools, Prisons, Aged Care facilities & Police;
- For the seasonal bounty; for a safe finish to harvest;
- For all people dealing with violence, war, and injustice of any kind;
- For the Leaders of all Nations; for the United Nations Assembly;
- For those around the globe facing natural disasters;
- For all affected by fire;
- For those experiencing loneliness;
- For those facing the ‘black Dog’ and other dis-eases;
- For those experiencing grief;
- For all on holiday and travelling to see family and friends;
- For Christian Emergency Food Centre;
- For those facing significant hardship in body and mind and soul;
- For our local swimming pool committee and volunteers;
- For those we love – near and far away;
- Thanks for our all God’s blessings;

Years Mind: Alissa Kraus, Mary Gove

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

Services – Jan

Baptism of Jesus – 15 Jan 2023

9.30am – HC

Epiphany 3 – 22 Jan 2023

9.30am – HC

Epiphany 4 – 29 Jan 2023

10.30am – Café Church

**WE REGRET MORE THE THINGS WE
DIDN'T DO THAN THE ONES WE DID.**

[MARK TWAIN]



*They who dream by day are cognizant
of many things which escape those who
dream only by night.*

(Edgar Allan Poe)

Last Sunday of the Month Café Church

**29th January at 10.30am
in the Parish Centre.**

Bring a plate and bring a friend.

**A time to catch up and share
some fellowship with each other
to celebrate another harvest,
and to cast our minds into the
New Year as we settle into it.**

TODAY'S READINGS

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

First Reading : Isaiah 42:1-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

'Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. A bruised reed he will not break, and a smouldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice; he will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his teaching the islands will put their hope.' This is what God the Lord says – the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out, who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it, who gives breath to its people, and life to those who walk on it: 'I, the Lord, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness. 'I am the Lord; that is my name! I will not yield my glory to another or my praise to idols. See, the former things have taken place, and new things I declare; before they spring into being I announce them to you.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm: 29

Response: The Lord will bless his people with peace.

1. Give to the LORD, you sons of God,
give to the LORD glory and praise,
Give to the LORD the glory due his name;
adore the LORD in holy attire. **(R)**

2. The voice of the LORD is over the waters,
the LORD, over vast waters.
The voice of the LORD is mighty;
the voice of the LORD is majestic. **(R)**
3. The God of glory thunders,
and in his temple all say, "Glory!"
The LORD is enthroned above the flood;
the LORD is enthroned as king forever. **(R)**

Second Reading: Acts 10:34-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Then Peter began to speak: 'I now realise how true it is that God does not show favouritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached – how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him. 'We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen – by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and

the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, **Alleluia!**

The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Alleluia!

Gospel:

Matthew 3:13-17

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. But John tried to deter him, saying, 'I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?' Jesus replied, 'Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfil all righteousness.' Then John consented. As soon as Jesus was baptised, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.'

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

The Propers

Sentence: A voice came from heaven, saying, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased

Collect: Eternal God, at the baptism of Jesus in the river Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son, and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: grant that all who are baptised into his name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Saviour; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**



Giving a grain of wheat - to produce a harvest opportunity within our parish.

If you, or someone you know would like to donate to our church in this way - quote the NGR number below.

Church's NGR number:

NGR 12439740