



Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Advent 2

04 December 2022

Sunday Services: 9.30am Warracknabeal

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

The Elimination of Violence Against Women: I continue to urge you to take seriously the pandemic of violence within our Australian society and culture. While many women around the world are facing fear and death and imprisonment because of their gender - our human record in Australia is woefully abysmal considering we are so laid back and 'she'll be right mate' culture that we are so proud of. Please pray for deep change. Please pray that 'we' will NOT REMAIN SILENT as people of faith, as we follow Jesus who empowered women and children in his ministry.

Bishop's Appeal: Anglicare Victoria and the Diocese of Ballarat are helping vulnerable people. **1800** people across 707 households received food hampers. **114 care packs** were given through parish programs to older socially isolated people and residents in nursing homes. **3581 hot, filling breakfasts** were cooked for some 380 people experiencing homelessness.

If you would like to give to the Bishop's Appeal - leave in envelope clearly marked in offertory: or contact 03 5331 1183 to make your contribution.

Reverse Advent Calendar Project: I am most grateful for the generous response to this project within our parish. You may not realise the HUGE impact that your weekly contribution of simple food goods can make to people who really need assistance and extra help during tough times. I urge people to continue to make whatever contribution you can manage to this project - that will directly affect families and people within Warracknabeal and the wider region. Thank you!

Celebration of Commitment: This Sunday, we will be celebrating and honouring each of our faith journeys - the angels are already singing. I am hoping to provide a simple way to acknowledge some significant milestones, some of the people who help provide good governance through Parish Council, those who serve our parish in many seen and unseen ways. Come and join us - even though it's a 9.30 service! Let's rejoice together.

Every Blessing, Rev!



Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry;
- For our Farmers and their families;
- For the people of Haiti; Ukraine; Indonesia; the women & children of Iran; the women & young women of Afghanistan;
- For the Elimination of Violence Against ALL Women; for strong and tender men & boys of all ages;
- For justice and mercy for all people;
- For Christian Emergency Food Centre; Reverse Advent Calendar initiative;
- For those who are grieving;
- For those celebrating significant milestones, birthdays, anniversaries;
- For all those in financial stress; for those unable to 'make ends meet';
- Thanks for our all God's blessings;

Years Mind: Louisa Henderson, Nancy Meredith, Gladys Schriever, Frank Mitchell, Annie Parker, Bonnie Butler, Melva Jackson, Valda Fisher, Lois Bibby

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

Services –Nov/Dec

Advent 2 – 04 December

9.30am Warracknabeal
‘Celebration of Commitment’
Special Morning Tea to follow

Advent 3 – 11 December

9.30am Warracknabeal
8.30-12.30 Coffee Van at Christ Church
5.00pm Café Church

Advent 4 – 18 December

9.30am Warracknabeal
6.00pm Community Carols

Christmas Services

Lessons & Carols – Areegra

Thursday 22nd Dec – 6.00pm

Christmas Eve – 24 Dec

8.30pm Refreshments & fellowship
10.00pm – Lessons & Carols & HC

Christmas Day – 25 Dec

9.30am – Christmas Celebration & HC

Christmas 1 – 01 January 2023

10.30am – Carols & HC

Epiphany – 08 Jan 2023

9.30am – HC

This week: A special morning tea after our morning service to celebrate commitment and conviction and our life together as a faith community. Please bring a plate to share.

Next week: The COFFEE VAN will be celebrating the end of another successful year with many of the community groups that supported us and provided food and fellowship during the year. The celebration will be held at Parish Centre/Church grounds from 9.30-11.30am. Come along and bring a friend.

TODAY'S READINGS

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading:

Isaiah 11:1-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him – the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord – and he will delight in the fear of the Lord. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash round his waist. The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. The infant will play near the cobra's den, the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the as the waters cover the sea. In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious. This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm:

72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

Response: *Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever*

1. God, with your judgment endow the king, and with your justice, the king's son; he shall govern your people with justice and your afflicted ones with judgment. **(R)**

2. Justice shall flower in his days, and profound peace, till the moon be no more. May he rule from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. **(R)**

3. For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him. He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor; the lives of the poor he shall save. **(R)**

4. May his name be blessed forever; as long as the sun his name shall remain. In him shall all the tribes of the earth be blessed; all the nations shall proclaim his happiness. **(R)**

Second Reading:

Romans 15:4-13

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope. May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, so that the promises made to the patriarchs might be confirmed and, moreover, that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written: 'Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing the praises of your name.' Again, it says, 'Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people.' And again, 'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; let all the peoples extol him.' And again, Isaiah says, 'The Root of Jesse will spring up,

one who will arise to rule over the nations; in him the Gentiles will hope.' May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, **Alleluia!**

Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight his paths: all mankind shall see the salvation of God. **Alleluia!**

Gospel:

Matthew 3:1-12

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea and saying, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: 'A voice of one calling in the wilderness, "Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt round his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. Confessing their sins, they were baptised by him in the River Jordan. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptising, he said to them: 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?

Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not think you can say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father." I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. The axe has been laid to the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. 'I baptise you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.'

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

The Propers

Sentence: The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.

Collect: God of all peoples, whose servant John came baptising and calling for repentance: help us to hear his voice of judgement, that we may; also rejoice in his word of promise, and be found pure and blameless in that glorious Day, when Christ comes to rule the earth as Prince of Peace who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Advent Study - Tuesdays at 4.00pm

Wriggle into the scriptures, and gird your loins for the Advent season by joining a weekly advent study using the Diocesan advent study guide. Tuesday afternoons from 4pm to 5.00pm at 267 Scott Street. Informal discussion over coffee and cake Please contact Fiona if you are interested and would like to have a booklet printed for you. 0400 332 529. **Dates: 6th, 13th & 20th Dec**