

Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Easter 2
27 April 2025

Sunday Services: 10.30am Warracknabeal
12.00 Parish Luncheon
5.00pm Café Church



Hello Everyone! I hope this will be a fruitful and fulfilling Eastertide for you.

Thank you all for a wonderful Easter Celebration!

As I mentioned to parish council on Tuesday evening, there is much to talk about and discern as far as the future of our beloved church is concerned. We are celebrating 140 years this year of faithful service, dedicated prayer, inspired worship and bold conviction as we continue to follow Jesus in all we do, and say, and think.

The nature of the society in which we live is changing more rapidly than ever, and I am wondering whether we as a faith community are adapting quick enough to stay relevant and resourceful enough to respond to 'modern needs' and be able to minister to those in our care within the region. Several conversations I have had recently suggest that church leadership is not keeping pace as we would hope or desire, and therefore we have a responsibility to instigate and inspire from the 'ground up! How we do that?

First, we keep doing what we are doing - and if we can manage it a little more. Real connections with those around us are the best opportunities for conversations about faith and the reality of how God works in the world.

Secondly, we reinforce our own faith and spirituality with discipline in word, prayer and action. Jesus called the ordinary hard-working people of the day to extraordinary service and ultimately sacrifice. We too are called - to be bearers of hope and transformation - within a broken and hurting world. Often, the best way to begin 'ministry' to the world - is minister to our own hearts and those we love.

Finally, we are invited to TRUST. To trust the LIVING God of the resurrection who will guide, challenge and sustain us. Let's give it a crack! *Blessings, Rev James*

Project REGENERATE: Explore. Rejoice. Give.

Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry; +Scott; for the Registry staff;
- For our Roman Catholic sisters and brothers of faith as they mourn Pope Benedict;
- For the memory of all who have served our country paying the highest sacrifice;
- For our sisters and brothers on the European Continent;
- For Project Regenerate: Explore. Rejoice. Give. 2025-2026
- For peace around our fragile globe;
- For the leaders of all Nations, those with influence to act for the Common Good;
- For all who are hungry, thirsty and homeless or displaced;
- For those who face the fear of war and violence and oppression;
- For all known to us in hospital and our Residential Care Facilities;
- For our Occupancy Permit for The Shed Project; for all who will participate in this new phase of ministry and mission;
- For all our families & friends;
- For our neighbours;
- For our farmers and their families;
- For all on school holidays; for our educators and those who support them;
- For all those we love, near and far away;

Years Mind: Stella LIERSCH (1992), Irene ELLIS (1994), Sarah (Sally) COLLINS (1987), William GLARE (1990), Robert POWELL (1997), June ROBINSON (2010), Christine TURK, Isabell MILNER, Gladys MARTIN (2013), Bruce BAXTER (2021)

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

Service Times April-June

Easter 2 – 27 April

10.30am Warracknabeal
12.00 Parish Luncheon
5.00pm Café Church

Easter 3 – 04 May

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

Tuesday – 06 May

5.00pm Eucharist

Easter 4 – 11 May

9.30am & 5.00pm - Warracknabeal

Easter 5 – 18 May

9.30am & 5.00pm - Warracknabeal

Easter 6 – 25 May

9.30am- Warracknabeal
5.00pm Café Church

Tuesday 27 May

7.00pm/7.30pm Parish Council

Easter 7 – 01 June

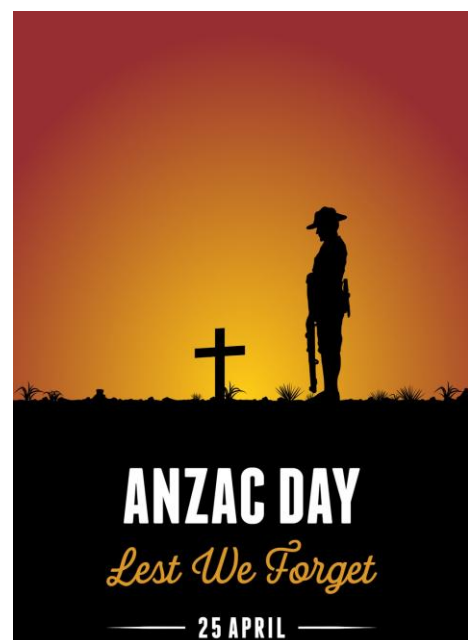
9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal
11.00am St Mark's Areegra

Tuesday – 03 June

5.00pm Eucharist

Pentecost – 08 June

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal



TODAY'S READINGS

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading:

Acts 5:27-32

A reading from the book of Acts

The apostles were brought in and made to appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. 'We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name,' he said. 'Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood.' Peter and the other apostles replied: 'We must obey God rather than human beings! The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead – whom you killed by hanging him on a cross. God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Saviour that he might bring Israel to repentance and forgive their sins. We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Psalm:

118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

Response: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

1. Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever." Let the house of Aaron say, "His mercy endures forever." Let those who fear the LORD say, "His mercy endures forever." **(R)**
2. I was hard pressed and was falling, but the LORD helped me. My strength and my courage is the LORD, and he has been my saviour. The joyful shout of victory in the tents of the just. **(R)**
3. The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the LORD has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes. This is the day the LORD has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it. **(R)**

Second Reading:

Revelation 1:4-8

A reading from the Revelation to John

John, To the seven churches in the province of Asia: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father – to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen. 'Look, he is coming with the clouds,' and 'every eye will see him, even those who pierced him'; and all peoples on earth 'will mourn because of him.' So shall it be! Amen. 'I am the Alpha and the Omega,' says the Lord God, 'who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.'

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, says the Lord; blessed are they 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.

This Sunday 27th April

Come and join us once again for our first Parish Luncheon for 2025. Bring a friend and a salad and make it a wonderful day of fellowship and hospitality. Proceeds from the luncheon will go towards **The Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne**. *From the website:*

Our vision

At The Royal Children's Hospital (RCH), our vision is a world where all kids thrive. We believe all children and young people should have the same opportunity to realise their potential.

Our role

To deliver on our vision, we work together to put children and young people at the heart of our care, research, and learning. We do this by:

- ✓ Creating and delivering the safest, most accessible, most playful, kid-centric care in the world.
- ✓ Cultivating a workforce that reflects the community we care for and nurturing our people, so they thrive and grow.
- ✓ Promoting the importance of the health and wellbeing of every child and young person.
- ✓ Conducting world leading paediatric research that transforms kids' health.
- ✓ Sharing specialist knowledge and skills locally and globally to advance learning.
- ✓ Being a leading sustainable health service that contributes to a better world.

RCH values

The RCH values unite and help us to achieve our vision and deliver on our role. Our values guide the way we work together and engage with children and young people, their families and our community.

THE PROPER

Sentence: Jesus said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.'

Collect: Living God, for whom no door is closed, no heart is locked: draw us beyond our doubts, till we see your Christ and touch his wounds where they bleed in others. This we ask through Christ our Saviour, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**