



Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Pentecost 16
12 September 2021



New York, 08 November 2001 © Wim Wenders

Hello Everyone!

In conversation with many people over the last couple of months, most can recall the place and time when they heard the twin towers were razed to the ground.

I visited New York in 1990 for the first time when I spent a summer on Camp America (and subsequently two more summers following) – working in the Catskill Mountains and the clients for the camp were all residents of that amazing city. Despite the warnings of how 'dangerous' New York was, I found the people very friendly, helpful and sure they were pretty focussed on where they needed to go etc, but always took time to make sure that this visitor was where I needed to be or know where I needed to go. I promised myself that I would go back one day and spend a month really getting to know the city. I have yet to return.

It remains incredulous to me how the events of September 11 took place – let alone the reality which has left its scars on human hearts and the subsequent war/s that have ravaged selected parts of our precious earth. Many cities and

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towns have been razed to the ground since through retribution, power and political struggles and the continuation of human violence against their fellow man and woman. Sometimes I feel as though our human being has not matured at all ... despite our advancements in understanding and culture and insight. We are diminished because of it.

*"What good is it for someone to gain the whole world,
and yet forfeit their soul?"*

Jesus' power lies in the fact that he continues to bear the sin of the world - personal, institutional, global - bears it, breathes life through it, transforms it, liberates us from it - but only if we choose to let him do so. This surely is a true act of faith ... to surrender all that we are capable of as a human being on the planet - and let the God who flung stars into space - guide us: personally, institutionally, globally. It would take a brave man (or a woman if you are one) to act in such a way. Are you IN?

Let us profoundly hold before God - whoever that may represent for you - the human tragedy that is violence and war and injustice and terror - and beginning from our own hearts, and our own supplications, and our own circumstances, our genuine heart-felt prayer or plea - for there to be PEACE: everlasting, courageous, sustaining, transforming ...

What is the 'true' disease ravaging our world at the moment?

How can we respond from a place of hope and healing and a 'return to wholeness'?

Every blessing, Rev James

**"Even the smallest act of service, the simplest act of kindness,
is a way to honor those we lost, a way to reclaim
that spirit of unity that followed 9/11."**

President Obama in a 2011 radio address

**"If we learn nothing else from this tragedy,
we learn that life is short and there is no time for hate."**

Sandy Dahl, wife of Flight 93 pilot Jason Dahl, in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, in 2002

Important Information regarding services for the next few weeks

Due to the disruption and consequences of COVID, I am asking our faithful parishioners to be resourceful and adaptable in the following, knowing it may cause some angst and further discomfort.

Several factors are involved:

- a) Rev James will be on Annual Leave from Tues 14 Sept - 10 Oct inclusive.
- b) Lay People capable and willing to lead our services are unavailable in September - due to school holidays and previous commitments.
- c) The Premier can change his mind at ANYTIME in the next few weeks.
- d) We have been given so short notice and a number of restrictions remain that make organizing and implementation difficult.
- e) We want people to have a clear plan - that takes away the guesswork of what will happen and when.
- f) When we 'open the church again' - we want to stay open! (*This has always been our policy and preferred option*)

In collaboration with the Parish Council (who met on Tuesday 07 Sept) , we have decided to offer the following service options:

Sunday 12th September - ZOOM Church at 10.30am

Sunday 19th September - Simple Home Service (pew sheet & media)

Sunday 26th September - Simple Home Service (pew sheet & media)

Sunday 03rd October - Morning Prayer in Parish Centre at 9.30am

Sunday 10th October - Morning Prayer in Parish Centre at 9.30am

Sunday 17th October - Holy Communion - Christ Church at 9.30am & 5.00pm

Sunday 24th October - Holy Communion - Christ Church at 9.30am & 5.00pm

I invite people to stay connected to their friends and those around them. There will be opportunities to meet for coffee at the Coffee Van 26th September - or other businesses in town. Please use these opportunities!

Thank you for your understanding, Rev & Parish Council

Zoom Church this Sunday – 10.30am

Join ZOOM Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9687959206?pwd=VzZOR3dIWwB4dTFZY1hQVTJjR3dKdz09>

Meeting ID: 968 795 9206 / Passcode: 304651



Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry; Deanery of West Wimmera
- For the people of Afghanistan, Haiti, Guinea, all those in Refugee camps;
- Peter & Dianne; Nola Browell;
- Project Regenerate; Coffee Van Sunday;
- Daily outreach to friend, family and neighbour;

Community:

- For seasonal weather;
- For all our small business and hospitality industry;
- For all those feeling angry, frustrated, annoyed, dishevelled;
- All facing natural disaster and disease;
- All COVID consequences;

Years Mind:

Our beloved sister in Christ, Nola Mollison returned to God's Presence on 8th September. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to all of Nola's Family (around the world) and all her friends! We will give thanks and farewell her on Monday 13th September at 11.00am.



Service Times Sept/Oct

Pentecost 16 – 12 September

10.30am ZOOM Church

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9687959206?pwd=VzZOR3dIWwB4dTFZY1hQVTJjR3dKdz09>

Meeting ID: 968 795 9206

Passcode: 304651

8.30-12.30pm Coffee Van

Pentecost 17 – 19 September

Home Church Service – Pew Sheet

Pentecost 18 – 26 September

Home Church Service – Pew Sheet

8.30-12.30pm Coffee Van

Pentecost 19 – 03 October

Morning Prayer – 9.30am Christ Church

Pentecost 20 – 10 October

Morning Prayer – 9.30am Christ Church

8.30-12.30pm Coffee Van

Bishop Garry's youtube message

Apologies everyone – I deleted the Bishop's youtube message from last week on my computer. Ooooooops!

**Coffee Van this Sunday
8.30am-12.30pm
Support our young
people and catch up
with friends!**

TODAY'S READINGS

PENTECOST 16

First Reading: Proverbs 1:20-33

A reading from Proverbs

Out in the open wisdom calls aloud, she raises her voice in the public square; on top of the wall she cries out, at the city gate she makes her speech: 'How long will you who are simple love your simple ways? How long will mockers delight in mockery and fools hate knowledge? Repent at my rebuke! Then I will pour out my thoughts to you, I will make known to you my teachings. But since you refuse to listen when I call and no one pays attention when I stretch out my hand, since you disregard all my advice and do not accept my rebuke, I in turn will laugh when disaster strikes you; I will mock when calamity overtakes you – when calamity overtakes you like a storm, when disaster sweeps over you like a whirlwind, when distress and trouble overwhelm you. 'Then they will call to me but I will not answer; they will look for me but will not find me, since they hated knowledge and did not choose to fear the Lord. Since they would not accept my advice and spurned my rebuke, they will eat the fruit of their ways and be filled with the fruit of their schemes. For the waywardness of the simple will kill them, and the complacency of fools will destroy them; but whoever listens to me will live in safety and be at ease, without fear of harm.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm: 116

Response: I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living

1. I love the LORD because he has heard my voice in supplication, Because he has inclined his ear to me the day I called. **(R)**
2. The cords of death encompassed me; the snares of the netherworld seized upon me; I fell into distress and sorrow, And I called upon the name of the LORD, "O LORD, save my life!" **(R)**
3. Gracious is the LORD and just; yes, our God is merciful. The LORD keeps the little ones; I was brought low, and he saved me. **(R)**
4. For he has freed my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling. I shall walk before the Lord in the land of the living. **(R)**

Second Reading: James 2:18-26

A reading from the letter of James

But someone will say, 'You have faith; I have deeds.' Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds. You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that – and shudder. You foolish person, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless? Was not our father Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. And the scripture was fulfilled that says, 'Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,' and he was called God's friend. You see that a person is considered righteous by what they do and not by faith alone.

In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction? As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! **Alleluia!**

May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord through which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel:

Mark 8:27-38

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

Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, 'Who do people say I am?' They replied, 'Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.' 'But what about you?' he asked. 'Who do you say I am?' Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah.' Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him. He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took

him aside and began to rebuke him. But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. 'Get behind me, Satan!' he said. 'You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.' Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels.'

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

THE PROPER

Sentence: Those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for the sake of the Gospel will save it.

Collect: God of mercy, help us to forgive as you have forgiven us, to trust you, even when hope is failing, and to take up our cross daily and follow you in your redeeming work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



I Dare You To Ask Rev That

This week: Part III - "God" - <https://youtu.be/f5J7NzW9vok>

On Sunday: Part IV - "The Bible, the Church and other stuff" -

<https://youtu.be/bgS944zWetU>

I hope that you enjoy these episodes - and you have permission to recommend or pass them onto friends, family and neighbour.

Previous releases:

Part II - Religion and the Universe - https://youtu.be/c_33eeaGLYU

Part I - Getting to know you - <https://youtu.be/erFJvG4x6XI>

If you have further questions or would like more information on the episodes you have seen - get in touch with Rev. There is a possibility of another 'series' in 2022.



Rev's Revolution – August 2020 – August 2021

As you know Rev has been raising money to build Phase 1 of our Project Regenerate Redevelopment. He was going to do a 'final lap' outside IGA on Saturday which has been cancelled. So officially, this phase of Rev's Revolution has concluded:



5,244.35 kms travelled

\$22,385 Donated

Rev has been delighted by the response from the community and wishes to thank everyone who has made this plan achievable – through finances, moral support and encouragement. The aim to raise the profile of our Anglican Church within the community has also been reinforced by our Coffee Van Project - where many hours and dedicated volunteers have made this a huge success in town; our SHINE Youth Group on Sunday nights; your own relationships and discipleship with people of our town and region of Warracknabeal.

Project Regenerate enters a new phase – which broadens our plan, vision and mission activity for the years ahead.

Thus new phase will be marked by a series of mini-launches or celebrations that will honour the past, present and look to the future:

Coffee Van Birthday – 24 October
Church Antique Auction – 30 October
101 in 2021 – St Mark's Areegra – 07 November
Christmas Season in Parish – December 2021

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GRATITUDE DIARY

Latest research suggests that 'Gratitude' is one of the best ways to tackle depression, dis-engagement and is a "pick me up" that we can all 'administer' to ourselves no matter who or where we are - or what we may be going through. Here's a simple little "Gratitude Diary" you might like to do every day this week.

Someone in my life I am grateful for:

Something material I am grateful for:

A situation in my life that I am grateful for:

An experience I had that I am grateful for:

Something about myself I am grateful for:

Something that went well for me: