



Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Easter 5
28 April 2024

Sunday Services: 9.30am & 5.00pm Café Church - Warracknabeal



Hello Everyone! I hope your week has gone well for you.

The behaviour of men in our society is back in the spotlight - and for very good reason. There are many factors that contribute to the predicament our society finds itself in. But there are no excuses! NONE!

There is no other way from the way I see it - than for men to 'step up to the plate' and help change the way women are treated from the ground up - from the community groups we belong to, to the words we express both publicly and in the privacy of our own homes, to the actions via thought, word and deed that reassure women that they are respected and that we can do everything we can to help girls and women feel safe and secure - at home and in public service and duty.

There is no question that men are required to be strong AND tender. Always have been! There is no question that men are required to understand their masculinity AND recognise their best 'feminine' qualities - which has not always been expected. There is no question that men are required to understand more than we actually do about ourselves and those around us - mostly without much guidance or decent role models and sometimes by pure telepathy.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IS NOT OKAY.

Ever! End of story. There are many things that could help and assist, but if we are going to wait for 'institutional' directions from Government etc - men will remain in the 'wilderness' where we won't survive. This is proving to be too true.

Calling out bad jokes, disrespectful rhetoric and bad behaviour is essential. As people who follow a man who was super, super respectful of women, and often became their only advocate in a patriarchal society - there are many Gospel passages that show us how to speak and how to act as men within our society - irrespective of our age and status. We are all responsible for our power, and how we deal with it in all our social and work place relations. Let's do it! Rev James

Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry; for our sisters and brothers of faith in the West Wimmera Deanery;
- For Sherry Barber (Suzy Callaghan's sister) – battling cancer;
- For all our beautiful women in our lives;
- For all our beautiful men in our lives;
- For those men in our society struggling with identity, anger management and power issues;
- For Light in the face of darkness; for Hope in the face of despair; for Love in the face of hatred and discord;
- For those displaced by war and ethnic prejudice;
- For those seeking refuge far from home;
- For a STOP to war around the globe; and for all brokering peace;
- For the people of Haiti and their Interim Government; the Sudan and all who face malnutrition; Dubai; South America;
- For the people of Ukraine and Palestine;
- For those who hunger for food; for those who thirst for water; for those who seek peace from war, violence & exploitation;
- For our neighbour/s;
- For those known to us who are unwell;
- For seasonal weather and safe sowing season for our farmers in our region;
- For our Parish Council and their insight and commitment to good governance;
- For Peace in our hearts and homes;

Years Mind: Abbie Byron, Lily Wood, Coral Smith, Robert Walker, Pamela Day, Lindsay Taylor, Heather Johnson

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

Service Times May/June

Easter 5 – 28 April

9.30am Warracknabeal

5.00pm Café Church

Easter 6 – 05 May

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Tuesday – 07 May

5.00pm - Eucharist

Easter 7 – 12 May

9.30am & 5.00pm

11.00am St Mark's Areegra

Pentecost – 19 May

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Trinity – 26 May

9.30am Warracknabeal

5.00pm Café Church

Pentecost 2 – 02 June

9.30am & 5.00pm

11.00am St Mark's Areegra

Pentecost 3 – 09 June

9.30am & 5.00pm

Tuesday – 04 June

5.00pm – Healing Eucharist

SAVE the DATE!

Sunday 04th August

10.30am Parish Service

(Only service this day)

12.00pm AGM

**For anyone who is impacted by
domestic, family or sexual violence:**

1800 RESPECT

1800 737 732

TODAY'S READINGS

EASTER 5

First Reading:

Acts 8:26-40

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Go south to the road – the desert road – that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means 'queen of the Ethiopians'). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. The Spirit told Philip, 'Go to that chariot and stay near it.' Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. 'Do you understand what you are reading?' Philip asked. 'How can I,' he said, 'unless someone explains it to me?' So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading: 'He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth.' The eunuch asked Philip, 'Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?' Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. As they travelled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptised?' [] And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptised him.

When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and travelled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm:

22:26-32

Response: *I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.*

1. I will fulfill my vows before those who fear the LORD. The lowly shall eat their fill; they who seek the LORD shall praise him: "May your hearts live forever!" **(R)**
2. All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of the nations shall bow down before him. **(R)**
3. To him alone shall bow down all who sleep in the earth; before him shall bend all who go down into the dust. **(R)**
4. And to him my soul shall live; my descendants shall serve him. Let the coming generation be told of the LORD that they may proclaim to a people yet to be born the justice he has shown. **(R)**

Second Reading:

1 John 4:7-21

A reading from the first letter of John
Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who

loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: he sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Saviour of the world. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: in this world we are like Jesus. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. We love because he first loved us. Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. And he has given us this command: anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Remain in me as I remain in you, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me will bear much fruit. **Alleluia!**

Gospel:

John 15:1-8

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

‘I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. ‘I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

THE PROPERS

Sentence: In this love, not that we loved God but that God loved us. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.

Collect: O God, form the minds of your faithful people, that we may love what you command and desire what you promise, so that, amid the many changes of this world, our hearts may there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**