



Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Advent 4
19 December 2021

Hello Everyone! Christmas is coming! What joy awaits us ALL!

As you will be aware - there are no longer any restrictions associated with our church services over the Christmas period:

No need for vaccination status.

No need for masks.

No restrictions on numbers.

For some of us this brings great relief and confidence that we can 'get on with' what we are called to do! For some of us - this news may bring some anxiety and concern, considering what we are hearing in the press.

In the parish, we have done and will continue to DO ALL WE CAN to keep people safe and COVID free - with our current protocols and COVIDSafe Plan.

I commend the Parish Council for their sensitivity and thoughtfulness as we have negotiated our way through the COVID quagmire over the last 91 weeks; and their faithfulness to making decisions for the 'common good' even if we did not agree with all we were asked to do by the Diocese and Govt Health Authorities.

If you have any concerns or queries about the Christmas celebrations - please do get in touch with me. If you would like a visit at home for whatever reason over the Christmas season - I'm only a phone call away.

I think this would be a good time to pop your head over the fence and see how your neighbour is travelling this Christmas Season. You may never know what is going on under the surface of the tinsel and 'wrapping' that the silly season brings ... sometimes a genuine R.U.O.K? is the best Christmas present of all. Sometimes there is a valuable gift that lies at the bottom of our metaphorical "straw and dirt shelter" - not obvious to the world, or that 'we' are too embarrassed to mention - because no-one ever asked!

'Tis the season for GENUINE goodwill.

If you see a 'stranger' in town say "Hello!"

If you need something - ASK!

If you have excess - SHARE!

Every blessing, Rev James

Project REGENERATE. Renew PEOPLE. Revive PROJECTS. Restore PLACE



Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry; Diocesan Committees;
- Christmas Celebration preparations across the Diocese, and locally;
- For the people of Haiti; Colombia; Bolivia; Afghanistan;
- For the 82.4 million displaced people in the world;
- For the 26.4 million refugees in our world;
- Those recovering from a stint in hospital or a procedure – swift recovery to you;
- For those grieving loved ones;
- Horsham Emergency Food Centre;
- All distributing Christmas Hampers;

Community:

- For our farmers and their families;
- For all Christmas travellers; for visiting family and friends;
- For all embarking on school holidays – for safety and renewal;
- For all those feeling depressed, anxious, envious, jealous, angry, worried;
- For those who feel the pressure of Christmas;
- Max Young;

Years Mind: Pearl Bibby, Amy Jamieson, Thomas White

Service Times December

Advent 4 – 19 December

9.30am - Christ Church

5.00pm – Parish Centre

From 6.00pm - Community Carols

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Lessons & Carols – Areegra

Weds 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 – 26 Dec

10.30am – Carols & HC

Epiphany – 02 Jan 2022

10.30am – HC

Baptism of Our Lord – 09 Jan 2022

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

11.00am Areegra

Epiphany 2 – 16 Jan 2022

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

HORSHAM Emergency Food Centre need
this week:

1 litre – Long life milk

Donations of other non-perishable goods and/or financial donations marked on an envelope in offertory gratefully received.

WAG Christmas Festival - ANZAC Park from 6.00pm - this Sunday

19th December. It is essential to register for your ticket to this

event: https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/wag-christmas-festival-tickets-190037315727?aff=ebdssbdestsearch&keep_tld=1

TODAY'S READINGS

ADVENT 4

First Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

A reading from the prophet Micah

'But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.'

Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labour bears a son, and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites. He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. And he will be our peace when the Assyrians invade our land and march through our fortresses. We will raise against them seven shepherds, even eight commanders,

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm: Song of Mary

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord:

my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,

Who has looked with favour on his lowly servant: from this day all generations will call me blessed.

The Almighty has done great things for me: and holy is his name.

God has mercy on those who fear him: from generation to generation.

The Lord has shown strength with his arm:

and scattered the proud with their conceit,

Casting down the mighty from their thrones: and lifting up the lowly.

God has filled the hungry with good things: and sent the rich away empty.

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel:

to remember the promise of mercy,

The promise made to our forebears:

to Abraham and his children for ever.

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: 'Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased. Then I said, "Here I am – it is written about me in the scroll – I have come to do your will, my God.'" First he said, 'Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them' – though they were offered in accordance with the law. Then he said, 'Here I am, I have come to do your will.' He sets aside the first to establish the second. And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, **alleluia!**

Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.

Alleluia!

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

At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed: 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favoured, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfil his promises to her!'

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Need a last minute gift?

Not too sure what to give your neighbour? Sick and tired of the endless pressure to 'produce' the perfect gift?

Rev may have the answer!

**The USEFUL Gift Shop is still open -
for the gifts that give twice.**

Support education, health & nutrition, safe water, Indigenous wellbeing; Good food, business and social enterprise, climate resilience, community empowerment ... and much more.

Get in touch with Rev.

Cash, credit card, Direct Debit all accepted.

Or go directly to:

<http://useful.gifts/4ahn2>

THE PROPERS

Sentence: Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.

Collect: Gracious God, you have visited your people and redeemed us in your Son: as we prepare to celebrate his birth, make our hearts leap for joy at the sound of your word, and move us by your Spirit to bless your wonderful works. We ask this through him whose coming is certain, whose Day draws near, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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12-14-2012

I THINK YOUR LIGHTS MIGHT BE TOO BRIGHT
THIS YEAR

Want to give a grain of wheat - to
produce a harvest opportunity within
our parish?



Donations of grain - of any quantity can
be made using the Church's NGR
number: **NGR 12439740**