

Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Advent 3

11 December 2022

Sunday Services: 9.30am Warracknabeal
5.00pm Café Church

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

Things don't look good in Indonesia. Afghanistan. Iran. Control. More control. Even MORE control.

I know that the world may not be 'changing' in ways that we understand or even like from time to time. There are some things we can stand up for. There are some things we need to let go of. When Governments start legislating how humans beings make personal choices, and the following consequences for those who have little choice - this genuinely scares me. However, it also happens here in Australia - is it because we don't care? Or legislation is swept through quickly and with little fuss - because we don't care? Or as long as we're alright - the rest doesn't matter.

How can we be generous / more generous in our attitudes toward others? How can you and I empower those around us or those less fortunate than ourselves? This is our spiritual quest! Empowerment that leads to freedom and responsibility.

I continue to commend the Reverse Advent Calendar to you. There has been a lot of generosity from many. Thank you!

And by request, the quote I used last week:

"It is not the critic who counts: not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs and comes up short again and again, because there is no effort without error or shortcoming, but who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, who spends himself in a worthy cause; who, at the best, knows, in the end, the triumph of high achievement, and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who knew neither victory nor defeat."
[Theodore Roosevelt]

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 & Afghanistan;
- For the Elimination of Violence Against ALL Women; for strong and tender men & boys of all ages;
- For clean water, efficient sanitation and better hygiene for all refugees;
- For Christian Emergency Food Centre; Reverse Advent Calendar initiative;
- For those who are grieving;
- For those facing significant hardship in body and mind;
- For all those travelling to see family and friends during the Christmas Season;
- Thanks for our all God's blessings;

Years Mind: Annie Muller, Ellen Clarke, Gavin Bibby, Ronald Hooper, Jean Cowan, Florence White, Frank Hewitt, Bea Emmett, Kenneth Dempsey

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

Services –Dec/Jan

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

Thank you everyone for a lovely gentle morning tea celebration last week.

Rev is still running the TEARFUND Useful Gift Shop up until Christmas – for those ‘gifts that give twice’. Buy a goat, a Community Health Worker, a chicken, Seeds and tools, Safe Water and Good Food – and many more! Contact Rev immediately!

THIS 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.*

Rev James Wood: P: 5398 1251 M: 0438 233 630 E: warrackanglican@gmail.com

TODAY'S READINGS

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading:

Isaiah 25:1-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God. Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; say to those with fearful hearts, 'Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you.' Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert. The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs. In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow. And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness; it will be for those who walk on that Way. The unclean will not journey on it; wicked fools will not go about on it. No lion will be there, nor any ravenous beast; they will not be found there. But only the redeemed will walk there, and those the Lord has rescued will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

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 in 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:

James 5:7-10

A reading from the letter of James

Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. Don't grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door! Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, **Alleluia!**

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

Gospel:

Matthew 11:2-11

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?' Jesus replied, 'Go back and report to John what you hear and see: the blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.' As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces. Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen

anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

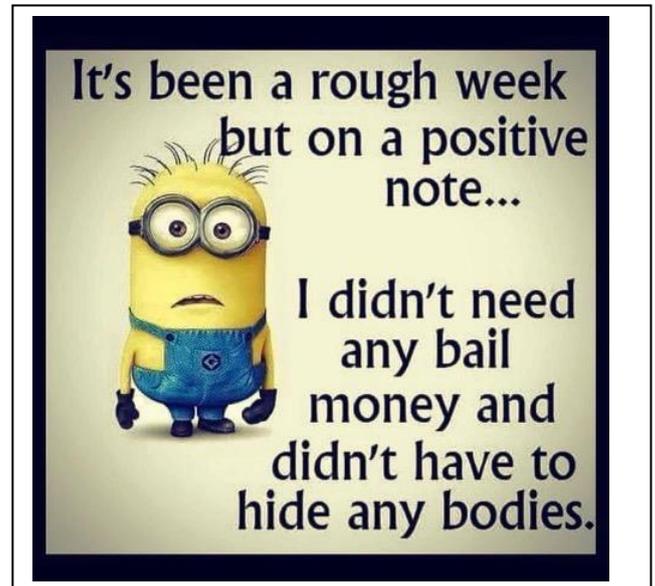
This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

The Propers

Sentence: Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees; Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.'

Collect: Sustain us, O God, with the power of your love on our journey to meet the One who is coming: strengthen our weak hands, make firm our feeble knees, and open blind eyes to the dawning of your kingdom, so that our hearts may rejoice as we behold the majesty of our God. We ask this through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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: 13th & 20th Dec**

Rev James Wood: P: 5398 1251 M: 0438 233 630 E: warrackanglican@gmail.com