

Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Easter 5
18 May 2025

Sunday Service: 9.30am & 5.00pm - Warracknabeal



Happy Easter Everybody!

I hope that you've had a good week.

And I hope that the celebrations of Easter's Resurrection will continue in your hearts and homes. Our Easter Feast lasts for 40 days (*not including Sundays*) celebration of the Resurrection before Jesus ascends to heaven. Forget about three days ... we have as much time as we did in 'the desert of Lent' to rejoice in God appearing to Jesus' friends and followers and continuing to proclaim that Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

God's 'power' and influence in our lives must not be understated. The Holy Spirit is not restricted by the liturgical calendar nor our church conventions. An open heart and a willing desire for our lives to be intertwined with God's is the 'sacrifice' we are invited to offer to God - no matter what the future may hold. An easy sacrifice? Sometimes not - it seems.

The temptation of the Easter Season is to restrict God to 'times past' and it "won't affect me" because God has to be busy somewhere else etc. God wants to appear again in your heart - in the heart of your friends and family ... our Christian witness is still vital and elementary in showing the world that God is merciful, compassionate and has the ability to overcome all life's difficulties, the reality of death, and the reality of darkness in our broken world.

Suffering needs tending. Brokenness needs healing. Despair needs to be confronted by Hope. Hatred and discord by courageous Love. We are invited to be 'liberated' by God's Resurrection Spirit - and not retreat into the conformities that society places upon us. The 'light that dwells within us' - must SHINE. Shine brightly and boldly. Shine - for others and not just for ourselves.

Let the Easter 'party' continue! Who are you going to invite?

Every blessing, Rev James



Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry; +Scott; for the Registry staff;
- For our Deanery sisters and brothers of faith; for priestly vacancies in West Wimmera, Stawell and Horsham;
- For our sisters and brothers on the Antarctic Continent;
- For Project Regenerate: Explore. Rejoice. Give. 2025-2026 – 140 years!
- For peace for all God's people around the world; peace in our hearts, homes, lives;
- For all who are hungry, thirsty and homeless or displaced;
- For those who face the reality of war and violence and oppression;
- For all known to us in hospital and our Residential Care Facilities;
- For all our families & friends; our neighbours;
- For all those we love, near and far away;
- For our farmers and their families;

Years Mind: Iris BUNDY (1993), Charles O'BRYAN (2003), John COWAN (2005), Benjamin ALLEN (1992), Lynette KAY (2018), Elizabeth (Bessie) GRINHAM (1997), Alfred MULLER (1994), Funny ROBINS (1997), Donald McDUGALL (1999), Arthur TICKLE (1992), Carl ADLER (2007), Peter O'CALLAGHAN (2021), Douglas MAYNE (2022)

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

Service Times May-June

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

Trinity Sunday – 15 June

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Pentecost 2 – 22 June

9.30am Warracknabeal

5.00pm Café Church

Pentecost 3 – 29 June

10.30am Warracknabeal

One Service Only

It is with a heavy heart that I inform you of the death of Jessica Decker, who is a long-term parishioner of the parish in Hopetoun, maybe Warracknabeal (for a time) and for the last 14 years at Dunmunkle Lodge. Jessica has requested a private burial. We pray for her family and friends with her sudden passing.

TODAY'S READINGS

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading :

Acts 11:1-18

A reading from the book of Acts

The apostles and the believers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticised him and said, 'You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them.' Starting from the beginning, Peter told them the whole story: 'I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. I saw something like a large sheet being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to where I was. I looked into it and saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, reptiles and birds. Then I heard a voice telling me, "Get up, Peter. Kill and eat." 'I replied, "Surely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth." 'The voice spoke from heaven a second time, " Do not call anything impure that God has made clean." This happened three times, and then it was all pulled up to heaven again. 'Right then three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea stopped at the house where I was staying. The Spirit told me to have no hesitation about going with them. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen an angel appear in his house and say, "Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. He will bring you a message through which you and all your household will be saved." 'As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning. Then I remembered what the Lord had said: "John baptised with water, but you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit." So if God gave them the same gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I

could stand in God's way?' When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, 'So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads to life.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Psalm:

145:8-13

Response: I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

1. The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness. The LORD is good to all and compassionate toward all his works. (R)
2. Let all your works give you thanks, O LORD, and let your faithful ones bless you. Let them discourse of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might. (R)
3. Let them make known your might to the children of Adam, and the glorious splendour of your kingdom. Your kingdom is a kingdom for all ages, and your dominion endures through all generations. (R)

Second Reading:

Revelation 21:1-6

A reading from the revelation to John

Then I saw 'a new heaven and a new earth,' for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Look! God's dwelling-place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them.

They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. "He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death" or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.' He who was seated on the throne said, 'I am making everything new!' Then he said, 'Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.' He said to me: 'It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life.

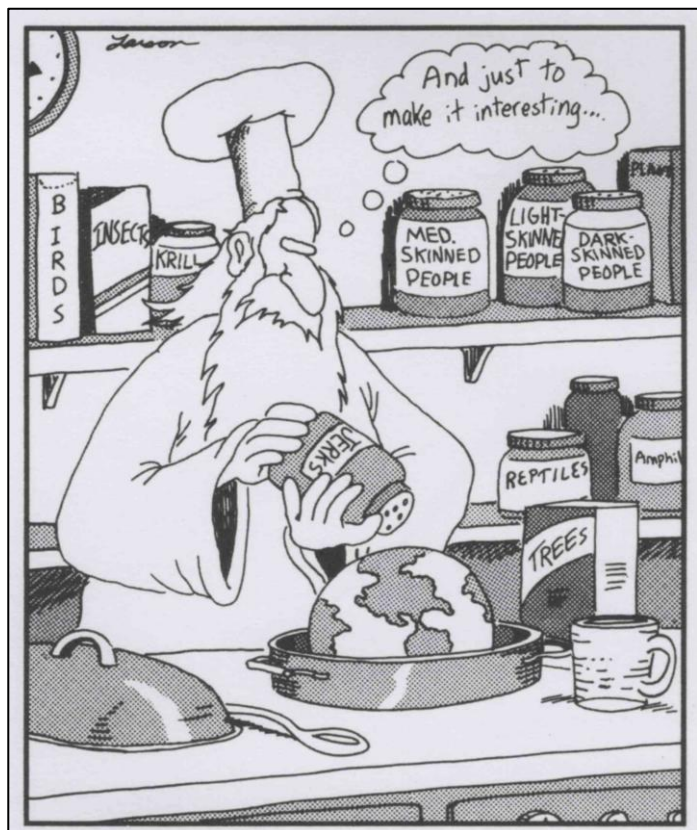
This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

I give you a new commandment, says the Lord: love one another as I have loved you. **Alleluia!**



Gospel:

John 13:31-34

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

When he was gone, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once. 'My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: where I am going, you cannot come. 'A new command I give you: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE PROPERS

Sentence: God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

Collect: We behold your glory, O God, in the love shown by your Son, lifted up on the cross and exalted on high: be glorified anew in the love we have for one another as disciples of the risen Lord Jesus, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Café Church

25th May at 5.00pm

***Next Sunday you are invited to
Café Church in the Parish
Centre as we continue to
celebrate the Resurrection.***

Bring a plate.

Bring a friend.

Come – celebrate the feast!