

Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Project Regenerate: Explore. Rejoice. Give.

Christmas

24, 25 & 28 December 2025

Christmas Services: Christmas Eve 24 December 10.00pm
Christmas Day 25 December 9.30am
Christmas 1 28 December 9.30am (*short service*)



On behalf of the clergy and Parish Council of the Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal we wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a fulfilling and fruitful 2025.

May the graciousness of God, and the gentleness of the Holy Spirit be born in your hearts and homes this Christmas Season as we welcome the divinity and humanity of Jesus in our lives once more.



Hello everyone! I hope that you are well and in good spirits.

The theme that seems to be 'swirling' around me this week is *vulnerability*. I may have been a bit harsh on the human condition in last week's pew sheet ... rather than inherently violent - maybe it is fairer to suggest that often (not always) we're not sure how to deal with, accept, transform our 'vulnerability' in this our earthly pilgrimage? This discomfort may be the source of our discontent?

Yeah - vulnerability is tricky at the best of times - let alone when grief, disappointment or some of our stronger emotions take hold of our hearts. I am a huge fan of Brené Brown who writes: "*Owning our story can be hard but not nearly as difficult as spending our lives running from it. Embracing our vulnerabilities is risky but not nearly as dangerous as giving up on love and belonging and joy - the experiences that make us the most vulnerable. Only when we are brave enough to explore the darkness will we discover the infinite power of our light.*"

As we enter the Christmas story again this year, let us join the shepherds in their songs of joy, the gratitude of Mary, the awkwardness of Joseph and allow Jesus to dwell in the 'manger of our hearts' - where light, life and love SHINE! Peace, Rev.



Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry and family; +Scott and family; our Diocese and all who sail in her;
- For all people of faith – for the freedom and right to worship;
- For God’s Spirit to infuse our community and hearts; that light overcomes darkness, that life overcomes death, that love will overcome hatred and discord;
- For all who are hungry, thirsty and seeking shelter around the globe;
- For our farmers and their families;
- For all facing natural disaster: flood, fire, earthquake, cyclone, famine;
- For all travelling this Christmas Season;
- For all visitors to our town, homes, and region; for those travelling or living many miles from ‘home’;
- For a generous spirit this Christmas Season; for honesty; for love and forgiveness;
- For all known to us in hospital and our Residential Care facilities;
- For all those we love, near and far away;

Years Mind: Amy JAMIESON (2012), Thomas WHITE (2007), Myrtle RUSSELL (2001), Clive CASTLEMAN (2016), Bessie SMITH (2016), Effie (Muriel LAURIE (1991), Nancy LEWIS (2002), Keith SKELTON (2003), Leslie (Jack) HALLAM (1987), Roderick (Rod) SCHILLING (2024)

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

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve – 24 December

8.30pm refreshments / 10.00pm Celebration

Christmas Day – 25 December

9.30am Celebration

Christmas 1 – 28 December

9.30am Warracknabeal

10.00am Kevin Barton farewell – Uniting

Epiphany – 04 January 2026

9.30am Warracknabeal

11.00am Areegra

Baptism of our Lord – 11 January 2026

9.30am Warracknabeal

Epiphany 2 – 18 January 2026

9.30am Warracknabeal

Epiphany 3 – 25 January 2026

10.30am Warracknabeal

12.00 Simple Parish Lunch

Epiphany 4 – 01 February 2026

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

11.00am St Mark’s Areegra



Market Day at Christ Church – 21 February

140year High Tea – 21 March

140year Liturgical Celebration – 22 March

Warracknabeal Blue Moose

A Christian Outreach program at Warracknabeal Town Hall - 4-11th January. Food, games and 'hangs' for teenagers. (Not a program of our parish. The QR code I had doesn't work) - so more info contact:

[Blue Moose - Youth Dimension](#)

TODAY'S READINGS

CHRISTMAS

First Reading:

Isaiah 9:2-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder. For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor. Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and for ever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm:

96

Response: Give the Lord Glory and Honour! Give the Lord Glory

1. Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all you lands.
Tell his glory among the nations;
among all peoples, his wondrous
deeds. **(R)**
2. For great is the LORD and highly to
be praised;
awesome is he, beyond all gods.
For all the gods of the nations are

things of nought, but the LORD
made the heavens. **(R)**

3. Give to the LORD, you families of
nations, give to the LORD glory and
praise; give to the LORD the glory
due his name! Bring gifts, and enter
his courts. **(R)**
4. Worship the LORD, in holy attire;
tremble before him, all the earth;
say among the nations: The LORD is
king, he governs the peoples with
equity. **(R)**

Second Reading:

Titus 2:11-14

A reading from the book of Titus

For the grace of God has appeared that
offers salvation to all people. It teaches
us to say 'No' to ungodliness and worldly
passions, and to live self-controlled,
upright and godly lives in this present
age, while we wait for the blessed hope
– the appearing of the glory of our great
God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who
gave himself for us to redeem us from all
wickedness and to purify for himself a
people that are his very own, eager to do
what is good.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

I proclaim to you good news of great joy:
today a Saviour is born for us, Christ the
Lord. **Alleluia!**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. And there were shepherds living out in the fields near by, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.' Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.' So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was

lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

. This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

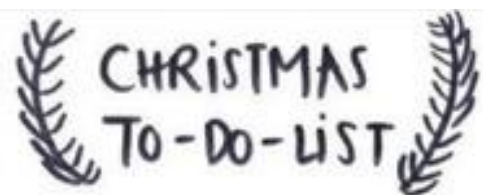
THE PROPER

Sentence: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; for to us a child is born, to us a son is given

Collect:

Eternal God,

who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth, to see the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



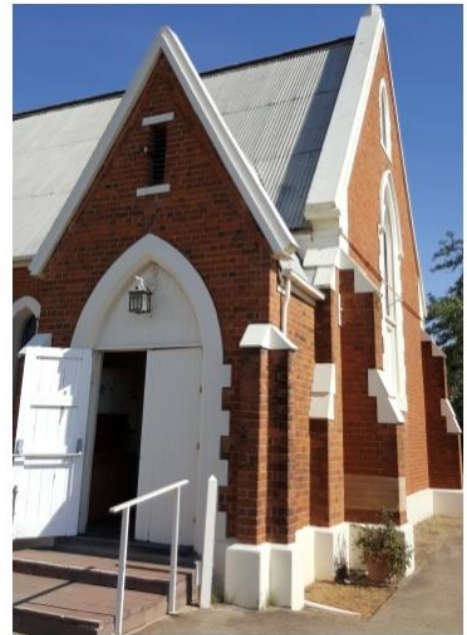
- ^{BE} buy presents
- wrap gifts ^{SOMEONE} IN A HUG
- Send gifts ^{PEACE}
- ^{DONATE} ~~shop~~ for food

The Anglican Parish of
Warracknabeal

invite you to join us for

High Tea

at Anglican Parish Centre,
Warracknabeal
to celebrate 140 years of
Prayer, Praise and Proclamation
in the Wimmera.



Saturday 21st March 2026

\$15.00/person

RSVP: 01 March 2026

Tickets are limited.

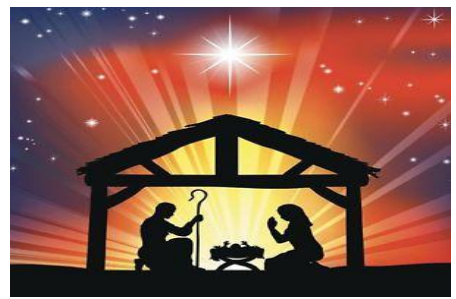
To book tickets (essential):

<https://www.trybooking.com/DIJPI> or Scan QR code



MEGA CHRISTMAS

WORD-SEARCH



C	a	M	b	W	R	A	P	P	I	N	G
A	H	A	G	C	D	E	R	F	G	H	I
R	J	R	N	K	L	M	E	N	O	C	P
O	Q	Y	I	N	N	R	S	H	E	E	P
L	S	T	K	S	U	V	E	J	W	N	E
S	X	Y	Z	H	T	A	N	E	B	S	A
C	D	E	F	E	G	M	T	S	H	U	C
J	O	S	E	P	H	I	A	U	J	S	E
K	N	L	M	H	N	O	P	S	L	Q	R
S	K	T	U	E	V	W	X	E	Y	H	Z
A	E	B	C	R	D	E	G	F	G	T	H
E	Y	I	J	D	K	N	L	G	L	E	M
C	N	O	P	S	A	V	I	O	U	R	Q
N	R	S	T	U	V	V	V	L	W	A	G
E	S	X	Y	Z	A	E	I	D	B	Z	N
S	W	A	R	T	S	C	D	D	E	A	I
N	A	F	G	W	I	S	E	M	E	N	V
I	T	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	L	O	I
C	H	I	L	D	C	P	Q	R	B	S	G
N	L	T	R	E	Y	A	R	P	A	U	S
A	I	V	W	H	X	Y	N	Z	T	A	K
R	N	S	T	A	R	B	C	D	S	D	N
F	G	E	F	D	O	R	E	H	L	G	A
H	I	J	K	L	J	O	Y	M	N	E	H
B	E	T	H	L	E	H	E	M	O	P	T

Christmas	Jesus	Saviour	Shepherds	Inn
Mary	Joseph	Bethlehem	Nazareth	Donkey
Census	Wisemen	Gold	Francinsence	Myrrh
Carols	Mother	Child	Swathling	Sheep
Straw	Star	Herod	Peace	Love
David	King	Stable	Angels	Joy
Present	Wrapping	Prayer	Candle	Thanksgiving

28 DECEMBER - READINGS

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

First Reading: Isaiah 63:7-9

Psalm: 148

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, **Alleluia!**

Because Jesus himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested. **Alleluia!**

Gospel:

Matthew 2:13-23

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

¹³ Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

¹⁶ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. ¹⁷ Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: ¹⁸ "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

¹⁹ When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰ "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." ²¹ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³ There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazarene."

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.