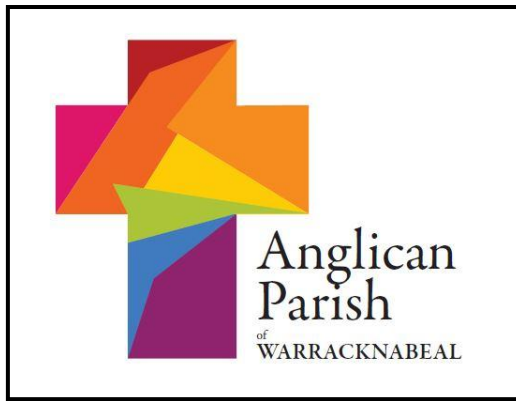




Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Project Regenerate: Explore. Rejoice. Give.

Pentecost 11

09 August 2026

Hello Everybody! I hope that you've had a good week!



As I write (6th August) - it is the 81st Anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima.

Humankind's ability to wreak havoc, destruction and death toward members of our one and only human race continues apace it seems in 'all corners' of the world ... sometimes in defence, mostly in fear and the want for control and abuse of power.

My heart goes out today to all who face the reality of violence - seen and unseen by the world's media and leaders. The innocent victims of domestic abuse, corruption, exploitation and injustice because of greed, ideology or the incapacity to be humane.

It is difficult to determine our role as followers of Jesus to help bring genuine peace and healing to a world in so much pain. One of my 'beef's' at the moment is that our church remains too silent on many matters of consequence. Dietrich Bonhoeffer once wrote: "*Silence in the face of evil is itself evil. God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act.*"

Poignant and confronting - considering that few are brave enough to stand in solidarity with Palestinian people at the moment due to fear of being 'antisemitic.' Few are willing to call out blatant disregard for International Law by world leaders around the globe - for fear of 'comfort', 'ignorance' or just plain apathy.

At some point - someone has to call out: "STOP!" *Every blessing, Rev James*

Parish Annual General Meeting

Sunday 30th August at 11.45pm
(following the 10.30am service)
for a Soup & Sandwich Lunch.

Soup - will be provided.

Please bring sandwiches to share.

Reports are available!

Nomination forms are also available:

12 Parish Council positions

3 Synod positions (plus reserve)

Safe Church Officer

Get in touch with Rev James or Rev Fiona if you have an issue or clarification for the meeting.



Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry; for the 'Board of Electors' Committee as they prepare the process of electing our new Bishop;
- For our West Wimmera Deanery;
- For all who are hungry, thirsty and seeking shelter around the globe;
- For the people of the Middle East;
- For the people of the Pacific;
- For the Leaders of all Nations;
- For those of leadership and influence to act for the common good;
- For all facing natural disaster: flood, fire, earthquake, cyclone, famine;
- For our neighbours;
- For those in our Aged Care Facilities;
- For those we know whom are unwell;
- For our farmers and their families;
-
- For all those we love, near and far away;

Years Mind: Simon CLARK (1994), Mary BUTTER, Shirley JONES (2008), Noel ARNOLD (1984), Frederick MULLER (1985), Valerie McFARLINE (2016), Grace ARMSTRONG (1995), Doris (Dot) POWELL (2005), Valerie HEWITT (2013), Stanley PETERS (2015), Ian CARTER (1976), Ellen SAUNDERS (2013), Inez WITNEY (2018), Roland JONES (1985), Hilda LEITH (1994), Linda McDOUGALL (1997)

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

Services - 2026

Pentecost 11 – 09 August

10.30am Warracknabeal

12.00pm Parish Lunch

Monday 10th August – Rev Fiona

At Café Peppercorn – 9.00-10.30am

Pentecost 12 – 16 August

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Ben Howes from TEARFUND at 9.30am

Pentecost 13 – 23 August

9.30am Warracknabeal / 5.00pm Café Church

Pentecost 14 – 30 August

10.30am Warracknabeal

11.45am AGM with simple lunch

TEARFUND Australia coming to visit

As you know I am a huge fan of TEARFUND Australia – and offer the Useful Gift Shop in the lead up to Easter and Christmas every year.

We will welcome Ben Howes to our parish on Sunday 16th August at 9.30am

who will explain more about TEARFUND and its operations and will be an opportunity to ask questions.

THE PROPER

Sentence: Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Collect: O God, the protector of all that trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy, that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal that we finally lose not the things eternal. Grant this, O heavenly Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

TODAY'S READINGS

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

First Reading: Genesis 37:1-4,12-28

A reading from the book of Genesis

Jacob lived in the land where his father had stayed, the land of Canaan. This is the account of Jacob's family line. Joseph, a young man of seventeen, was tending the flocks with his brothers, the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives, and he brought their father a bad report about them. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate robe for him. When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him. Now his brothers had gone to graze their father's flocks near Shechem, and Israel said to Joseph, 'As you know, your brothers are grazing the flocks near Shechem. Come, I am going to send you to them.' 'Very well,' he replied. So he said to him, 'Go and see if all is well with your brothers and with the flocks, and bring word back to me.' Then he sent him off from the Valley of Hebron. When Joseph arrived at Shechem, a man found him wandering around in the fields and asked him, 'What are you looking for?' He replied, 'I'm looking for my brothers. Can you tell me where they are grazing their flocks?' 'They have moved on from here,' the man answered. 'I heard them say, "Let's go to Dothan."' So Joseph went after his brothers and found them near Dothan. But they saw him in the distance, and before he reached them, they plotted to kill him. 'Here comes that dreamer!' they said to each other. 'Come now, let's kill him and throw him into one of these cisterns and say that a ferocious animal devoured him. Then we'll see what comes of his dreams.' When Reuben heard this, he tried to rescue him from their hands. 'Let's not take his life,' he

said. 'Don't shed any blood. Throw him into this cistern here in the wilderness, but don't lay a hand on him.' Reuben said this to rescue him from them and take him back to his father. So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe – the ornate robe he was wearing – and they took him and threw him into the cistern. The cistern was empty; there was no water in it. As they sat down to eat their meal, they looked up and saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead. Their camels were loaded with spices, balm and myrrh, and they were on their way to take them down to Egypt. Judah said to his brothers, 'What will we gain if we kill our brother and cover up his blood? Come, let's sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him; after all, he is our brother, our own flesh and blood.' His brothers agreed. So when the Midianite merchants came by, his brothers pulled Joseph up out of the cistern and sold him for twenty shekels of silver to the Ishmaelites, who took him to Egypt.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm:

85:8-13

Response: *Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.*

1. I will hear what God proclaims;
the LORD--for he proclaims peace.
Near indeed is his salvation to those who
fear him, glory dwelling in our land. **(R)**
2. Kindness and truth shall meet; justice
and peace shall kiss. Truth shall spring
out of the earth, and justice shall look
down from heaven. **(R)**
3. The LORD himself will give his benefits;
our land shall yield its increase. Justice
shall walk before him, and prepare the
way of his steps. **(R)**

***A reading from the letter to the
Romans***

Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes. Moses writes this about the righteousness that is by the law: 'The person who does these things will live by them.' But the righteousness that is by faith says: 'Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?"' (that is, to bring Christ down) 'or "Who will descend into the deep?"' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? 'The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,' that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: if you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. As Scripture says, 'Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.' For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile – the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.' How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for his word. **Alleluia!**

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

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. 'It's a ghost,' they said, and cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them: 'Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid.' 'Lord, if it's you,' Peter replied, 'tell me to come to you on the water.' 'Come,' he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came towards Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. 'You of little faith,' he said, 'why did you doubt?' And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. Then those who were in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.' When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret. And when the men of that place recognised Jesus, they sent word to all the surrounding country. People brought all who were ill to him and begged him to let those who were ill just touch the edge of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed.

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ