

Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Pentecost 15 13th September 2020

Hello everyone!

We tread the 'cliff top' of change once again as restrictions are lifted and we reorientate our lives again. A new set of 'conditions.' A new set of 'rules to guide' our wellbeing and reinforce the good order of the society in which we live.

Our Gospel story - if taken seriously - helps us to re-orientate our lives. A new set of 'conditions.' A new set of 'rules to guide' our wellbeing and reinforce the good order of the society in which we live.

There are no shortcuts to following Jesus this week. We have to ignore the Gospel COMPLETELY! <u>Or</u>, <u>we choose</u> to let Matthew's words become flesh within our own daily actions toward others and ourselves. This is not the easy option!

"We have been sent into the world to implement the rule of God on earth. Where there is discord we are to replace it with harmony. Where there is hatred we are to replace it with agape. Where there is an offense simmering into a murderous conflict, we are to replace it with forgiveness. When we choose to forgive, we invade the realm of darkness and defeat those dark forces with the power of a resurrected life."

[Dudley Hall]

As Eugene Peterson in his translation of the Gospel called 'The Message'; quotes from John 20:22,23 - "Then he (Jesus) took a deep breath and breathed into them. "Receive the Holy Spirit," he said. "If you forgive someone's sins, they're gone for good. If you don't forgive sins, what are you going to do with them?"

I know - completely unreasonable if you think about it! A lack of forgiveness is a heavy burden to bear. What <u>do we do</u> with the steaming pile of 'hurts' and 'injustices' and 'memories' of things gone wrong - especially when we are right! I know - unreasonable - as I said.

There is perhaps no greater gift you can offer God than a heart that knows the power of forgiveness and decides to set others free. Forgiving shows that the love, grace, and mercy of Jesus are operating in our lives. It is time to access this life-changing grace of forgiveness.

Or ... carry it!

Take courage! With every blessing, Rev James

Coffee ZOOM-In!

9.30am on Tuesday mornings – join a few people to catch up on the latest from around the region. *Ask Rev for ZOOM-in details!*



Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond: +Garry; Fr Michael; for all experiencing ill health; for our sisters and brothers across the country; for Project REGENERATE; Rev's Revolution and all our parish's endeavours; MDC Encounter Days.

Community: Front-line health care workers; for those out of work; for the anxious; for the brave; for the perseverant; for the steadfast.

Years Mind: Vi Taylor, Bill Nicholls, Fr.

Peter Claridge

"At first glance it may appear too hard. Look again. Always look again." [Mary Anne Radmacher]

Pentecost 15 youTube from Rev:

Forgive. Forgive. Forgive. https://youtu.be/VUH1vufPgwY

Bishop Garry's youTube message:

The least, the lowly, the lost and the last. https://youtu.be/MrWcWLnWm0I

Kilometres travelled **807.04**



Pledged & Donated \$4787.97

Latest Rev's Revolution video:

The First Five Hundred - https://youtu.be/HoVDoxg92C0

Rev James is going to be riding his bike outside IGA next Thursday 17th September from 9.00am-12.00pm — hoping to reach the 1000km mark! There'll be a raffle with some unique prizes from our supporters, a chance to have a COVID Safe chat from a distance, and see his 'noble steed' in action. Bring a cow bell and a mask- and we're set. Forget France! Tour de Warracknabeal is where it is at!

Sunday Morning ZOOM Church - 10.30am

I know it's not quite like church as we knew it! However, it is a chance to meet up with a few people and share some fellowship together - hear God's Word and discuss issues relevant to the scriptures and our daily lives. Need some help to 'log on'? Get in touch.

Link for Sunday mornings:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84020945540?pwd=YWFoSWYyY2ZJL0I2bXVvaUlFbXZydz09

Meeting ID: 840 2094 5540 Passcode: 304651

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

A Simple Service – for Pentecost 15

Hymn: God of freedom

God of freedom, God of justice, God whose love is strong as death, God who saw the dark of prison, God who knew the price of faith: touch our world of sad oppression with your Spirit's healing breath.

Rid the earth of torture's terror, God whose hands were nailed to wood; hear the cries of pain and protest, God who shed the tears and blood; move in us the power of pity, restless for the common good.

Make in us a captive conscience quick to hear, to act, to plead; make us truly sisters, brothers of whatever race or creed: teach us to be fully human, open to each other's need.

Shirley Erena Murray

Reflection:

- a) What made you think differently about the world this week?
- b) What virtue or characteristic is God calling us to this week?

Prayer of Preparation:

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Readings:

Videos: +Garry and/or Rev

Reflection:

What words or phrases give evidence to; Loving nature of God; Tricky nature of God; Extravagant nature of God; Creative nature of God; Challenging nature of God?

Prayer:

Praise. Petition. Intercession. Thanksgiving. (or follow your own discipline.)
The Lord's Prayer.
Collect for the Day.

Blessing:

"The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace; this day and always" Amen. [Numbers 6:24-26]

Song: Behold

Behold, behold I make all things new, beginning with you and starting from today. Behold, behold I make all things new, my promise is true, for I am Christ the way.

John L. Bell

Text: APBA © 1985 Broughton Publishing. Music: © 1999. Together in Song. Harper Collins; © 2002 One Is the Body: Wild Goose. CCL 610638

THE PROPERS

Sentence: If you, O Lord, should note what we do wrong, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

Collect: O God, you call your Church to witness that in Christ we are reconciled to you: help us so to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may tum to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

TODAY'S READINGS PENTECOST 15

First Reading:

Exodus 14:19-31

A reading from the Book of Exodus

Then the angel of God, who had been travelling in front of Israel's army, withdrew and went behind them. The pillar of cloud also moved from in front and stood behind them, coming between the armies of Egypt and Israel. Throughout the night the cloud brought darkness to the one side and light to the other; so neither went near the other all night long. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the Lord drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided, and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued them, and all Pharaoh's horses and chariots followed horsemen them into the sea. During the last watch of the night the Lord looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion. He jammed the wheels of their chariots so that they had difficulty driving. And the Egyptians said, 'Let's get away from the Israelites! The Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.' Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may flow back over the Egyptians and their chariots and horsemen.' Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at daybreak the sea went back to its place. The Egyptians were fleeing towards it, and the Lord swept them into the sea. The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen - the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them survived. But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. That day the Lord saved

Israel from the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. And when the Israelites saw the mighty hand of the Lord displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the Lord and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant. This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm:

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Response: The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

- 1. Bless the LORD, O my soul; and all my being, bless his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits. (R)
- 2. He pardons all your iniquities, heals all your ills. Redeems your life from destruction, he crowns you with kindness and compassion. (R)
- 3. He will not always chide, nor does he keep his wrath forever. Not according to our sins does he deal with us, nor does he requite us according to our crimes. (R)
- 4. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so surpassing is his kindness toward those who fear him.
 As far as the east is from the west, so far has he put our transgressions from us. (R)

Second Reading:

Romans 14:1-14

A reading from the letter to the Romans
Accept the one whose faith is weak,
without quarrelling over disputable
matters. One person's faith allows them
to eat anything, but another, whose faith
is weak, eats only vegetables. The one
who eats everything must not treat with
contempt the one who does not, and the
one who does not eat everything must not

Gospel:

judge the one who does, for God has accepted them. Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To their own master, servants stand or fall. And they will stand, for the Lord is able to make them stand. One person considers one day more sacred than another; another considers every day alike. Each of them should be fully convinced in their own mind. Whoever regards one day as special does so to the Lord. Whoever eats meat does so to the Lord, for they give thanks to God; and whoever abstains does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God. For none of us lives for ourselves alone, and none of us dies for ourselves alone. If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living. You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you treat them with contempt? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat. It is written: "As surely as I live," says the Lord, "Every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God." So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God. Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling-block or obstacle in the way of a brother or sister. I am convinced, being fully persuaded in the Lord Jesus, that nothing is unclean in itself. But if anyone regards something as unclean, then for that person it is unclean. 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

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, 'Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?' Jesus answered, 'I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. 'Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. 'At this the servant fell on his knees before him. "Be patient with me," he begged, "and I will pay back everything." The servant's master took pity on him, cancelled the debt and let him go. 'But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. "Pay back what you owe me!" demanded. 'His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, "Be patient with me, and I will pay it back." 'But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. 'Then the master called the servant in. "You servant," he said, "I cancelled all that debt yours because you begged to. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?" In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. 'This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

I DARE YOUTO ASK REV THAT!

Rev James is asking parishioners and members of the public to submit questions for a video series with the above title. No taboos! No age limit. Any topic. Religious/ Spiritual questions encouraged. Submit your question: with your name and best contact - by 30^{th} September.

E: warrackanglican@gmail.com or M: 0438 233 630 or Aust Post.

Ask a friend, a neighbour, a stranger – reach over the fence; walk across the street; knock on the door around the corner and get them to submit or you can submit on their behalf.

Have some fun or ask that question you've always wanted to ask but didn't feel you could!

The Carly-Pyjama Letters Dear Mr. Curly... I must tell you that I am having trouble being alert and alarmed - or fearful about the so-called "forces of evil" As a wise woman once said, "Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood". fine words, but the truth 15 that I don't fear OR understand ... and What's more, I don't really care. I am a complete and utter failure at all this hateful dread. It seems to me that I have no time or energy for listening to warnings from powerful important people who seem to me very untrustworthy and ridiculous. Perhaps I am too fascinated and engaged with my direction-finding duck, which provides me with such a warm abundance of wisdom, joy and companion ship ... and therefore much protection and security.

Am I being delusional or foolish? If I am, then I highly recommend it as a real source of content ment and good humour, even in these sad and serious times. Do you have a view on this matter?

With love ... and peaceful dabbling sounds.

Vasco Pyjama.

The Sustainable Development Goals – (for your information)

The Sustainable Development Goals are the blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all.

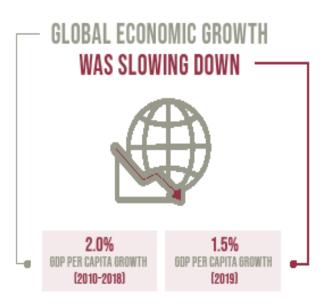
Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

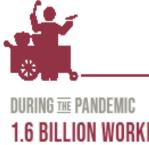
Sustained and inclusive economic growth can drive progress, create decent jobs for all and improve living standards. COVID-19 has disrupted billions of lives and endangered the global economy. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) expects a global recession as bad as or worse than in 2009. As job losses escalate, the International Labor Organization estimates that nearly half of the global workforce is at risk of losing their livelihoods. Even before the outbreak of COVID-19, one in five countries – home to billions of people living in poverty – were likely to see per capita incomes stagnate or decline in 2020. Now, the economic and financial shocks associated with COVID-19—such as disruptions to industrial production, falling commodity prices, financial market volatility, and rising insecurity—are derailing the already tepid economic growth and compounding heightened risks from other factors.



PROMOTE SUSTAINED, INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH, FULL AND PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT AND DECENT WORK FOR ALL

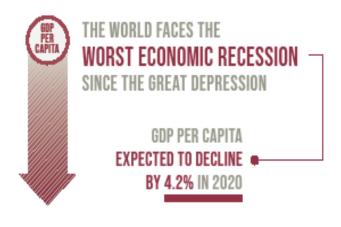
BEFORE COVID-19

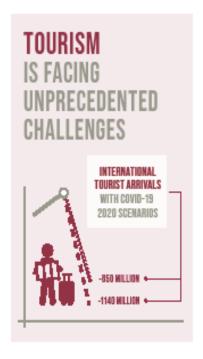




1.6 BILLION WORKERS
IN THE INFORMAL ECONOMY
RISK LOSING THEIR LIVELIHOODS









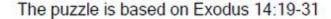
COVID-19 COULD CAUSE THE EQUIVALENT OF 400 MILLION JOB LOSSES IN SECOND QUARTER OF 2020



ACCESS MORE DATA AND INFORMATION ON THE INDICATORS AT HTTPS://UNSTATS.UN.ORG/SDGS/REPORT/2020/

The Parting of the Red Sea

And when the Israelites saw the mighty hand of the LORD displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the LORD and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant. Exodus 14:31 (NIV)





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WATER	TRAVELING	GROUND	ARMY	CHARIOTS
DRY	SEA	SAVED	MOSES	HORSES
ANGEL	HAND	CLOUD	TRUST	ISRAEL

After a church service on Sunday morning, a young boy suddenly announced to his mother,

"Mum, I've decided to become a minister when I grow up."
"That's okay with us, but what made you decide that?"
"Well," said the little boy, "I have to go to church on Sunday anyway, And I figure it will be more fun to stand up and yell, than to sit and listen."