



Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Baptism of Our Lord *12 January 2025*

Sunday Services: 9.30am Warracknabeal



Hello Everyone! I hope that your week has gone well.

***"We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate a brother or sister are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also."* (1 John 4:19-21)**

Today, I am concerned for the forgotten people of the world - Venezuela, South Sudan, Haiti, Democratic Republic of Congo, Nicaragua, Timor Leste ... the list could go on and on.

Today, I am concerned that more innocent people are extinguished in Gaza. I am concerned for the women of Afghanistan and Nigeria. I am concerned for the 'forgotten' people of USA as they brace themselves for a change of government. I am concerned for the soul of our own country as the political posturing fitting a pending election begins - that seems to have no real understanding of what's really needed 'on the ground.'

Today, I am resigned to the reality that I may not have that much influence to really help the people of the world - let alone my neighbour here in Warracknabeal. This is the real challenge isn't it ... to love at home. Really love.

To grind out meaning and understanding and tolerance and hope and faith and persistence and gentleness and kindness and perseverance and goodness and fortitude and self-control and peace and patience and faithfulness and joyfulness and good will and and love and love and love!

Today, as one of my mentors used to say, "Do what you can, not what you can't." The reality is that we are capable of much more than we perceive ourselves to be.

Every blessing, Rev James

Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry; for all our Diocesan sisters and brother in faith;
- For Mason R. and successful surgery;
- For those in Tibet;
- For all whose lives are disrupted and changed due to Natural disaster – home and abroad; those affected by fire;
- For all First Responders this Christmas and New Year Season;
- For the leaders of all Nations, those with influence to act for the Common Good;
- For those who hunger for food;
- For those who thirst for water;
- For those seeking shelter;
- For all who are grieving;
- For all known to us in hospital and our Aged Care Facilities; for those known to us who are unwell;
- For God's 'PEACE' in our hearts, our homes and our lives;
- For God's light that dispels darkness; for God's life that dispels death and disease; for God's love that dispels fear;
- For our neighbours;
- For all who are travelling; for those visiting; for those exploring;
- For all our families & friends.

Years Mind: Marie WOOD (2020), Agnes FORSYTH (1995), Marie SHELL (1996), William PRICE (1999), Anthony REES (1998), Albert NICHOLSON, Garry EZARD (1986), Mavis EZARD (1996), Donald TAYLOR, Lorna FREELAND (2017)

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

Service Times Jan/Feb

Baptism of Our Lord – 12 January 2025

9.30am Warracknabeal

Epiphany 2 – 19 January 2025

9.30am Warracknabeal

Epiphany 3 – 26 January 2025

9.30am Warracknabeal

Epiphany 4 – 02 February 2025

9.30am & 5.00pm - Warracknabeal

11.00am St Mark's Areegra

Epiphany 5 – 09 February 2025

9.30am & 5.00pm - Warracknabeal

Epiphany 6 – 16 February 2025

9.30am & 5.00pm - Warracknabeal

Epiphany 7 – 23 February 2025

9.30am – Warracknabeal & 'fancy' morning tea

5.00pm Café church

As you will be aware by now,

June Lang

our beloved sister in Christ returned to God's Presence recently. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to all of June's Family, & all her friends!

We seek God's guidance and blessing as we prepare to say farewell.

*Monday 13th January – 10.30am
Christ Church Warracknabeal & Lawn Cemetery*

TODAY'S READINGS

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

First Reading:

Isaiah 43:1-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

But now, this is what the Lord says – he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: 'Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour; I give Egypt for your ransom, Cush and Seba in your stead. Since you are precious and honoured in my sight, and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west. I will say to the north, "Give them up!" and to the south, "Do not hold them back." Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth – everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm:

29

Response: The Lord will bless his people with peace

1. Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven: ascribe to the Lord glory and might.

Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name: O worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness. **(R)**

2. The voice of the Lord is upon the waters: the God of glory thunders, the Lord upon the great waters. The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation: the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice. **(R)**
3. The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar-trees: the Lord breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon. He makes them skip like a calf: Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox. **(R)**
4. The voice of the Lord divides the lightning-flash: the voice of the Lord whirls the sands of the desert, the Lord whirls the desert of Kadesh. The voice of the Lord rends the terebinth trees, and strips bare the forests: in his temple all cry 'Glory.' **(R)**
5. The Lord sits enthroned above the water-flood: the Lord sits enthroned as a king for ever. The Lord will give strength to his people: the Lord will give to his people the blessing of peace. **(R)**

Second Reading:

Acts 8:14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to Samaria. When they arrived, they prayed for the new believers there that they might receive the Holy Spirit, because the Holy Spirit had not yet come on any of them; they had simply been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, **alleluia!** John said: One mightier than I is coming; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. **Alleluia!**

Gospel:

Luke 3:15-22

A reading from the gospel according to Luke

The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to

gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them. But when John rebuked Herod the tetrarch because of his marriage to Herodias, his brother's wife, and all the other evil things he had done, Herod added this to them all: He locked John up in prison. When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

This is the gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

THE PROPERS

Sentence: The Holy Spirit descended on Jesus in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

Collect: Eternal God, at the baptism of Jesus in the river Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son, and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: grant that all who are baptised into his name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Saviour; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**



At the Dog Museum