

Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Advent 1

28 November 2021

Hello Everyone! I hope that I find you in good spirits.

The beginning of a new liturgical year is here! What lies in store for you and I as we seek to find, follow and grow in faith with our God - the God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Ruth, Tamar, Mary, Joseph, the Shepherds, Wise people through the ages - who have surrendered control, life circumstances and guidance to a God who was bold enough to stoop to earth. The Incarnation is a wonderful witness to the deep love that God has for all God's people - whether they believe in God or not!

The 'truth' is - we are also invited to be 'incarnational' - *with FLESH ON* - in our relationships, work places, in our interest groups. How will you fare?

As we prepare to celebrate the Incarnation of Jesus in our midst - I would like us all to start thinking about how we can invite, inspire or encourage either friend or family to participate in our Christmas Season ... pray for how you may respond to God through this season, and how can we prepare a 'space/place' for Jesus in our hearts and the hearts of those we love.

On Tuesday night, the Parish Council decided to forward \$500.00 toward the Christian Emergency Food Centre, Horsham - for the purpose of helping provide Christmas hampers to those in need in our region. Many people in Warracknabeal are recipients of these hampers. During this Advent, I will encourage you to either: a) donate non-perishable goods toward this centre (*but not the out-of-date goods in the back of your pantry*); and/or b) make a donation toward this gift offering from the parish (*clearly marked in an envelope in the offertory*).

I will provide a washing basket at the base of the Christmas tree for reception of goods which can include: long-life milk, cereals, tins of any food, toiletries, cat & dog food, toothbrushes & toothpaste, nappies, shampoo & conditioner, soap - just to name a few. On top of your normal Christmas giving, I hope that you will be able to find a few dollars to aide this cause.

We are certainly some of the luckiest people in the world. I hope this Christmas Season brings God's peace and good will to our hearts, our homes and our lives.

Rev James



Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry; Registry staff & families;
- Synod preparations – 11 December;
- For the people of Sudan, Chile, and Pacific Islands;
- Project Regenerate – Coffee Van;
- Parish Council – their faithfulness and leadership throughout 2021 – thank you!
- For all seeking asylum;
- Doreen Taylor;
- For those grieving loved ones;

Community:

- For our farmers and their families;
- For all truckies, all involved in the transport industry; for road safety;
- For all those feeling exhausted, weary, lethargic, and unmotivated;
- All facing natural disaster and disease;
- All COVID consequences;

Years Mind: Lindsay Westerland, Kenneth Newell, Clifford Fernandes

Want to give a grain of wheat - to produce a harvest opportunity within our parish?



Donations of grain - of any quantity can be made using the Church's NGR number: **NGR 12439740**

Service Times Nov/Dec

Advent 1 – 28 November

9.30am - Christ Church (Full Vacc)
5.00pm – Parish Centre (non-Vacc status)
8.30am-12.30pm Coffee Van

Advent 2 – 05 December

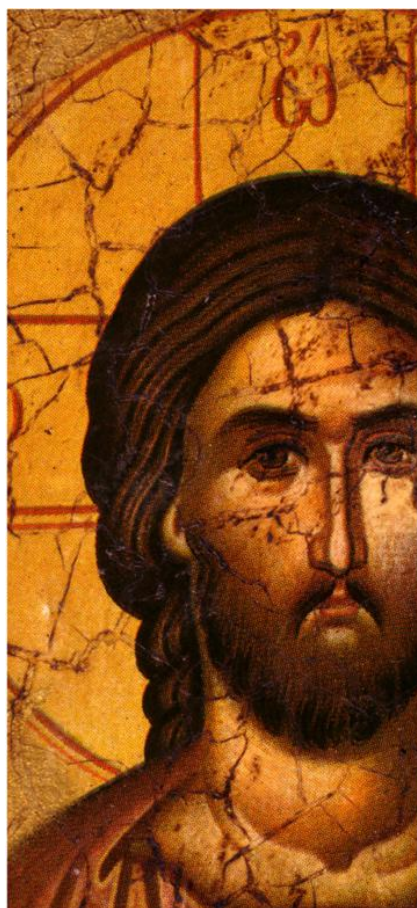
9.30am - Christ Church (Full Vacc)
11.00am Areegra (non-Vacc status)
5.00pm – Parish Centre (non-Vacc status)
6.00pm SHINE Youth Group
(last one for the year)

Advent 3 – 12 December

9.30am - Christ Church (Full Vacc)
5.00pm – Parish Centre (non-Vacc status)
8.30am-12.30pm Coffee Van
(last one for the year)

Advent 4 – 19 December

9.30am - Christ Church (Full Vacc)
5.00pm – Parish Centre (non-Vacc status)
From 6.00pm - Community Carols



Where did I say that you should buy so much stuff to celebrate my birthday!?

www.buynothingchristmas.org

TODAY'S READINGS

ADVENT 1

First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah
“The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will fulfil the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah. “In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David’s line; he will do what is just and right in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The Lord Our Righteous Savior.”

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm: 25:4-5, 8-10, 14

Response: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

1. Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths,
Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my saviour,
and for you I wait all the day. **(R)**
2. Good and upright is the LORD;
thus he shows sinners the way.
He guides the humble to justice,
and teaches the humble his way. **(R)**
3. All the paths of the LORD are
kindness and constancy toward those
who keep his covenant and his decrees.
The friendship of the LORD is with those
who fear him, and his covenant, for their
instruction. **(R)**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

A reading from the first letter to the Thessalonians

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply

what is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, **alleluia!**

Show us, Lord, your love; and grant us your salvation. **Alleluia!**

Gospel: Luke 21:25-38

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

‘There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.’ He told them this parable: ‘Look at the fig-tree and all the trees. When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ‘Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

'Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.' Each day Jesus was teaching at the temple, and each evening he went out to spend the night on the hill called the Mount of Olives, and all the people came early in the morning to hear him at the temple.

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

THE PROPER

Sentence: "Heaven and earth will pass away," says the Lord, "but my words will not pass away."

Collect: Eternal God, through long generations you prepared a way for the coming of your Son, and by your Spirit you still bring light to illumine our paths: renew us in faith and hope that we may welcome Christ to rule our thoughts and claim our love; to whom be glory for ever.
Amen.

Advent Bible Studies 2021

"Show Me Your Ways O Lord"

*Rev James will be distributing
digitally and by hard copy.*

*If you would like an extra copy for
a friend or stranger - please get
in touch with Rev!*

USEFUL GIFTS SHOP – Christmas Season 2021 **(Tearfund Australia)**

Our world is facing great challenges at this time, and it is crying out for good news. **Useful Gifts bring good news.** By creating new opportunities for health, education, safe water, food and stronger communities, every Useful Gift purchased helps to spread hope to a world in need.

Rev James will once again be running the Useful Gifts Shop this Christmas Season.

You are able to purchase your Useful Gifts:

1. Personally through Rev James at anytime during the next two months. He will accept cash, cheque or credit card payments.
2. Through the Christ Church Anglican Fundraiser page: <http://useful.gifts/4ahn2> - where you can securely purchase you gifts from the Useful Gifts menu.

Please contact Rev James for more information.

