



Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Easter 7
12 May 2024

Sunday Services: 9.30am & 5.00pm - Warracknabeal
11.00am St Mark's Areegra



Hello Everyone! I hope your week has gone well for you.

Thank you very much to Fiona and David Holland for leading Sunday services last weekend. Their willingness (first of all) and their skills are most appreciated and it allowed me to enjoy a couple of days with my family. There is nothing quite like having a chat face-to-face. My nephew, Fred was grieving the death of his Pop (on his mother's side) during the week - so this was an opportune time to distract him from some of the pain of the reality of life. He had a brill day on Sunday at the MCG: getting himself on telly and was given a signed red ball from his favourite player Michael Frederick. As he said himself just before I left him and his dad at the airport, and I quote: "*I can't believe I've gone from 'I can't believe it! In a sad way' to 'I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! In a good way - in a week.'*"

Sometimes it is just how life goes.

On a completely different bit of news, I am delighted to announce that Fiona Holland will be attending the Ordination Conference in November, as a candidate for the role of Vocational Deacon in our Diocese. Fiona and I have been discerning over the last 12-18 months, and at her own expense is participating in a CPE Course due to finish in June. (CPE = Clinical Pastoral Education) With your prayers and encouragement - we wish Fiona every blessing for this next phase of the process, At the end of the day - the Bishop makes the final decision!

As a consequence of this public announcement: a) Fiona and I will be developing ways for her to exercise her gifts (and calling) in various ways in the parish over the next few months; and, b) I would like Fiona to be accompanied in this process by a parish support group - who are willing to meet with her regularly. If you would like to be a participant in this support group - would you please contact me directly, and we can get on with the 'good stuff.' Every blessing, Rev James

Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry and swift recovery for ongoing health issues; for our sisters and brothers of faith in the Ballarat Deanery;
- For Sherry Barber (Suzy Callaghan's sister) – battling cancer;
- For all who feel unsafe or threatened or oppressed;
- For bold stances against violence;
- For all our beautiful women in our lives;
- For all our beautiful men in our lives;
- For Light in the face of darkness; for Hope in the face of despair; for Love in the face of hatred and discord;
- For those displaced by war and ethnic prejudice;
- For those seeking refuge far from home;
- For a STOP to war around the globe; and for all brokering peace;
- For the people of Kenya; Tanzania; Burundi; India; Haiti;
- For the people of Ukraine and Palestine;
- For those who hunger for food; for those who thirst for water; for those who seek peace from war, violence & exploitation;
- For our neighbour/s;
- For those known to us who are unwell;
- For seasonal weather and safe sowing season for our farmers in our region;
- For Fiona and David and family;
- For Peace in our hearts and homes;

Years Mind: Dorothy Smith, Charles O'Bryan, John Cowan, Lynnette Kay, Derek Close

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

Service Times May/June

Easter 7 – 12 May

9.30am & 5.00pm

11.00am St Mark's Areegra

Pentecost – 19 May

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Trinity – 26 May

9.30am Warracknabeal

5.00pm Café Church

Pentecost 2 – 02 June

9.30am & 5.00pm

11.00am St Mark's Areegra

Tuesday – 04 June

5.00pm – Healing Eucharist

Pentecost 3 – 09 June

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Pentecost 4 – 16 June

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Pentecost 5 – 23 June

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

Pentecost 3 – 30 June

10.30am Warracknabeal

(One service only)

Other Parish matters:

1. Thanks to Russell who installed the plaque in the Parish Centre to acknowledge the generosity that enabled new blinds.
2. The Boys' Shed - we have a commercial builder who is preparing a quote to finish works. We are tracking down a new Building Surveyor who will be willing to ensure our compliance with building regulations.
3. Our new Audio installation work is nearing completion, and system working well. *(Another generous donation)*

TODAY'S READINGS

EASTER 7

First Reading: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about a hundred and twenty) and said, 'Brothers and sisters, the Scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through David concerning Judas, who served as guide for those who arrested Jesus. He was one of our number and shared in our ministry.' Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus was living among us, beginning from John's baptism to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these must become a witness with us of his resurrection.' So they nominated two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias. Then they prayed, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen to take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs.' Then they cast lots, and the lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the eleven apostles.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm: 1

Response: *Blessed are they who hope in the Lord*

1. Blessed the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked, nor walks in the way of sinners, nor sits in the company of the insolent, but delights in the law of the LORD and meditates on his law day and night. **(R)**

2. He is like a tree planted near running water, that yields its fruit in due season, and whose leaves never fade. Whatever he does, prospers. **(R)**

3. Not so the wicked, not so; they are like chaff which the wind drives away. For the LORD watches over the way of the just, but the way of the wicked vanishes. **(R)**

Second Reading: 1 John 5:9-13

A reading from the first letter of John

We accept human testimony, but God's testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son. Whoever believes in the Son of God accepts this testimony. Whoever does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because they have not believed the testimony God has given about his Son. And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

I will not leave you orphans says the Lord. I will come back to you and your hearts will rejoice.

Alleluia!

A reading from the gospel according to John

'I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled. 'I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

THE PROPER

Sentence: Jesus prayed, 'Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.'

Collect: Almighty God, your blessed Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: mercifully give us faith to trust that, as he promised, he abides with us on earth until the end of time; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

"Violence cannot be stopped by violence. It has to be stopped by wisdom. Only wisdom can stop violence."

Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar

For anyone who is impacted by domestic, family or sexual violence:

1800 RESPECT

1800 737 732