

Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Epiphany 3
26 January 2025

Sunday Services: 9.30am Warracknabeal



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

What does it mean to be Australian? Why is it important to you?

I had an experience when I had been back in Australia for a number of years as I walked up Mount Kosciuszko for the first time. I had resisted being back in Australia because I missed London SO MUCH! The organisation I had been working for was really, really hard work, and I had just moved to the Nations Capital (which is a wonderful place to live by the way - contrary to popular belief). Anyway, I recall as I reached the ridge that led to the peak on that day - a very deep sense of 'this land belongs to me.' A kind of - THIS is my land.

I started to understand much more deeply the importance of how First Nations Peoples talk about how identity is inextricably connected to land, water and sky. For a younger man resisting everything Australian (for a myriad of reasons) this experience really made a huge difference in my life.

I watched the movie, "The Way. My Way" on Netflix the other night - a simple and cute story of a 'silly' Australian man walking the 'silly' Camino. By the end I was weeping buckets of tears as I recalled vividly in my mind each step I took into the square, the exhaustion of my adventure and although 10 years ago, I could have been walking into Santiago right then and there! I have no other way to explain this powerful experience.

I seriously question why we still 'celebrate' Australia Day on a day that brought and continues to bring so much pain to many people who dwell in our land. However, I am so grateful to live on this part of the planet - when so many have been displaced, deposed and deported from the 'lands' that they love. To walk out into the back garden to see the Southern Cross at night - WOW! It means a lot to have the privilege of dwelling here. I invite us all to approach the coming weekend with compassion and understanding - and with gratitude. *Blessings, Rev James*

Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry; for Fr Scott; for Registry Staff;
- For Mason R. and successful surgery;
- For those in Tibet; for those in California; for those in Yemen; for the people of Palestine and Israel; for the people of USA;
- For the leaders of all Nations, those with influence to act for the Common Good;
- For all whose lives are disrupted and changed due to Natural disaster;
- For all who are experiencing difficulty – relationships, faith, circumstances;
- 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 Grace that dispels grief; for God's Love that dispels fear; for God's Peace that dispels war;
- For all becoming Australian Citizens;
- For all who are travelling; for those visiting; for those exploring;
- For all our families & friends.

Years Mind: Verda LOATS (2017), David ROBERTSON (1982), Ralph CLARKSON (2005), Pauline HEWITT (2011), Clara KIRSCH (1991), Alfred HOLLAND Snr. (1984), John JOHNSON (1989), Leonard SANDFORD (2000), Henry CHAPMAN (2009), Roderick STEED (2013), Albert LEVER (1996), Cecil BRYCE (2020)

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

Service Times Jan/Feb

Epiphany 3 – 26 January 2025

9.30am Warracknabeal

Epiphany 4 – 02 February 2025

9.30am & 5.00pm - Warracknabeal

11.00am St Mark's Areegra

Tuesday 04 February

5.00pm Eucharist

Saturday 08th February

10.30am Consecration of Fr Scott Lowrey
St Paul's Melbourne

Epiphany 5 – 09 February 2025

9.30am & 5.00pm - Warracknabeal

Epiphany 6 – 16 February 2025

9.30am & 5.00pm - Warracknabeal

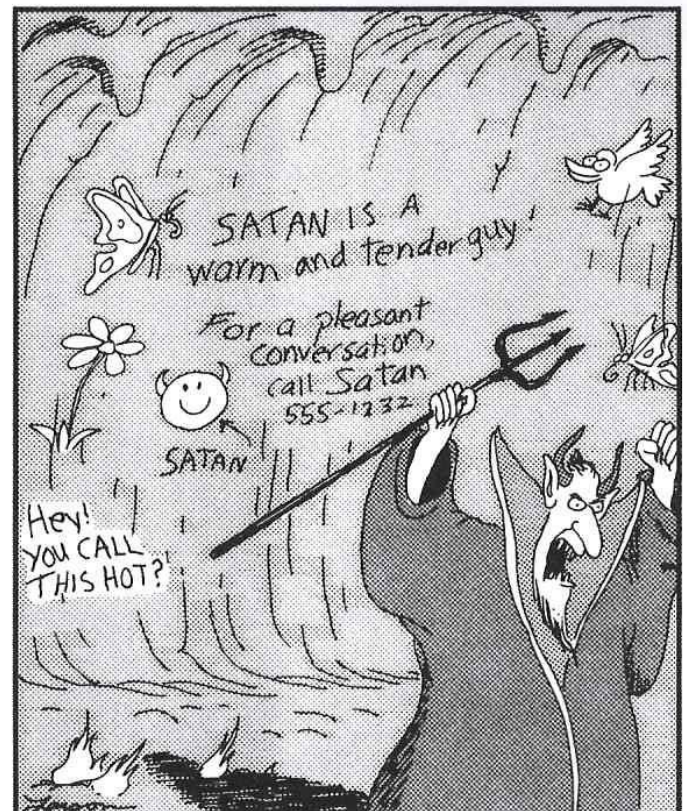
Epiphany 7 – 23 February 2025

9.30am – Warracknabeal & 'Fancy' morning tea
5.00pm Café church

Transfiguration – 02 March 2025

9.30am - Warracknabeal

11.00am St Mark's Areegra



Graffiti in hell

TODAY'S READINGS

THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

First Reading: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

A reading from the book of Nehemiah

Israelites had settled in their towns, 1all the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded for Israel. So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law. Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. Ezra praised the Lord , the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, 'Amen! Amen!' Then they bowed down and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read. Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and teacher of the Law, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, 'This day is holy to the Lord your God. Do not mourn or weep.' For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law. Nehemiah said, 'Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord . Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm:

19

Response: Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.

1. The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul; The decree of the LORD is trustworthy, giving wisdom to the simple. **(R)**
2. The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The command of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eye. **(R)**
3. The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; The ordinances of the LORD are true, all of them just. **(R)**
4. Let the words of my mouth and the thought of my heart find favour before you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer. **(R)**

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 12:12-31

A reading from the first letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptised by one Spirit so as to form one body – whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free – and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. And so the body is not made up of one part but of many. Now if the foot should say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,' it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. And if the ear should say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,' it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one

part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I don't need you!' And the head cannot say to the feet, 'I don't need you!' On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and the parts that we think are less honourable we treat with special honour. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honour to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? Now eagerly desire the greater gifts. Love is indispensable And yet I will show you the most excellent way.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, **Alleluia!**

The Lord sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, and to proclaim liberty to captives. **Alleluia!**

Gospel:

Luke 4:14-21

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him. He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: 'The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, 'Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.'

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

THE PROPERS

Sentence: Jesus read from the prophet Isaiah: 'The Spirit of the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives.'

Collect: Life-giving God, who sent your Son Jesus to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority: anoint us with your Spirit, that we too may bring good news to the poor, bind up the broken-hearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**