



# Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

## Advent 1

## 27 November 2022

**Hello Everyone!** I hope you've had a good week!

**Sunday Services:** 9.30am Warracknabeal  
8.30-12.30 Coffee Van  
6.30pm Prelude to Christmas (Uniting)

A new church year begins! Hoorah! So what Rev! some may respond. True - so what? What does it mean for our faith community to welcome Jesus once again this Christmas Season? What makes our lives different from the 'chaos' washing its way across the globe whether through natural disaster, violent gangs in places we don't care about, or within the political posturing in our State Election.

It means NOTHING if we treat each other badly. It means NOTHING if people are excluded from our parish activities through prejudice or an inability or unwillingness to deal with our own inadequacies. It means NOTHING if we play childish games of power and control because of our own fear and woundedness. It means NOTHING if we do not take the LOG out of our own eye ... before we start pointing at the sand grains in another. It means NOTHING if you and I cannot witness to the world that there CAN BE ANOTHER WAY; a way of HOPE and HEALING, and live generously - does the GOLDEN RULE mean nothing to us? Jesus' own words I believe. [*Just in case: "In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets." Matthew 7:12*]

I am not saying we have to be 'perfect' - that's too hard and most probably unrealistic. I - more than most of you - need to reflect on my prejudices and lack of patience and own self-importance. What better time to do it than in the 'new year'. How can we encourage each other to live as people of faith and FREEDOM?

On another note: **VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IS NOT OKAY**

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence is an annual campaign that begins on 25 November, led by civil society, the campaign is supported by the United Nations through the Secretary General's UNiTE by 2030 to End Violence against Women initiative. This year, the UN marks the 16 Days under the theme "UNiTE! Activism to end violence against women and girls". Blessings, Rev!



## Prayer in the Parish

### In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry;
- For our Farmers and their families;
- For the people of Haiti;
- For all the women & children of Iran;
- For all the people of Ukraine;
- For the women & young women of Afghanistan;
- For the Elimination of Violence Against ALL Women; for strong and tender men & boys of all ages;
- For justice and mercy for all people;
- For our planet – its beauty & fragility;
- For Christian Emergency Food Centre;
- For those who are grieving;
- For those celebrating significant milestones, birthdays, anniversaries;
- For all those in financial stress; for those unable to 'make ends meet';
- For all our State politicians;
- Thanks for our all God's blessings;

**Years Mind:** Lindsay Westerland, Kenneth Newell, Clifford Fernandes

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

## Services –Nov/Dec

### Advent 1 – 27 November

9.30am Warracknabeal

8.30-12.30 Coffee Van

6.30pm **Prelude to Christmas**  
at Uniting Church

### Advent 2 – 04 December

9.30am Warracknabeal

*'Celebration of Commitment'*  
*Special Morning Tea to follow*

### Advent 3 – 11 December

9.30am Warracknabeal

8.30-12.30 Coffee Van

5.00pm Café Church

### Advent 4 – 18 December

9.30am Warracknabeal

6.00pm Community Carols

## Christmas Services

### Lessons & Carols – Areegra

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec – 6.00pm

### Christmas Eve – 24 Dec

8.30pm Refreshments & fellowship

10.00pm – Lessons & Carols & HC

### Christmas Day – 25 Dec

9.30am – Christmas Celebration & HC

### Christmas 1 – 01 January 2023

10.30am – Carols & HC

### Epiphany – 08 Jan 2023

9.30am – HC

**Next week:** A special 'Celebration of Commitment' Service at 9.30am followed by a 'fancy' morning tea in the Parish Centre. Please bring a plate to share. We will celebrate the faithfulness of all people in the parish: our Parish Council members, and three clergy - called by the One sent by God, Emmanuel = God with us.

# TODAY'S READINGS

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading:

Isaiah 2:1-5

### ***A reading from the prophet Isaiah***

This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem: in the last days the mountain of the Lord's temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and all nations will stream to it. Many peoples will come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths.' The law will go out from Zion, the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war any more. Come, descendants of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

Psalm:

122:1-5

**Response: *Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.***

1. I rejoiced because they said to me, "We will go up to the house of the LORD."

And now we have set foot within your gates, O Jerusalem. (R)

2. Jerusalem, built as a city with compact unity. To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD. (R)

3. According to the decree for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD. In it are set up judgment seats, seats for the house of David. (R)

4. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! May those who love you prosper! May peace be within your walls, prosperity in your buildings. (R)  
Because of my brothers and friends I will say, "Peace be within you!"  
Because of the house of the LORD, our God,  
I will pray for your good. (R)

5. Because of my brothers and friends I will say, "Peace be within you!"  
Because of the house of the LORD, our God,  
I will pray for your good. (R)

Second Reading:

Romans 13:9-14

### ***A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans***

The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not murder,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not covet,' and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Love does no harm to a neighbour. Therefore love is the fulfilment of the law. And do this, understanding the present time: the hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armour of light. Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation. **Alleluia!**

## Gospel:

Matthew 24:36-44

### ***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew***

'But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left. 'Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

This is the gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

## The Propers

**Sentence:** Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and the we may walk in his paths.

**Collect:** Faithful God, whose promises stand unshaken through all generations: renew us in hope, that we may be awake and alert watching for the glorious return of Jesus Christ, our Judge and Saviour, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Be Patient  
& Stand firm  
Because  
The Lords  
Coming  
is Near

### **Advent Study - Tuesdays at 4.00pm**

For anyone who is interested in getting together for a weekly advent study using the Diocesan advent study guide, there will be a get together for 4 weeks on Tuesday afternoons beginning Tuesday November 29. The format will be an informal discussion over coffee and cake from 4pm to 5.00pm at 267 Scott Street. Please contact Fiona if you are interested and would like to have a booklet printed for you. 0400 332 529. **Dates: 29 Nov, 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Dec**