



# Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

**Lent 2**  
**16 March 2025**

**Sunday Services: 9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal**



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

I will never know what it is like to be genuinely persecuted. White, middle class and educated keeps me pretty well clear of basic prejudice and distrust. Further, I've never felt called by God to enter those difficult places on earth where Christianity is a minority faith (phew); but, there is still time I guess for the Spirit to do her thing!

My faith never really has come under 'attack'! Save for the way humans treat each other and in those moments of utter tragedy as part of my role. However, even in those 'tragic moments' there has always been a 'spirit of grace' through people, events or circumstances which have led to hope - even through despair.

Our worst 'persecutor' is *APATHY*.

The inescapable reality that many people 'just don't care'. Or, as I have discovered through a number of various conversations in various mixed establishments - many are not educated enough to engage in proper debate or ridicule. Has our beloved church helped create such 'apathy' through a lack of outreach or dis-interest in the 'world-at-large'? Pomp and ceremony and jargon - although seemingly necessary and right, have all helped to confuse or complicate our relationship to the Divine. (Of course, many have helped turn many away due to terrible, terrible behaviour.)

All the pomp and ceremony and jargon was meant to inspire and energize and equip many for faithful service and courageous action. Conviction was not necessary but it certainly helped! I have been stuck (willingly) on the phrase in last week's Gospel; "Filled with the Holy Spirit..." and tried to reflect on how 'full' can one man be? How can I 'spill' some of that Holy Spirit around the place. We will all have our own version of this reality of course. I hope you have found a good 'well' to draw from and that all your endeavours in faith, hope and love - have indeed been fruitful.

Blessings, Rev James

## Prayer in the Parish

### **In the Parish & Beyond:**

- +Garry; for all Diocesan endeavours;
- For the visit of current Registrar Peter Jarvis to Warracknabeal this weekend;
- For the appointment of a new Diocesan Registrar and those on selection panel;
- For our sisters and brothers in the Anglican Communion;
- For Project Regenerate: Explore. Rejoice. Give. 2025-2026
- For the leaders of all Nations, those with influence to act for the Common Good;
- 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 Residential Care Facilities;
- For all facing flood damage;
- For completion of The Shed Project;
- For all our families & friends;
- For our neighbours;
- For all those we love, near and far away;

**Years Mind:** Atoll PRICE (1990), Coral PANTER (2012), John MENZEL (2015), Murray MOLONEY (2016), John ROWNEY (1990), Sybil FLETT (2002) Marjorie SHERWELL (2010), Lawrence HANNEL (1989), Edwin HARRIS (2007), Barry PANTER (1985), Stephen JEFFERY (2005), William SCICLUNA (1996), Donald PATTERSON (2013)

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

## Service Times March/April

Sat 15<sup>th</sup> - BYO dinner with Peter Jarvis  
6.30pm Parish Centre

### Lent 2 – 16 March

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

### Lent 3 – 23 March

9.30am Warracknabeal & 5.00pm Café Church

### Lent 4 – 30 March

10.30am Warracknabeal (tbc)

### Lent 5 – 06 April 2025

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

### Palm / Passion Sunday – 13 April

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

### Walk of the Cross – 15-17<sup>th</sup> April

Hopetoun to Warracknabeal via Beulah & Brim

### Maundy Thursday – 17<sup>th</sup> April

6.00pm - Seder Meal & Washing of the Feet

### Good Friday

9.30am – Reflections at the Foot of the Cross

### Easter Sunday – 20 April

9.30am Warracknabeal

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**This weekend, we will welcome Peter Jarvis (and maybe Glenys but not sure) to Warracknabeal - to say THANK YOU - for their faithful service in our Diocese over the last decade (or maybe more).**

**Peter has been our Diocesan Registrar, and is retiring from this role on 3<sup>rd</sup> April.**

**We will celebrate with a bring a plate dinner in Parish Centre on Sat 15<sup>th</sup> March - 6.30pm, and at church on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March. It will be a gentle and relaxed gathering and ALL ARE WELCOME!**

# TODAY'S READINGS

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

**First Reading:** Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

### ***A reading from the book of Genesis***

The Lord God took Abram outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so," he added, "shall your descendants be." Abram put his faith in the LORD, who credited it to him as an act of righteousness. He then said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as a possession." "O Lord GOD," he asked, "how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He answered him, "Bring me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old she-goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." Abram brought him all these, split them in two, and placed each half opposite the other; but the birds he did not cut up. Birds of prey swooped down on the carcasses, but Abram stayed with them. As the sun was about to set, a trance fell upon Abram, and a deep, terrifying darkness enveloped him. When the sun had set and it was dark, there appeared a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch, which passed between those pieces. It was on that occasion that the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the Great River, the Euphrates."

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm:** 27:1, 7-9, 13-14

### ***Response: The Lord is my light and my salvation.***

1. The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear?  
The LORD is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid? **(R)**

2. Hear, O LORD, the sound of my call;  
have pity on me, and answer me.  
Of you my heart speaks; you my glance seeks. **(R)**
3. Your presence, O LORD, I seek.  
Hide not your face from me;  
do not in anger repel your servant.  
You are my helper: cast me not off.  
**(R)**
4. I believe that I shall see the bounty of  
the LORD in the land of the living.  
Wait for the LORD with courage;  
be stout hearted, and wait for the  
LORD. **(R)**

**Second Reading:** Philippians 3:17-4:1

### ***A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians***

Join with others in being imitators of me, brothers and sisters, and observe those who thus conduct themselves according to the model you have in us. For many, as I have often told you and now tell you even in tears, conduct themselves as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction. Their God is their stomach; their glory is in their "shame." Their minds are occupied with earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: This is my beloved Son, listen to him.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**

**Gospel: Luke 13:31-35**

***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke***

At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, 'Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you.' He replied, 'Go and tell that fox, "I will keep on driving out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal." In any case, I must press on today and tomorrow and the next day – for surely

no prophet can die outside Jerusalem! 'Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord."'

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

**THE PROPERS**

**Sentence:** Our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Collect:** God of our ancestors, whose chosen servant Abraham was given faith to obey your call and go out into the unknown: endow your Church with such faith that we may follow you with courage; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**"Abba Poemen said:**

**The nature of water is yielding, and that of a stone is hard. Yet if you hang a bottle filled with water above a stone so that the water drips drop by drop, it will wear a hole in the stone.**

**In the same way the word of God is tender, and our heart is hard. So, when people hear the word of God frequently, their hearts are opened to the fear of God."**

*[Desert Wisdom: Saying from the Desert Fathers. © 1982. Orbis Books, New York.]*

