



Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Lent 1
09 March 2025

Sunday Services: 9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal



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

I've had a ripper! Vikki and I have had the best time with family and friends - I'd do it all again tomorrow! Almost everything went to plan and Rev Wayne from Millicent was brill. There were lots of opportunities to spend time with people as the days unfolded, and getting back into work this week has been okay.

With Jesus, I invite us all to turn our faces toward Jerusalem and prepare for the wonderful Easter Mystery that awaits. Lent is such a sacred time ... and I was reminded on Ash Wednesday with a couple of notes I have tucked away especially for the occasion - "Start Your Impossible"! Whatever it may be, whatever the circumstances that make up our lives at the time, whoever we are journeying with at the moment - Lent is an opportunity to bravely look 'fear' or 'despair' or 'difficulty' or 'challenge' directly in the face and say - "I've got this - with God's help."

There is always an opportunity to grow.

There is always an opportunity to revisit a personal dynamic.

There is always an opportunity to 'plant' a new idea or activity.

There is always an opportunity to turn the 'cow manure of our lives into compost'.

There is always an opportunity to focus on God with more intent, tender intent.

There is always an opportunity to reach out to a neighbour or friend.

There is always an opportunity to encourage a spirit of hope.

As in the past, I encourage you in your Lenten discipline to 'TAKE SOMETHING EXTRA ON!' (*Denial only works if it helps you to focus on God more clearly*) I find that doing something extra helps to focus the mind and heart when our lives already have so much going on.

Remember that I'm always up for a chat about 'matters of consequence' during the Lenten season. Get in touch if you need or want. *Every blessing, Rev James*

Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry; for all Diocesan endeavours;
- For the appointment of a Diocesan Registrar;
- 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 God's Presence in our respective 'wildernesses' – when God seems absent or asleep;
- For courage to face all our 'dangers';
- For hope in the face of despair;
- For all our Supermarket workers;
- 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: Pearl ROBERTSON (1979), Donald McKENZIE (2018), Allan CLARKE (1997), Beryl HOOPER (2013), Judith MARSHMAN (2018)

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

Service Times March/April

Please note changes from last week.

Lent 1 – 09 March

9.30am & 5.00pm Warracknabeal

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 – 15-17th April

Maundy Thursday – 17th 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

"Abba Lot went to see Abba Joseph and said: Abba, as much as I am able I practice a small rule, a little fasting, some prayer and meditation, and remain quiet, and as much as possible I keep my thoughts clean. What else should I do?

Then the old man stood up and stretched out his hands toward heaven, and his fingers became like ten torches of flame. And he said: If you wish, you can become all flame."

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

TODAY'S READINGS

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

When you have entered the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance and have taken possession of it and settled in it, take some of the firstfruits of all that you produce from the soil of the land that the Lord your God is giving you and put them in a basket. Then go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his Name and say to the priest in office at the time, 'I declare today to the Lord your God that I have come to the land the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.' The priest shall take the basket from your hands and set it down in front of the altar of the Lord your God. Then you shall declare before the Lord your God: 'My father was a wandering Aramean, and he went down into Egypt with a few people and lived there and became a great nation, powerful and numerous. But the Egyptians ill-treated us and made us suffer, subjecting us to harsh labour. Then we cried out to the Lord, the God of our ancestors, and the Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, toil and oppression. So the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror and with signs and wonders. He brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey; and now I bring the firstfruits of the soil that you, Lord, have given me.' Place the basket before the Lord your God and bow down before him. Then you and the Levites and the foreigners residing among you shall rejoice in all the good things the Lord your God has given to you and your household.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 91:1-2, 10-15

Response: Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

1. You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, say to the LORD, "My refuge and fortress, my God in whom I trust." (R)
2. No evil shall befall you, nor shall affliction come near your tent, For to his angels he has given command about you, that they guard you in all your ways. (R)
3. Upon their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. You shall tread upon the asp and the viper; you shall trample down the lion and the dragon. (R)
4. Because he clings to me, I will deliver him; I will set him on high because he acknowledges my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in distress; I will deliver him and glorify him. (R)

Second Reading: Romans 10:4-13

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes. Moses writes this about the righteousness that is by the law: 'The person who does these things will live by them.' But the righteousness that is by faith says: 'Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?"' (that is, to bring Christ down) 'or "Who will descend into the deep?"' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? 'The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,' that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: if you

declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. As Scripture says, 'Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.' For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile – the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:

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

One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God

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

Gospel:

Luke 4:1-15

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.' Jesus answered, 'It is written: "Man shall not

live on bread alone.'" The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And he said to him, 'I will give you all their authority and splendour; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. If you worship me, it will all be yours.' Jesus answered, 'It is written: "Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'" The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down from here. For it is written: "He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" Jesus answered, 'It is said: "Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time. 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.

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

THE PROPERS

Sentence: Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.

Collect: O saving God, who led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land: so guide us that, following our Saviour, we may walk through the wilderness of this world and be brought to the glory of the world which is to come; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**