

Anglican Parish of Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal, Areegra, Minyip, Hopetoun, Brim

Epiphany
05 January 2025

Sunday Services: 9.30am Warracknabeal
 11.00am St Mark's Areegra



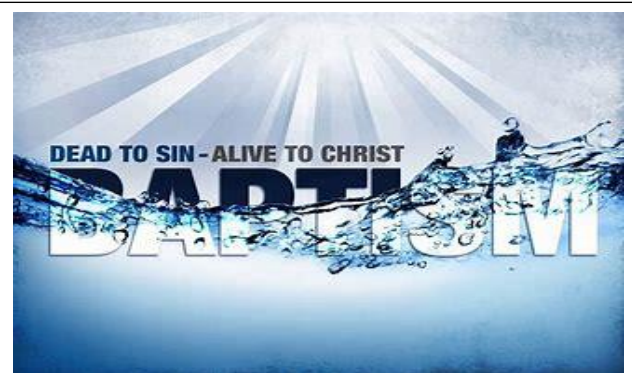
Happy New Year Everyone!

I hope that 2025 will be a 'cracker' for you. As we journey into the knowns and unknowns that await us this year - I trust that you will be able to make sense of the things you cannot control, and probably more importantly embrace the things that you can! Not always the easy task, but certainly one of our human privileges in the world in which we live!

They say (however 'they' are), that if you want to make God laugh you tell God your plans! While this phrase endorses the reality that the Holy Spirit cannot be 'bargained or controlled' by our own thoughts and endeavours, I am a huge fan of 'making plans'. My theory is, if you have a plan, you can be more flexible in reality. Having a plan means that if circumstances change for reasons within or beyond our control they can be rescheduled, reviewed and re-committed.

Setting goals and setting a vision for the future is good for mind, heart and (often) body - all the books and articles will tell you so! I think is also a healthy spiritual discipline, and when we are listening to God's Holy Spirit in prayer or our devotions, our daily activities that give life, light and love to ourselves and those we love - we will know when we're on the 'right track' or need to adapt our plans accordingly. 'Take courage. Don't be afraid.'

Every blessing, Rev James



A very warm welcome this morning to all the family and friends of Max Young who will be baptised in the waters of new life. It is a 'welcome home' to many as you join us for worship and rejoice in our church's sacraments.

Prayer in the Parish

In the Parish & Beyond:

- +Garry; for all our Diocesan sisters and brother in faith;
- For all whose lives are disrupted and changed due to Natural disaster – home and abroad; those affected by fire;
- For all First Responders this Christmas and New Year Season;
- For the leaders of all Nations, those with influence to act for the Common Good;
- For those who hunger for food;
- For those who thirst for water;
- For those seeking refuge and asylum;
- For all who are grieving;
- For all known to us in hospital and Aged Care Facilities; for those known to us who are unwell;
- For God's 'JOY' in our hearts, our homes and our lives;
- For God's light that dispels darkness; for God's life that dispels death and disease; for God's love that dispels fear;
- For our neighbours;
- For all who are travelling this Christmas Season;
- For all our families & friends.

Years Mind: Beverley BOYLE (2020), Thomas CALLAWAY (1989), Edward HALE (1998), George ARMSTRONG (2023), Herbert HILTON (1994), Mona PAYNE (2004), Barry McKENZIE (2022), Robert PERCY (2013), Millie LANDT (1995), Ian ROBERTSON (2004), Harriett ROBINSON (1985), Sheila POTTER (2003), John WOOD (2007).

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

Service Times Jan

Epiphany – 05 January 2025

9.30am Warracknabeal & Baptism

11.00am St Mark's Areegra

Baptism of Our Lord – 12 January 2025

9.30am Warracknabeal

Epiphany 3 – 19 January 2025

9.30am Warracknabeal

Epiphany 4 – 26 January 2025

9.30am Warracknabeal

A note about our Prayer List & Years Mind

I would like to remind you all to make contributions to our prayer list every week. A couple of things:

- a) If you want someone named you must receive permission from them first.
- b) Just because your name is on the prayer list does not mean: 'you're about to die!' I know it sounds ridiculous however this can often be perceived as such.
- c) Names can come and go on the list and I would suggest no more than a month at a time.
- d) Any occasion can be celebrated or offered in prayer.

Years Mind: The 'book' is now updated (to my knowledge). As part of our celebration of 140 years: 2025-2026, I am planning to name ALL on the list every week (rather than just last 10 yrs). If you would like to check a particular loved one/name - please do so. I hope that this will aid our historical and current remembering.

TODAY'S READINGS

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Rise up in splendour, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory. Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance. Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you: your sons come from afar, and your daughters in the arms of their nurses. Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow, for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you, the wealth of nations shall be brought to you. Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the LORD. This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm: 72

Response: *Lord, every nation on earth will adore you*

1. God, with your judgment endow the king, and with your justice, the king's son; He shall govern your people with justice and your afflicted ones with judgment. **(R)**
2. Justice shall flower in his days, and profound peace, till the moon be no more. May he rule from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. **(R)**
3. The kings of Tarshish and the Isles shall offer gifts; the kings of Arabia and Seba shall bring tribute. All kings shall pay him homage, all nations shall serve him. **(R)**

4. For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him. He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor; the lives of the poor he shall save. **(R)**

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:1-

A reading from the letter to the Ephesians

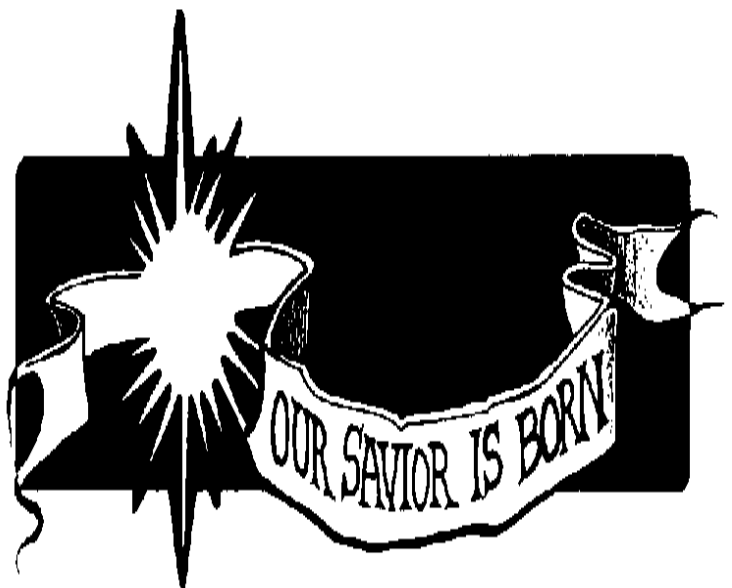
Brothers and sisters: You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit, namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation. It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and co-partners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia! We have seen his star in the East: and have come to adore the Lord. **Alleluia!**



***A reading from the gospel
according to Matthew***

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod called the magi

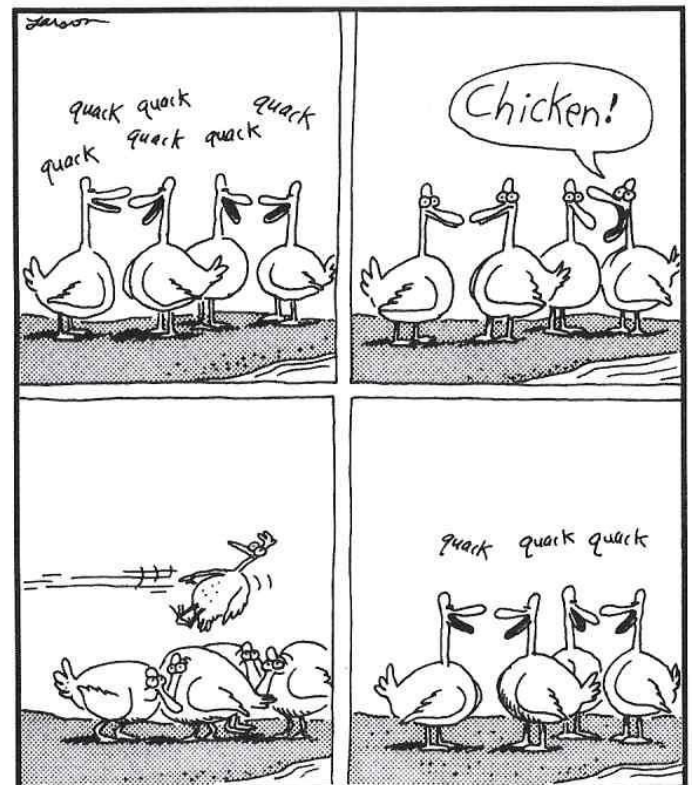
secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

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

THE PROPERS

Sentence: Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Collect: Everlasting God, who brought the nations to your light and kings to the brightness of your rising: fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the nations; through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God. now and for ever.
Amen.



"And so," the interviewer asked, "do you ever have trouble coming up with ideas?"
"Well, sometimes," the cartoonist replied.