



St Mary's Parish Warracknabeal

Parish Priest Fr Neville Stanislaus.
11 Lyle Street Warracknabeal, 53941062
Parish Secretary,
Cath Bellis—stmpcw@gmail.com,
0434086534

St Mary's Primary School,
Principal, Joy Quarrell, 53982001

St Joseph's Hopetoun. P.O Box 141
Parish Secretary, Jacki Hogan 50833566
St Joseph's Primary School.
Principal, Cynthia Maiden, 50833296

St Patrick's Nhill, 33 Leahy Street, Nhill.
Contact Ann Munro—53929272
St Patrick's Primary School.
Principal, Kathryn Bendall, 53911575

St Mary's Rainbow
Contact Kath White, 53957261

St Augustine's Beulah
Contact Brendan Naylor, 50837242

St Patrick's Minyip
Contact Margaret Murphy, 53857479

Last Weekends Collections

Warrack:	
Planned Giving	\$ 93.00
Presbytery	\$157.00
Minyip	
Planned Giving	\$550.00
Presbytery	\$39.00
Nhill	
Planned giving	\$62.00
Presbytery	\$84.00

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Celebrant: The angel Gabriel was sent by God to announce the good news to Mary, thus giving us happiness with your word of life. Believing in your word, let our hearts be so filled with love for you that they glow with the light of these four candles.

An appointed person now lights the candles on the wreath.

Celebrant: Let us pray:

All: Loving God, You call us all to be your people united in joy, to prepare the way of the Lord. These candles have been lit in peace, the peace that Jesus, our Saviour, gives to the world. Though we have not seen Jesus, we love him; and even though we do not see him now, we believe in him. Let us prepare, then, the way of the Lord.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Next Weekend

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve:

5.00pm, Nhill

7.00pm, Rainbow

8.30pm, Hopetoun

Christmas Day:

8.30am, Warracknabeal

Sunday, December 18 4th Sunday of Advent,



St Mary's Ladies Club. What a wonderful day we had on Thursday 8th December, celebrating mass with Fr John McKinnon. (Fr Neville unable to attend because of other commitments). Francis had sorted out a procession of individuals with gifts of some of the duties women perform in the Church. Eg, Catering, minute book for meetings, sponsoring of Derek, meals on wheels etc.

We moved onto the Royal Mail Hotel for our luncheon. President Joan Bentley welcomed all present and Fr John said Grace. Eight student's from St Mary's School entertained us with singing 3 songs for us to enjoy. Competitions took place throughout the day, there were some delighted winners of prizes at the end of the day. A comprehensive history was read out by Kath Moloney supported by Maureen Farrall. Some interesting stories were told by members of years gone by. Joan Bentley was presented with a gift for her many years of service to the Club. She has been in office for 26 year's. Bev Threfall in office for 20 years, and Olive Crow for 13 years. What a wonderful contribution these women have provided to the club for so many years.

A beautiful cake had been made and decorated by Bev Peart. Joan Bentley, Venetta Kelly and Olive Crow had the honour of cutting the cake.

We thank all those who have travelled and gave up their precious time to help us celebrate and a huge thank you to those who willingly helped to get it all together. We cannot forget to mention Ben Bentley for his most generous support of the Ladies Club for all he gives throughout the year. Sincere thanks to all.
Lorraine Gibson

The Season of Advent

It's a time traditionally marked for remembering the years of preparation and consecration prior to the coming of the Messiah. For many centuries, the Church has identified the beginning of the Christmas celebration with a time of reflection and expectation called Advent. The word Advent means "coming" or "arrival" and when used in combination with Christmas, reminds us of the anticipation and expectation held over hundreds of years by the people of Israel for their Messiah and promised King. For centuries before Christ, Hebrews rabbis methodically and passionately taught the Jewish people that the Messiah was coming. They taught that the people should be ready to embrace their King when he appeared. They emphasized the need for holy living and obedience to God's law.

Today we mark Advent in the Christian church with the display or a wreath—its circle reminds us of God Himself, eternal and endlessly merciful. It is evergreen—reminding us of the hope of eternal life. The four outer candles incorporated into the display represent the time of waiting and preparation for the Messiah during the four Sundays of Advent. The light of the candles reminds us of the Light of the world, and the prophetic promise of His coming.

Holiday & Christmas wishes for the School Staff and Children

On behalf of the Parish Community, I wish you all a safe, happy and blessed Christmas. I hope you all get the chance to relax and enjoy the true meaning of the Christmas season with lots of fun with your family and have a prosperous New Year.

Parish & St Patrick's School Christmas Raffle.

Thank you for your support towards our fundraiser. 1st Prize was Mark Davis, 2nd Deanne & Graeme Jago, 3rd to John Gurry and 4th to Ann Munro. The Parish raised \$202.00 and the school \$248.00

Christmas Card and Columban Calendars: These items are available for sale at the back of the church

St Vincent de Paul Annual Christmas Collection:

There will be a box at the back of the church, as of today, if you would like to make a contribution to this appeal. As in past years, we will forward any money collected to Warracknabeal group.

Next week's Readings

1st Reading: Isa, 9:1-7

2nd Reading: Tit 2:11-14

Gospel: Lk 2: 1-14

Pray for our Sick

Una Bartlett
Marj Parker
Pat Sonogo
Fred Webb

Reflection

John the Baptist was no reed swaying in the wind.
A reed swaying in the wind is a symbol
Of those who are easily influenced
Who go along with whatever is popular
And have no conviction of their own
But the humble reed can teach us something
The fact that it is light means it is
At the mercy of every wind that blows
But it has great strength too
The greatest storm cannot uproot it
Even when giant oaks come crashing down
The slender reed still stands secure
Lord, teach us that there is strength
In weakness and suppleness
And give us the wisdom to know
When to bend and when to stand firm.

NHILL	Reader & Prayers	Lay Leaders	Eucharistic Minister	Offertory Procession	Monthly Collector	Counter	Cleaner
Roster for Dec 18	J Gurry	K Bendall & D Munro	C Kennedy	—————	Robert Picone	E Cameron	M Millington
Roster for Dec 24	M Millington	—————	L Grayling	—————	Robert Picone	D & A Munro	M Millington