



ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF WANGARATTA
PAROCHIAL DISTRICT OF WANGARATTA WEST & THE WARBYNS

19th January 2025
The Second Sunday after Epiphany

Dear Parishioners,

Today can be marked as Aboriginal Sunday, the Sunday before Australia Day. It was only a couple of weeks ago that I was made aware of this quite old observance. I give below some small history of the origin of this observance.

Peace and Joy, Neil Hicks.

On 26th January 1938, Aboriginal Leaders gathered on Gadigal land in Sydney on the 150th anniversary of the first fleet's arrival in Sydney Cove. Some of these leaders included Yorta Yorta man and Pastor William Cooper, Jack Patten and William Ferguson from the Aborigines Progressive Association, Pastor Sir Doug Nicholls, Aunty Pearl Gibbs and Aunty Margaret Tucker. In protest, they declared the 26th January to be a Day of Mourning, rather than a day of rejoicing. For Aboriginal peoples, these 150 years since colonisation were filled with deep pain, dispossession, and discrimination, very much worthy of mourning.

In the years following the 1938 Day of Mourning, William Cooper made his call to the Australian Churches to pray for and uplift the plight of Aboriginal peoples on the Sunday before January 26th. This vision is what we now reclaim as Aboriginal Sunday.

A Benediction for Aboriginal Sunday

*In the darkness of the night, may we look up to the heavens
where our wounded Saviour has left His markings
as a reminder of His great love and faithfulness.*

May we find our next steps in confidence and hope with Him.

*May we hear His voice calling us up and out of despair
and into the living hope of His kingdom and good way. Amen.*

The story in today's Gospel of the wedding at Cana is an intriguing one. The dynamic between Jesus and his mother is fascinating, as is the nature of the miracle.

The Gospels that emerged in the first few Christian centuries, under the guidance of God, as the 'canonical' ones are very reticent about Jesus' childhood. John and Mark don't mention it at all; Matthew goes straight from the Christmas stories to the baptism of Jesus; and Luke has one story of the 12-year-old boy in the temple. Some of the other writings that were circulating among Christians in the early centuries are not so restrained. They tell stories of a miraculous boyhood, of a child whittling a bird out of wood and then giving it life to fly away. Considering the human temptation to biographies, it is very interesting that the common mind of the Church rejected these stories as not essential to our faith. There are all kinds of reasons for this, but one thing that is noticeable about the four Gospels that we base our lives on is their drivenness—they tell a story that leads inexorably to the cross, and nothing is included that is not vital to that story.

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Dates for your Diary

Save the Date 2025 - Artisan Markets: Saturday 3 May & Saturday 29 November
Parish Council—Wednesday 22nd January at 2.00pm—St Michael's Hall.

Proposed Car Boot Sale and Bake Sale

Saturday 15th March.

anyone who does not bake but who would like to contribute towards ingredients for those who do, ***please see Sue Wheeler.***

Please spread the word about this event among family/friends—also ask them if they would like a car space to sell their second hand goods.

\$10.00 donation per car and a BYO table can be set up behind the boot.

Anyone who would like to help organise this event please let me know as soon as you can.

Sue Wheeler, for Parish Council.

Kitchen Clean at St Michael's.

Recently the kitchen underwent it's annual deep clean. Please note that food items in the fridge and pantry that were out of date, or didn't have a date on them, were thrown out.

In order to avoid ant infestations in the future please:

- make sure the lid is secure on the sugar container in the pantry.
- make sure that all opened biscuits are placed in a SEALED CONTAINER.
- make sure that ALL bins are emptied after EVERY use of the kitchen.
- DO NOT leave rubbish, recycling, or green waste in the bins after using the kitchen.

Thankyou for your co-operation.

Christmas Puddings

The Friends of Holy Trinity Cathedral extend a big “Thank You” to all who bought (and enjoyed) Elizabeth Savery’s famed Christmas Puddings. Your support is greatly appreciated and the proceeds amounted to \$1,200.00.

Another big “Thank You” to Elizabeth for making and donating these delicious puddings.

Friends of Holy Trinity Cathedral AGM.

The Friends of Holy Trinity Cathedral Annual General Meeting is scheduled to be held in Purbrick Hall on Sunday 16th February 2025 at 2.00 p.m.

New Members are very welcome.

WHAT'S ON & DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday, 20th January

Hebrews 5. 1-10. Psalm 110. 1-4. Mark 2. 18-22.

Tuesday, 21st *Agnes, martyr at Rome, virgin (d 304).*

Hebrews 6. 10-20. Psalm 111. Mark 2. 23-28.

9.30 a.m., Eucharist @St. Michaels' Hall.

10.15 a.m. Bible Study—St Michael's Hall.

2.00 p.m. Funeral of Ed McGeehan—Cathedral.

Wednesday, 22nd *Vincent, deacon and martyr (d 304).*

Hebrews 7. 1-3, (4-14) 15-17. Psalm 110. 1-4. Mark 3. 1-6.

9.30 a.m. St Michael's Craft Group—Hall.

10.00 a.m. Eucharist @Cathedral—Lady Chapel.

Thursday, 23rd Hebrews 7. 25—8. 6. Psalm 40. 6-10. Mark 3. 7-12.

10.00 a.m. Eucharist at St John's Chapel.

Friday, 24th *Companions of Paul, including Timothy, Titus and Silas.*

Hebrews 8. 6-13. Psalm 85. 8-13. Mark 3. 13-19.

Saturday, 25th CONVERSION OF PAUL THE APOSTLE

Acts 9. 1-22. Psalm 117. Galatians 1. 11-24. Luke 24. 44-48.

Sunday 26th January, Third Sunday after Epiphany

8.00 a.m. Eucharist @Holy Trinity Cathedral—Lady Chapel (CC)

10.00 a.m. Sung Eucharist @Holy Trinity Cathedral (CC)

9.30 a.m., Eucharist @St Michael's, Wangaratta. (NH)

11.00 a.m., Eucharist @St. Paul's Glenrowan. (NH)

Nehemiah 8. 1-3, 5-6, 8-10. Psalm 19. 1 Corinthians 12. 12-31. Luke 4.14-21.

I make a plea for parishioners to wear a name badge please.

With clergy coming and going and hopefully some visitors too, it helps with conversation and fellowship. Thank you. *Neil Hicks.*

EMERGENCY APPEAL LAUNCHED FOR PEOPLE AFFECTED BY THE VANUATU EARTHQUAKE

ABM AID has just launched an emergency appeal for those who have been affected by the 17 December earthquake that hit near Port Vila, causing deaths, injury, and destruction of buildings and other infrastructure in Vanuatu's capital city and surrounds.

We ask you to pray for all people affected, and for our partner, the Anglican Church of Melanesia, and especially for the Diocese of Vanuatu and New Caledonia, as it responds to the tragedy.

Sunday 19th January 2025

- ◆ **The World:** Arabian Peninsula: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.
- ◆ **Australia:** All in involved in local government: Councillors, Staff, Officers.
- ◆ **The Church in our nation:** Armenian Apostolic Church.
- ◆ **Anglican Church of Australia:** The Diocese of Perth, Archbishop Kay Goldsworthy (*Benjamin*). Assistant Bishops: Kate Wilmot, David Bassett (*Susan*); Hans Christiansen (*Ruth*). The Clergy and People.
- ◆ **Our Diocese:** Bishop Clarence Bester (*Michelle*). (*Kian & Kyle*). The Parish of Yarrowonga, Vicar: Roberta Hamilton. Parish leaders and communities at St Cuthbert's, Yarrowonga & St Thomas', St James.
- ◆ **Our Parish:** That the Co-operating Ministry between the Wangaratta Parishes may be guided by the Holy Spirit.
- ◆ **Those in Need:** Sharon W. Margot C. Warren Gould. Rob Butler. Mark Heaton. Gwen Benstead. Shirley Cameron. Bp Garry Weatherill. Josef. Wayne. Michael E. Kaye McKenzie.
- ◆ **Died Recently:** Ed McGeehan, obit 11th January
Keith Rayner, bishop, obit 12th January.
- ◆ **Year's Mind: 19th January—25th January.**
[21/01] John Collier.
[23/01] Leo Jewell, 2013.

Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord.

And may light perpetual shine upon them.

Prayer of the week (*pray daily*) {*Epiphany 2*}

Almighty God,

by whose grace alone we are accepted and called to your service:

strengthen us by your Holy Spirit

and make us worthy of our calling;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



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But the interaction between Jesus and his mother in this first miracle story in John's Gospel does suggest that Jesus' childhood was not completely ordinary. Why did Mary expect Jesus to be able to do anything about the empty wine jars? What did she know about him? John's Gospel does not tell us.