



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

The Second Sunday after Epiphany
14th January 2024

*N.B. at St Michael's & St Paul's this year we will take
the Crib down in time for Lent which begins on February 14th!*

Dear Parishioners,

This week I will be in Cheltenham for 2 days leading the Oblates of the Community of Christ the King for their Conference and Retreat.

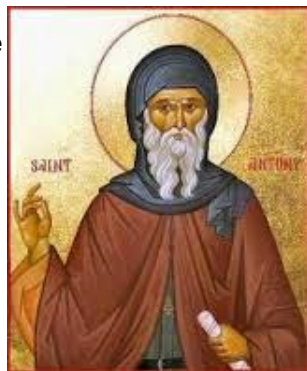
How fitting then this week to be remembering Antony of Egypt, considered to be the "father of monasticism" in the Christian Church.

Neil Hicks.

17 January, Antony of Egypt, Hermit, Abbot, 356

Antony grew up in a wealthy family in Egypt, but at the age of 20, after the death of his parents, he gave all his possessions away and started to live as a recluse, among the local ascetics in his village. From 286 to 306 Antony lived in solitude, first in a tomb, and then in an abandoned desert fort. Later he moved to the Red Sea, where a monastery was formed, and he remained there until his death at the age of 105 in the year 356.

Antony did not spend all his life cut off from the world. In 311 he travelled to Alexandria to encourage Christians who had been imprisoned for their faith, and he journeyed there on a further occasion in 355 to confront the Arians whose teaching denied the full divinity of Christ. During this second trip he met Athanasius, who was so impressed by him that he wrote the story of his life. Within this Life of Antony Athanasius presents him as an example of the monastic way. His battles with demons in the desert, and the story of his great spirituality served to fuel the growing desire for an authentic Christian life which the Church, with her greater connections with the Empire and State, was beginning to lose. The Life of Antony was disseminated widely and was immensely influential in the growth of monasticism.



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Dates for your Diary

30th January - Pangerang commences term 1
5th February - 9.30am Mothers Union meets at St Michael's
14th February Ash Wednesday
15th February - 10.30am Parish Council
23rd March - Lady Day at St Michael's
29th March - Good Friday
31st March - Easter Day
4th May - Artisan Market

Friday night movie!!

The series Chosen is underway again at St Michael's on Friday evenings., commencing at 6.00pm. It is not too late to come along, we all of us that are familiar with the life of Jesus and will have no problems catching up on the story. Episode 2 was shown on Friday, (the calling of Nathanael to follow Jesus, we have the John 1 reading this Sunday) and two questions are posed for discussion, but of course, you can participate as little or as much as you feel comfortable. A light meal follows the discussion. Please see Sue Hicks or Ela Heaton if you have any queries, or just come along, you will be very welcome.



Community Raffle

Thank you to you lovely generous folk who have sold and purchased tickets in the Community Raffle, and have returned their books and money. We still have a few more weeks to sell tickets, but we must ensure the books are returned in plenty of time so that Carol can reconcile the books sold and the cash received
Many thanks, Carol, for co-ordinating this fundraiser.

WHAT'S ON & DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday, 15th January 2024.

1 Samuel 15. 16-23. Psalm 50. 20-24. Mark 2. 18-22

Tuesday, 16th

1 Samuel 16. 1-13. Psalm 89. 19-27. Mark 2. 23-28.

Wednesday, 17th *Antony of Egypt, Hermit, Abbot, (d 356)*

1 Samuel 17. 32-51. Psalm 144. 3-10. Mark 3. 1-6.

9.30am Craft Group—St Michael's Hall.

Thursday, 18th

1 Samuel 18. 6-9 + 19. 1-7. Psalm 56. 8-12. Mark 3. 7-12.

9.30am, Morning Prayer — St. Michael's Hall.

10.15am, morning tea and Bible Study—St Michael's Hall.

Friday, 19th

1 Samuel 24. 3-22a. Psalm 57. 7-12. Mark 3. 13-19.

6.00pm, The Chosen—St Michael's Church & Hall.

Saturday, 20th

2 Samuel 1. 1-27. Psalm 80. 1-6. Mark 3. 20-21.

Sunday 21st January 2024, Third Sunday After Epiphany

8.00am, Eucharist @St George's, Taminick.

9.30am, Eucharist @St. Michael's, Wangaratta.

11.00am, Ante Communion @St Paul's, Glenrowan.

Jonah 3. 1-10; Psalm 62. 5-12; 1 Corinthians 7. 29-31; Mark 1. 14-20.

Antony was a leader almost by default. He sought a life of solitude and contemplation, but discovered that he became a beacon to others seeking an ascetic life. His retreat at Pispir, together with those at Nitria and Scete, quickly became colonies of monks, with Antony as their leader.

Although unable to read or write, Antony carried out correspondence not only with other monks, but also with emperors and officials. His replies to the letters he received (and which he never quite knew what to do with) reveal him as one who encouraged others to persevere, and stressed that the first obligation of the monk is to know himself, as only those that know themselves will be able to know God. The letters present the monastic life as a continual battle in which the believer is aided by the Holy Spirit, who guides him and opens the eyes of his soul.

Antony's fame spread far through his life and through his biography, and he is recognized as the founder of Western monasticism.

Sunday 14th January 2024

- ◆ **The World:** Arabian Peninsula: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.
- ◆ **Australia:** Responsible care for the natural environment.
Climate change issues.
- ◆ **The Church in our nation:** Armenian Apostolic Church.
- ◆ **The Anglican Church of Australia:** Ministry with the Torres Strait Island People of Australia. Bishop: *Vacant*. Torres Strait Island Clergy and People ... *that the Light of Christ may continue to shine on this land.*
- ◆ **Our Diocese:** Bishop Clarence Bester (*Michelle & family*).
The Parochial District of Yea: P-i-C: Mario Hendriks (*Hester & family*)
The Parish leaders and communities at: Yea & Molesworth.
- ◆ **Our Parish.** Loaves & Fishes, Christians Caring—our support of this ministry.
- ◆ **Those in Need:** Reg Floyd. Robert P. Nina Colson. Mark H. Melanie.
Warren G. Wayne. Vi Bussell. Kaye McKenzie. Josef.
- ◆ **Year's Mind: 14th –20th January:**
[14/01] Jim Slaughter, 1999.
[18/01] Raymond Harris, 2015. Malcolm Woodgate, 1997. Leon Hunt, 1990.
[19/01] Gwen Salisbury, 1996. Brian Whitehead, 1994.
Robert Salisbury, 1987. John Butcher, 1976.

Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord.
And may light perpetual shine upon them.

Prayer of the week (*pray daily*)

**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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St. Michael's, Wangaratta. St Paul's, Glenrowan. St George's, Taminick.
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