Nambour Retirement Village Services

NO VILLAGE SERVICE DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

CHURCH

37-39 Coronation Avenue Nambour QLD 4560

opposite Nambour State College

CHURCH EMAIL

nambouruca@gmail.com

FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/nambouruniting.church

WEBPAGE incl SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES nambouruniting.org.au

YOUTUBE CHANNEL nambouruca.youtube

Service Roster

FOR TODAY 10th January 2021 THIRD SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

THE BIRTHDAY BOOK

15 Maree Heaton

Minister: Rev Ian Stehbens

Music: Rosemary

Readers: Linda Woodward, Jim Stewart

Prayers: Rev Graham Warne
Data Projector: Alison Hall
Sound system: Linda Woodward
Offering: Weekly retiring offering
Welcome: Our great welcoming team

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MAREE!!

Minister & Pastoral Care

Rev Ian Stehbens 0477 160 578

Additional Pastoral Care Ministry

Rev Graham Warne 5478 9747

Eva Donaldson 5441 3381

Congregation Chairperson

Ian Woodward 5441 1069

Church Council Chair
Rev Ian Stehbens 0477 160 578
Church Office: 5441 1135

PO Box 1100, NAMBOUR, Q 4560 Office: most Tuesdays and Thursdays

> AFTER 9AM to 2PM Jimmy 0411 314 306

Attending worship confirms that you do not have COVID-19, or symptoms associated with COVID-19, or awaiting results from a COVID-19 test, or have been to a designated 'hotspot', or have not been in contact with any known or suspected cases of COVID-19, or that you have been in contact with anyone who has travelled from overseas in the past 14 days. You are aware that people aged 70 and over, and people with chronic medical conditions are at a greater risk of serious illness by involvement in public group places.



Nambour Uniting Church

9AM Sunday Worship Service

We are called to be evidence of God's love breaking into the world

Sunday 10th January 2021 Sign of Grace Mark 1:4-11,

The people of ancient Israel were obsessed with purity. They knew that God was holy and pure and to be acceptable to God they too had to be pure and holy. So they developed many purification rituals, like the ceremonial washing of hands before eating; and they had rules, like that against touching the body of a deceased person, to protect them from becoming ritually impure. The priest had to go through a ceremonial bath before serving in the temple.

So, when John the Baptist announced the imminent arrival of the Messiah it was appropriate for him to call people to be baptized for repentance. People had to be clean, free from sin, if they were to be fit for the new kingdom. He carried out these washings or baptisms in the Jordan River and, in solidarity with the people who were responding to John's call, Jesus too was baptized by him.

Jesus taught that neither the observance of rituals nor the keeping of laws made people fit for God. By grace, the undeserving love of God, they were already accepted. The gospel call was to accept that. Jesus could be said, through his death and resurrection, to have carried out the purification ceremony that did away with all purification rituals. So, when he sent his disciples out to baptize it was in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit that they baptized. Yes, it involved repentance, a complete change in outlook, but it meant more than that. It meant living by grace, not by works. It meant living the life of God's calling. It meant belonging to God's people of faith.

- For some references to purification rituals in ancient Israel see Mark 1:40-44; Mark 2:23-28; Mark 7:1-16
- At his baptism, Jesus's identity was confirmed. How?
- How do we show our acceptance of the fact that we are accepted by God?
- What does it mean to live into the life of God's calling?

Rev Ron Potter - piulapublications.com

