

## **Rev Glenn Ingram - Minister's Message**

# **COMFORT MY PEOPLE**

There is a hymn we sing, *'Comfort, comfort all my people with the comfort of my Word...'* I like this hymn. These are words which come out of the OT where God's people struggled in Babylonian exile and all the problems associated with that. But comfort is so important in our present lives when we can be heart-broken or afraid or there seems to be little light for our journey ahead. How important is the Word of God to remind, comfort and encourage us at every step of life journey? It is like our Scripture readings on **'Real Bread'** and **'I am the Bread of Life'** where our Lord tries to explain what his presence can mean to the world; food for daily life.

Comfort is so important. Anne and I recently farewelled our daughter as she left to return to central America hoping the words of our comforting Saviour would ring in her ears and that we too might be comforted in her absence. However, all of us have a story to tell of how we've needed comfort. August is the month we are reminded of Blue Care. There was a time when individual churches were more involved in financial support and the running of the Blue Nursing service but with the way it is presently structured and how finances are often met the general congregation has little to do with Blue Care and even less with visitation and programmes which occurs within it...which is very sad I feel. There is a sense in which we are being squeezed out of something which was created within the Church and often quite personal and now being replaced by teams of professionals who hold the appropriate degrees or Blue Cards to meet all government requirements.

However, times and situations change and so must we. Apart from the general staff in Nursing Homes which in my experience often struggle to do the work they are given through lack of funding, much of the daily care is in the hands of Carers each day and the Chaplain who is appointed. I believe it is similar in Home Care. Wonderful carers, nurses or visiting therapists are often governed by time restraints and much is then left to Chaplains where comfort, love and encouragement are paramount.

Again, it can be time consuming with perhaps 100 residents and as many staff. There is never enough time! Let's be aware that there are a few in Nursing homes who receive few visits from family and friends while others are truly blessed but no matter who we are there is a sense in which we all crave human contact. We all want to be loved and within institutions we are all people in a different form of exile. I don't say that lightly for each person has left home, family, friends and their independence in order to receive greater care. Very few people want to be there. "The carers are wonderful but I don't really want to be here" is a common theme. So, what can we do? Pray and support as we are able any who work in Blue Care centres. Pray and support our chaplains who offer the love and comfort of Christ and in a world where we are often consumed by our own needs, ask, how can we offer comfort to others.

**Blessings Rev Glenn**

# BLUE CARE SUNDAY 22 AUGUST 2021

This year's **Blue Care Sunday** will be held on **22 August 2021**. This is a very special day for Blue Care where we take the opportunity to remember and celebrate the Blue Care staff, volunteers, family members and supporters who have helped Blue Care to become what it is today.

For more than 65 years, one thing has continued to set Blue Care apart: our commitment to empowering Queenslanders to live life their way. Through a dedicated team of health professionals, Blue Care assists individuals and their families to enjoy the very best of care and support, in a nurturing and respectful environment.

We would like to invite you and your congregations to acknowledge this important day, to celebrate the past and recognise the present, and reflect on the incredible work that Blue Care staff, chaplaincy and volunteers do to keep Blue Care residents and clients safe and cared for with compassion and commitment.

A worship resources pack will be put together by Adam MacIntosh, Associate Director of Mission, Pastoral Care and sent to your Church closer to the date to assist with Blue Care Sunday.

Although much of the work Blue Care does is made possible through government funding and client contributions, Blue Care relies on additional support from the community to deliver the services that do not receive any or only partial funding.

Help us continue our vital work. Blue Care Sunday is a great opportunity to raise funds for Blue Care or create an opportunity for congregations and members to make a donation to Blue Care. To make a donation or register your fundraising event please go to our website <https://fundraise.bluecare.org.au/sundaycongregation>

You can also share this website via your channels with any supporters or family members who may be interested to support Blue Care on this special day.

For more information or any questions you may have, please contact me.

Kind regards

**Andrea Hogg**

Chaplaincy Coordinator

Blue Care Care & Wellbeing Service Care Coordinator

Mission Group

## **NeXus**

The **NeXus** between our mission and our spiritual power is the gathered congregation. While God comes to us by His Spirit thus transforming us by his grace, we are drawn into precious fellowship with each other. As a congregation gathers for worship, it is being strengthened, then sent out again for a missional purpose.

In times such as these, this copy of **Nambour NeXus** is provided so that you may have resources to assist you in your personal or household worship of God, to assist you in growing your faith, and to encourage your concern and prayers for others.

# Blue Care Chaplains

*Providing spiritual and pastoral care within the holistic care of the people we serve as part of Uniting Care. Through this we engage with our stated mission practise to “participate in God’s healing power to the whole person.”*

## Our Mission Practices



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We demonstrate the worth and dignity of every person
- 

We walk together with First Peoples
- 

We participate in God's healing power to the whole person
- 

We cultivate practices centred on people and relationships
- 

We value reflective action
- 

We are faithful stewards of the resources entrusted to us
- 

We stand up for what is fair and just

When hearing of BlueCare Chaplains people often think of cups of tea over long chats, funerals and church services. However, the role today is increasingly dynamic and throughout Blue Care Residential Aged Care and Community Services Chaplains across the North Coast Region are actively at work supporting residents, community clients, the families and staff. We cover 6 Residential sites, 5 Community staff hubs, 3 Respite Centres and visit clients from Peachester to Caloundra, Noosa, Tin Can Bay, Gympie and beyond.

No two days are ever the same! We do go from palliative care to church services and from staff training to completing resident spiritual needs assessments. There’s family transition support, hospital visitation, staff spiritual & pastoral care, volunteer and grief & loss training, not to mention trying to navigate the coast traffic and roadworks for community work! There’s so much more that could be said and with the support needs of families and staff increasing as people age-in-home, along with the higher complex care needs in residential care, our work will never be done!

Moving forward the dynamic role of Chaplains will continue to increase in demand as we navigate the changes in care. With the impact of our ever changing CoVid rules, church engagement



lessening and volunteers hard to find, Chaplains long for additional support to help us provide holistic care for particularly Residents. We invite you to consider joining our Chaplaincy Volunteer Teams or giving a gift to help provide additional resources to enhance the lives of those we serve in Jesus name.

We are better when serving together!

*Our Team - Kate, Natalie & Narelle*

## DAILY PRAYERS

This month we will sing our Prayers as many hymns are prayers set to music.

Our Theme is..... **'Giving Thanks'**.

Let us pray and give thanks.



### DAY 1

Thank you, for giving me the morning,  
Thank you, for every day that's new,  
Thank you, for all my hurts and troubles  
I can take to you  
Thank you for all my friends and helpers  
Thank you for people everywhere  
Thank you showing me, Lord Jesus  
How to help and care.  
We thank you for the blessings of life, food,  
water, shelter, family and friends.  
But as we enjoy healthy food, we know that  
not everyone shares equally among us  
We ask that your Spirit will help us  
celebrate, find joy, and be fed by the living  
Word; encourage us to take steps –  
however tentative – into your world;  
and offer hope to the broken-hearted,  
the lost, the lonely, and the ignored  
We thank you, Lord,  
and we give thanks with joy.

### DAY 2

Thank you, for comfort in my sadness,  
Thank you, for all who understand,  
Thank you that your hand holds  
and leads me, everywhere I am.  
Thank you for speaking to me, Jesus,  
Thank you for meeting with me here,  
Thank you, because you love all people,  
those both far and near  
Thank you for those who have provided for  
our needs and comforted us in our sadness,  
for those who lifted us when we were down  
and who spoke Your words of forgiveness.  
We think of people who struggle  
to feed their families every day. As we say  
"Give us today our daily bread"  
we pray for those who go hungry every day.  
We thank You Lord.  
and we give thanks with joy

### DAY 3

Give thanks with a grateful heart  
Give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because he has given  
Jesus Christ, his Son  
Give thanks, Give thanks.  
Give thanks.  
Our generous God, how you bless us with so  
many wonderful gifts day by day.  
Sometimes we take it for granted and just  
expect to always have these blessings.  
And how do we express our thanks?  
As children we were taught to say 'Thank you',  
but so often it was a reluctant response. And  
even as adults how often do we find ourselves  
just repeating the words, maybe a flippant  
response or even a grudging one – our hearts  
are just not in it.  
Forgive us, Lord, and help us to be grateful  
straight from the heart.  
Give thanks with a grateful heart.  
Give thanks  
We thank you, Lord,  
and we give thanks with joy

### DAY 4

Thanks to God whose word was spoken  
In the deed that made the earth  
His the voice that called a nation  
his the fires that tried its worth  
God has spoken, God has spoken,  
**PRAISE HIM FOR HIS OPEN WORD**  
May the life of Jesus so inspire us that we  
bear your image in the world, opposing racism  
and sexism, standing with those who are  
different, seeking peace, welcoming strangers,  
building families of all kinds, helping people  
celebrate the gift of life.  
**WE THANK YOU, LORD,**  
and we give thanks with joy

## DAY 5

Thanks to God whose word was written  
In the Bible's sacred page,  
Record of the revelation  
Showing God to every age.  
God has spoken, God has spoken  
Praise him for his open Word.  
Loving God, sustain and encourage us in  
worship, let us find joy, and be fed by your  
living Word, encourage us as we do our best  
to tell the story of Jesus,  
encourage us to read your word and share it  
with others.  
May our lives reflect your words in our  
relationships with others and in the choices  
we make day by day.  
We thank you, Lord,  
and we give thanks with joy

## DAY 6

For the fruits of all creation,  
Thanks be to God,  
For his gifts of every nation  
Thanks be to God,  
For the ploughing, sowing, reaping,  
Silent growth while we are sleeping,  
Future needs in earth's safe keeping  
Thanks be to God.  
Help us to be your ears to listen to the cries.  
Help us to be your voice speaking out love and  
acceptance.  
Help us to be your feet walking beside those in  
need.  
Help us to be your hands to clothe, feed and  
shelter them.  
You came for the least, the lost and last of this  
world. Lord, hear our prayer  
We thank you, Lord,  
and we give thanks with joy

## DAY 7

For the harvest of the Spirit,  
Thanks be to God,  
For the good we all inherit  
Thanks be to God.  
For all the wonders that astound us,  
For the truths that still confound us,  
Most of all, that love has found us,  
Thanks be to God.  
Our God your heart goes out to all in need  
– to those who are sick and suffering,  
those who are dying and in pain,  
those who have lost the joy of living.  
We thank you for those who care for the  
sick and suffering in your name - doctors,  
nurses, ambulance officers, hospital visitors,  
cooks and cleaners – be in their hands to  
touch, be in their lips to speak comfort, be  
in their eyes to show compassion - give  
them your healing love we pray.  
We thank you, Lord,  
and we give thanks with joy

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE**

This land on which we live and worship is  
God's land and God's Spirit dwells here.

We acknowledge the Kabi Kabi people,  
traditional custodians  
under God of the Sunshine Coast and its  
hinterland.

We pay our respects and pray for their elders  
and all their descendants.

We are thankful that we can share with them  
in our community and nation.

We reaffirm our commitment to care for the  
land and participate in the reconciling  
journey, for God requires this of us.

**CHURCH EMAIL**

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**FACEBOOK**

**[www.facebook.com/nambouruniting.church](http://www.facebook.com/nambouruniting.church)**

**YOUTUBE CHANNEL**

**[nambouruca.youtube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)**

**2021 Sunday Services are available on the Nambour Uniting Church Website for you to view at**

**[nambouruniting.org.au](http://nambouruniting.org.au)**

**along with Mission Possible photos, word study, reflections, stained glass windows and more**

**Thanks to Don Heaton for recording our Services, and Ian Brown for our great website**

## **“I believe in Angels!”**

What image does the word “angel” bring to you?

For most, it would be a winged person in shining white garments, clothed in bright light, with a halo. Certainly that's how they are portrayed in childrens' Christmas pageants! This image probably derives from the ancient Hebrew concept of winged Cherubim and Seraphim, particularly the Cherubim who overshadowed the sacred Ark of the Covenant (see Exodus 25; also Isa 6:2,6). Certainly, if we believe that God is the great Eternal Spirit, there is no reason not to believe in the existence of other, albeit lesser spirits who belong to the same realm.

Indeed, the word “angel” is a direct translation of the Greek “angelos”, meaning “messenger”. Essentially, angels are simply God's messengers, the “secret service”, acting as God's agents in the world.

Sometimes they are message bearers, as in the Annunciation to Mary (Luke 1:26ff), or the proclamation of the Resurrection (“He is not here, he is risen!” John 20:12), but at other times the term describes anyone acting as God's agent. In particular, the term “angel of the Lord” relates to God's appointed envoy bearing a special message (e.g. Matt 1:20, 24, 2:13, 11:10; Luke 1:11, 2:9; Acts 5:19). The term “my messenger” (*angelos*) is also applied to people such as John the Baptist (Mark 1:2) or other human message bearers (Luke 7:24, 9:52; James 2:25). That is, the same word may also be applied to human messengers as well.

I really like the words of the hymn (“*There's a light upon the mountains*”), which includes the line, “*but his angels here are human, not the shining hosts above*”. Often, ***God's angels do have human hands! I know, because I have met them!***

Let me share the story of “Sandy” (*not her real name*) with you.

We had had a very bad car accident in which, amongst other injuries, I had fractured my cheek bone. However, because of my other injuries I could not be moved from the little country hospital at Tenterfield, so was unable to have surgery until I could be moved down to Brisbane, a week later. Eventually I was able to have the surgery, but my broken facial bones had already begun to set! As I lay in the theatre ante-room of Wesley Hospital, awaiting the operation, the words of a little vesper which we sang every Sunday evening in my home church, came to my mind:

***“Lord keep us safe this night, secure from all our fears,  
May angels guard us while we sleep, 'till morning light appears.”***

That was the last thing I remembered. When I woke in recovery, I opened my eyes and looked up. There was the bright smiling face of one of our church young people, a lovely blonde, who had been on duty as Theatre Sister for my surgery! My first words were, “Sandy, you're an angel!” Unbeknown to me, God had given one of his very special messengers to care for me while I “slept”.

Continued page 7





But there was more to this angel! It was Saturday, and the hospital was short staffed for the weekend. When the Doctor checked my face after the surgery, he was not at all happy with the outcome.

“We need to go in again”, he said.

He then had to find volunteers to go into theatre a second time for an unscheduled operation. You can guess who put her hands up: Sandy! And when thanked, she simply said, “*it's what me and my team do every day.*”

There was one other angel, whose name I never knew. After two operations my whole body was so fragile that I could not bear even the slightest touch. Then, in the middle of the night, a nurse came to sponge me and change me out of the theatre gown... I had never ever experienced such gentleness and soothing, tender care. By morning she had gone off duty and I never saw her again. Yes, I believe God's angels do have human hands!

Rev Graham Warne

### **DIRECT DEBIT/TRANSFER**

To make your offering using

### **DIRECT DEBIT/TRANSFER**

you will need to go to your bank or use the internet banking service.

You will need the following information:

**Bank: ANZ**

**BSB: 014010**

**Account No: 286751378**

Thank you all for being generous people.  
May your giving become the power of love in the world.

### **Minister**

Rev Glenn Ingram 0453 677 303

### **Pastoral Care Ministry**

Rev Graham Warne 5478 9747

Eva Donaldson Lay Co-ordinator 5441 3381

### **Nambour Congregation Chairperson**

Ian Woodward 5441 1069

### **Church Council Officers**

Ian Woodward - Chair

Helen Staines - Secretary

Lyn Metelerkamp - Treasurer

Lynn Blackwood-Troyahn

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# DAILY BIBLE READINGS

## AUGUST 2021

**Sunday, August 1, 2021:** Psalm 51:1-12; John 6:24-35; Ephesians 4:1-16  
**Monday, August 2, 2021:** Psalm 50:16-23; 2 Samuel 12:15-25; Ephesians 4:17-24  
**Tuesday, August 3, 2021:** Psalm 50:16-23; 2 Samuel 13:1-19; 1 Corinthians 12:27-31  
**Wednesday, August 4, 2021:** Psalm 50:16-23; 2 Samuel 13:20-36; Mark 8:1-10  
**Thursday, August 5, 2021:** Psalm 130; 2 Samuel 13:37-14:24; Romans 15:1-6  
**Friday, August 6, 2021:** Psalm 130; 2 Samuel 14:25-33; Galatians 6:1-10  
**Saturday, August 7, 2021:** Psalm 130; 2 Samuel 15:1-13; Matthew 7:7-11  
**Sunday, August 8, 2021:** Psalm 130; Ephesians 4:25 to 5:2; John 6:35 & 41-51  
**Monday, August 9, 2021:** Psalm 57; 2 Samuel 15:13-31; Ephesians 5:1-14  
**Tuesday, August 10, 2021:** Psalm 57; 2 Samuel 18:19-33; 2 Peter 3:14-18  
**Wednesday, August 11, 2021:** Psalm 57; 2 Samuel 19:1-18; John 6:35-40  
**Thursday, August 12, 2021:** Psalm 111; 1 Kings 1:1-30; Acts 6:8-15  
**Friday, August 13, 2021:** Psalm 111; 1 Kings 1:28-48; Romans 16:17-20  
**Saturday, August 14, 2021:** Psalm 111; 1 Kings 2:1-11; John 4:7-26  
**Sunday, August 15, 2021:** Psalm 111; Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:51-58  
**Monday, August 16, 2021:** Psalm 101; 1 Kings 3:16-28; Acts 6:1-7  
**Tuesday, August 17, 2021:** Psalm 101; 1 Kings 7:1-12; Acts 7:9-16  
**Wednesday, August 18, 2021:** Psalm 101; 1 Kings 8:1-21; Mark 8:14-21  
**Thursday, August 19, 2021:** Psalm 84; 1 Kings 4:20-28; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11  
**Friday, August 20, 2021:** Psalm 84; 1 Kings 4:29-34; Romans 13:11-14  
**Saturday, August 21, 2021:** Psalm 84; 1 Kings 5:1-12; Luke 11:5-13  
**Sunday, August 22, 2021:** Psalm 34; Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:56-69  
**Monday, August 23, 2021:** Psalm 11; 1 Kings 5:13-18; Ephesians 5:21-6:9  
**Tuesday, August 24, 2021:** Psalm 11; 1 Kings 6:1-14; Ephesians 6:21-24  
**Wednesday, August 25, 2021:** Psalm 11; 1 Kings 6:15-38; John 15:16-25  
**Thursday, August 26, 2021:** Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9; Song of Solomon 1:1-17; James 1:1-8  
**Friday, August 27, 2021:** Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9; Song of Solomon 2:1-7; James 1:9-16  
**Saturday, August 28, 2021:** Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9; Hosea 3:1-5; John 18:28-32  
**Sunday, August 29, 2021:** Psalm 15; James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8 & 14-15 & 24-23  
**Monday, August 30, 2021:** Psalm 144:9-15; Song of Solomon 3:6-11; 1 Timothy 4:6-16  
**Tuesday, August 31, 2021:** Psalm 144:9-15; Song of Solomon 5:2-6:3; 1 Peter 2:19-25

### **CLICK THE READINGS**

When you are reading the digital version of our Monthly Nexus Journal on your iPad or computer, click on the Bible reading title in the Daily Bible Reading Lists and the actual words of the passages will open up for you to read!