

## Nambour Retirement Village Services

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21st March      No McGowan service  
Rotary      Rev Maile      2.00PM

**NAMBOUR UNITING CHURCH** 37-39 Coronation Avenue Nambour QLD 4560  
(PO Box 1100 NAMBOUR QLD 4560)      opposite Nambour State College  
**CHURCH EMAIL**      nambouruca@gmail.com  
**FACEBOOK**      www.facebook.com/nambouruniting.church  
**WEBPAGE**      nambouruniting.org.au  
**YOUTUBE CHANNEL**      nambouruca.youtube

### Service Roster **20 March 2022** **Third Sunday** **In Lent**

**Minister:** Rev Maile Molitika  
**Music:** Jenny and John Thomas  
**Readers:** Jimmy Stewart, Gail Warland  
**Prayers:** Sheila Hodges  
**Data Projector:** Alison Hall  
**Sound System:** Linda Woodward  
**Offering:** Weekly retiring offering  
**Welcome:** Our great welcoming team

#### Ministry

Rev Maile Molitika      0425 378 174

#### Pastoral Care Ministry

Rev Graham Warne      5478 9747  
Eva Donaldson      5441 3381

#### Congregation Chairperson

Ian Woodward      5441 1069

**Church Office:**      5441 1135  
PO Box 1100, NAMBOUR, Q 4560  
Office: most Tuesdays and Thursdays  
AFTER 9AM to 2PM  
Jimmy 0411 314 306

## THE BIRTHDAY BOOK

21 Rob Nichols  
25 Jacky Faludy

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY Rob and Jacky!!

### VANDERBILT LECTIONARY NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

for 27th March 2022  
Joshua 5:9-12,  
2 Corinthians 5:16-21;  
Luke 15:1-3 & 11b-32,  
Psalm 32.



**Nambour Uniting Church**  
9AM Sunday Worship Service

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

## SUNDAY 20th March 2022

### Lent 3

**Collect:** God of grace and God of glory, fill our hearts through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit with the knowledge of your great creation, and the plan you have to draw all things to you.  
May we see you in every sister and brother in our midst and around the world. We pray this in your mighty name. Amen.

### From the desk of the minister: **Why do we suffer?**

In Jesus's time there was a common belief that suffering was the result of sin – if not yours then your parents' perhaps. And so, you would be considered cursed by God. And the reverse was also considered true: wealth was a sign of God's blessing. This idea is still alive nowadays in some Christians minds. There is a story in the gospel of John 9:2, where the disciples asked Jesus, "**who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?**" (even the disciples had this idea in them). Jesus said, "**Neither this man nor his parents sinned.**" They have associated sufferings with sin but Jesus is clear in his response. This passage is one of many in which Jesus maintains that the idea is wrong. We are all responsible for our own sin, and we have to pay the penalty of our own sin, not someone else. Jesus is very clear to us today. While earthly suffering is not the result of sin, judgment is real. Unless we repent and ask for forgiveness, he says, everyone will perish. The story from the gospel today is about the fig tree that did not bear fruit for three years. That is a story of opportunity and grace. God's love and mercy are given to us so that we may bear fruit. This is the purpose of life, so that we may bear fruit and be useful to God and others. It reminds us that our God is a God of Justice and Compassion. He gives us the opportunity to change, and if we don't change, we will pay the consequences of our fruitless life. We are not suffering because of our sin, but we can go through suffering to honour and obey God.

**Grace & Peace Rev Maile**

## **Nambour Uniting Church**

### **Welcome to our Sunday Worship Service**

The Nambour congregation welcomes everyone to worship.

**Please welcome and thank our minister Rev Maile Molitika and his lovely wife, Siale**  
as we accept all who gather to worship in peace and hope,  
with an invitation to pray and reflect in the Prayer Chapel at any time our Church is open.

### **TODAY'S VANDERBILT LECTIONARY**

**Third Sunday in Lent - 20 March 2022**

Isaiah 55:1-9,

1 Corinthians 10:1-13,

Luke 13:1-9,

Psalm 63:1-8.

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#### **Rev Maile's Proverbs for Daily Living –**

1. The Christian life that is joyless is a discredit to God and a disgrace to itself.
2. Our relationship to Christ determines the kind of light the world sees in us.

#### **S/C Caravan, Fishing & 4WD Expo**

**Friday 1st April – Sunday 3rd April 2022**

Calling all for the next show - roster is in the foyer.

#### **Activities in our Church this week;**

Sunday 20 Mar    Sunday Worship Service 9AM  
                          Alcoholics Anonymous 6PM-8PM

Tuesday            Bible study 9AM-10AM  
                          Indoor Bowls 9AM-12noon  
                          Narcotics Australia 12noon-2PM

Thursday          Narcotics Australia 12noon-2PM

Saturday 26 Mar   Nambour Orchid Society 12.15PM-4.15PM  
                          Narcotics Australia 6PM-9PM

Please refer to Govt guidelines and social distancing

**The Parable of the Unfruitful Fig Tree** has given the idea that fruit trees produce, or fail to produce, fruit in and of themselves and that all people are equally capable of repenting. Sometimes people, like the fig tree, are planted in soil that could never lead to fruits of repentance if left untended.

God is not a distant owner who condemns people for their unfruitfulness, as if God's people were some far flung colonial holding. But rather, God is both the owner and the gardener, intimately working within His vineyard, knowing all of the factors at play in fruitfulness and fruitlessness among the plants and thus can judge rightly. Jesus has come as a servant. Those who follow Jesus are also to engage in this same ministry of care, while keeping in mind that judgment belongs to God alone. Jesus meets people where they are, and serves them in what they need.

**We, as Jesus's disciples, are called to do the same, to be one that can listen, discern what action is called for (if any immediate action at all), to pray with and for those in need, and be of spiritual assistance; teaching about the love of God through Jesus the Christ, our Saviour.**

#### **Sunday 27 March 2022**

Church Council meeting after the Sunday Worship Service.