

18 March      Rotary      Rev Glenn      2.00PM

Nambour Village Services 2024

**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**  
**17 March 2024**  
**FIFTH SUNDAY**  
**IN LENT**

**Minister:** Rev Ian Stebhens  
**Music:** Nola and Margaret  
**Readers:** Helen Staines, Jimmy Stewart  
**Prayers:** Peter Bowden  
**Data Projector:** Chris Bowden  
**Sound System:**  
**Offering:** Weekly retiring offering  
**Welcome:** Our great welcoming team

Ministry

Rev Maile Molitika      0425 378 174

Pastoral Care Ministry

Rev Graham Warne      5478 9747

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**

18      Mary Walker  
21      Rob Nichols

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
**Mary and Rob!!**

**VANDERBILT LECTIONARY**  
**NEXT SUNDAY**

24 March 2024

**Liturgy of the Palms**

Mark 11:1-11,  
John 12:12-16.

Psalms 118:1-2 & 19-29.

**Liturgy of the Passion**

Isaiah 50:4-9a,  
Philippians 2:5-11,  
Mark 14:1 to 15:47,  
Psalm 31:9-16.



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

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

**SUNDAY 17th March 2024**

**Tears in the midst of cheers!**

Next week, Palm Sunday is being celebrated. This is a celebratory day in the church calendar. It is also referred to by many as Passion Sunday. Something happened on that first Palm Sunday which may have overlooked.

It is a strange thing perhaps, but few have noticed it.

As Jesus and his entourage of disciples and enthusiastic supporters were making their way into Jerusalem for the commencement of Passover, the crowd was building as they got closer to the city gates. The crowd began singing Psalms, chanting "Hosanna", and waving palm branches.

But as the chants rose, one person was not celebrating, not rejoicing, not smiling – he was crying. Luke's Gospel tells us that while the crowd was cheering, Jesus was weeping. **Tears in the midst of cheers!**

This is very significant for rarely do we encounter Jesus crying, overwhelmed with grief. But why this time? We know why – there's no need to speculate. As the tears streamed down his face, with Jerusalem immediately ahead of him, he cried aloud, "**If only you knew, on this day of all days, the things that make for peace.**" Luke 19:42

Through the week ahead, on each day Jesus contends for peace, contends for peace of humanity, and for our peace. "**If only you knew**", he says. As we prepare for and celebrate Easter this year, there are many who are also weeping. The horror of war in Palestine, appears as an eternal war for which the roots and immediate causes are known, but for which there seems to be no plausible answer.

*How do you define peace?*

*What are the critical steps needed to recreate peace in the midst of terrible conflict?*

Relevant to this 21st century conflict is the example of the **Book of Jonah**. Jonah was very reluctant to be an actor in the midst of imminent violence, but when turned around by God, he went to Nineveh (a world power of the time) and called all who were committed to violence to repent from their commitment to violence - no matter who they were (the King, all the way down to the boys in the streets, and then some..).      Continued over..

## Nambour Uniting Church

### Welcome to our Sunday Worship Service

Our Nambour congregation welcomes everyone to worship.

Please 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.

**Our Sunday Service of worship and prayer today will be led by Rev Ian Stebhens**

Praise God for Rev Ian Stebhens ministry of love, friendship and caring. Blessings to Rev's Ian and Margaret.

cont...

And that call is a responsibility of the church today. Parallel to this is the prophetic role of **Amos**, who showed Israel that the way to turn around the obscene violence of their neighbouring states, was to repent of their hatred of their neighbours. The Torah (the Jewish Law) commanded that they must love their neighbours.

Is there clear teaching in our Christian Scriptures that demonstrate how to achieve peace?

During the week leading to the crucifixion of Jesus,  
Jesus wages peace, each day.

A parable (Luke 10:30-35) that is a summary of the Christian gospel, teaches that our church is to be an agent of healing and hospitality, no matter what the cost, even though we may have been wounded or oppressed. **Jesus is the model;**

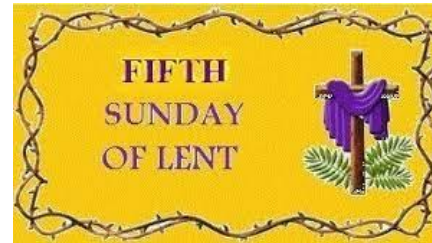
**Jesus is our commander; Jesus is our hope.**

*As the writings of Luke-Acts in the New Testament require us to be evidence of God's love breaking into the world, how can we as a church (Body of Christ) be obedient to Jesus Christ?*

Grace and Peace, Rev Ian Stebhens

#### Activities in our Church this week;

Sunday 17 Mar	Sunday Worship Service 9AM
Tuesday	Indoor Bowls 9AM-12noon Narcotics Australia 12noon-2PM
Wednesday	Nambour Floral Art 8AM-12noon Narcotics Australia 6.30PM-8.30PM
Thursday	Indoor Bowls 9AM-12noon Narcotics Australia 12noon-2PM
Saturday 23 Mar	Nambour Orchid Society 12noon-4PM Narcotics Australia 6PM-9PM



#### VANDERBILT LECTIONARY

17 March 2024

### FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Numbers 21:4-9,  
Ephesians 2:1-10,  
John 3:14-21,  
Psalm 107:1-3 & 17-22.

#### AA Petrie Park and the NA groups

The Sunday evening meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous Petrie Park has disbanded due to lack of numbers at this meeting.

For a very long time "the drink" has been a big obstacle in many lives, however the real and dangerous problem nowadays is illicit drug use coupled with alcohol use.

Our Narcotics Australia meetings have now increased to 4 every week at our Church, with many souls attending being taught how to become free of drug and alcohol - and this can only be achieved in relying on a higher power, ie God.

Our Church provides a very safe venue for these souls that have been, or are affected, by the self-abuse, the violence, the insanity of addiction.

Our Church is very aware of the support that we can (and are providing) to the NA groups and individuals that come to these important meetings. May God have mercy on their souls, Amen.