



News Letter

26 March 2020

While our church services and most meetings are in recess this News Letter will have a different format.

I hope to bring you any updates on our church activities and I hope to provide you with current prayer requests I have received.

Our Church on-line

Naracoorte Uniting Church web site: <https://www.naracoorteuca.org.au/>

We have posted our first video, the service from 22 March 2020. (See under "Sermons")

This was a great service organised by the ladies from the Wednesday prayer group. The video is shortened a bit to allow it to be uploaded. The sound quality of this is not as good as the normal audio file so we have included a link to the audio as well.

Each week we will try to have available from Sunday morning onward an on-line service – a couple of songs, prayers, bible readings and a message. This week will be a first attempt to pre-record these things during the week and post this on our web site.

Prayers of the people

Please get prayer requests to me by Thursday so I can include them in the service. Although this week I am running late (taken all week to get this all set up) so let me know by 4:00 pm Friday (tomorrow)

Holy Communion

Sunday week (5th April) I will be celebrating Holy Communion. As you watch the service please have available some bread and wine (or juice) and we will take communion together.

Last Sunday's Prayers

Gracious and Heavenly Father,

We pray for the people of this world. People who are finding themselves confronted by a pandemic that threatens lives and livelihoods, that threatens disruption to families and communities and that right now is growing in intensity in our country.

We pray for good governance. We pray for wise leadership and timely interventions to slow down the spread of this virus and to mitigate its impact on our health system and on our economy.

We pray for the welfare of all people in the health professions and in the caring professions, those who look after the aged and the sick. We ask Lord for the time and space for them to rest and the fortitude and courage to work. And we pray for those in their care, particularly the aged and infirm, those with respiratory problems or weak immune systems. You Lord are our strength and shield.

We pray for our places of work and commerce, for our shops and businesses. We pray for wisdom and strength for those who work and who manage in these uncertain times.

We pray for all those across our nation and indeed across the world who are suffering now from illness caused by Covid – 19. We particularly pray for those whose life is currently threatened and for those suffering in isolation. We ask you Lord, in your mercy to heal and restore them.

We pray for those medical research groups who are searching for ways to treat this disease. We pray for a word of knowledge from you, for inspiration and guidance in their research and development.

And we pray for those countries, peoples and communities who are being confronted not just with this pandemic, but with the evils of war and violence, corrupt government and administration, inadequate medical facilities and poor seasons. We ask for your light of truth, justice and peace to fall on all nations so that those who rule do so with justice and integrity.

We give thanks that David and Fon have been able to return safely to Australia, getting on one of the last flights from Thailand.

We pray for Adam, a student from Melbourne suffering in isolation, on his own in Italy. We pray for the stopping of any progression of this virus, for his safety, and for healing.

We pray at this time for family members separated from each other. We pray for God's presence and assistance and for each of our family members to have knowledge of you.

We pray for cooperation and coordination of follow up work after the recent fires. We particularly pray that the efforts of Blaze Aid can continue.

You Lord are King of Kings and Lord of Lords and we pray for your mercy and for your strength. We place our faith and our confidence in you. We ask for courage and resilience that comes from a knowledge of your love and grace.

We offer these prayers in the mighty name of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour, **Amen**

Blessings to all,

Andrew

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