



*Our motivating vision is...
'To be His Love, Light and Life'*

Sunday 5th April 2020



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Elders Team

Andrew Russell: 027 815-1635 Rodney Judd 06 863-2400 Llew Paul: 022 052 8297

Church Office Hours: 9am - 12noon, Mon - Fri (excluding public holidays).
Dione is still working, but from home. Please don't call the Church Office as the phone is unable to be answered during the lockdown, but you can still email the office as these will be getting checked every morning during normal office hours.

For emergencies or pastoral issues, please contact Paula.

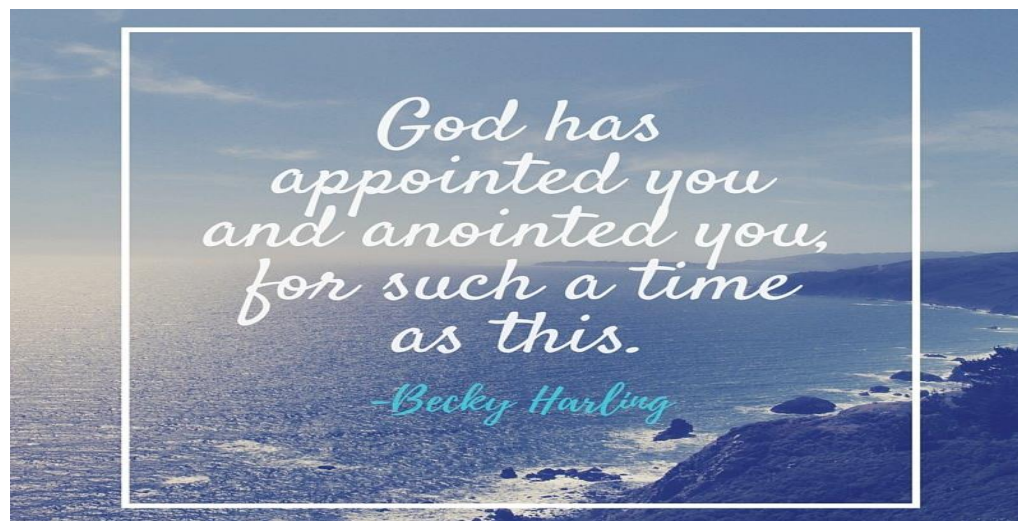


- 1. The Church Buildings and Office** are shut for the duration of the lockdown. Please stay away from these and do not enter, even if you have a key. Thanks.
- 2. Please Stay At Home** - We would like to encourage all members of Mangapapa Church to honour the government's directives and stay at home during this lock down period.
- 3. 'Prayer Chain'** – Urgent matters for confidential prayer support, can still be referred to the Prayer Chain Group. Contact Joy McHardy or Val Judd.

Please email the office if you need any help during the lockdown period (unless urgently required – then contact Paula), or people to pick up some groceries for you etc. We have a list of people who have volunteered to help out in this way.



'CAP' - I'm about to apply for a special exemption as an Essential Service Provider which would allow me to exchange paperwork via mailbox and therefore do a little more work. Please pray this is granted. Nicola.



Giving/Tithing - If you wish to tithe or make a donation to Mangapapa Church, our account number is: Mangapapa Church, 03-0638-0381084-00. Please make sure you say 'tithe' or 'donation' in the reference.

Paula writes... Dear Church family,

How are you doing in Week 2 of lock down? I know there are many things I am missing: freedom, coffees with friends, beach walks, park runs, general interactions with people, smiles and touch, variety. Yet I also know I have so much to be grateful for: a warm house, space outside, food to eat, work that is continuing, friends that ring, a health system in place if I need it. I have so much to be thankful for. Lockdown looks different for different people. A friend of mine wrote this:



"I'm hearing stories of people discovering new places of peace in their neighbourhood and toddlers revelling in so many adults being home. I'm also hearing stories of stressed out parents, families in strife and redundancies. It feels like the lockdown is a two speed journey. For some gift, for others grim."

I am reminded of the words of Paul:

"I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength." – Philippians 4:12-13

What I am praying for in my own life and home, is peace. An ability to make the most of each day, for joy in the small things and for hope for the future. I am also praying for many I know for who this time is particularly difficult for, and each day making contact with at least two or three to offer some encouragement.

For those of you who are home alone, please know you are loved and not forgotten. For those working extra hard at this time because of your area of work – thank you. For those at home with others for long periods, may you know grace and patience as well as have special moments to remember. For all of us: may we run into God even more at this time, in prayer, in reading His word, in loving others even from a distance and in creatively sharing the hope we have.

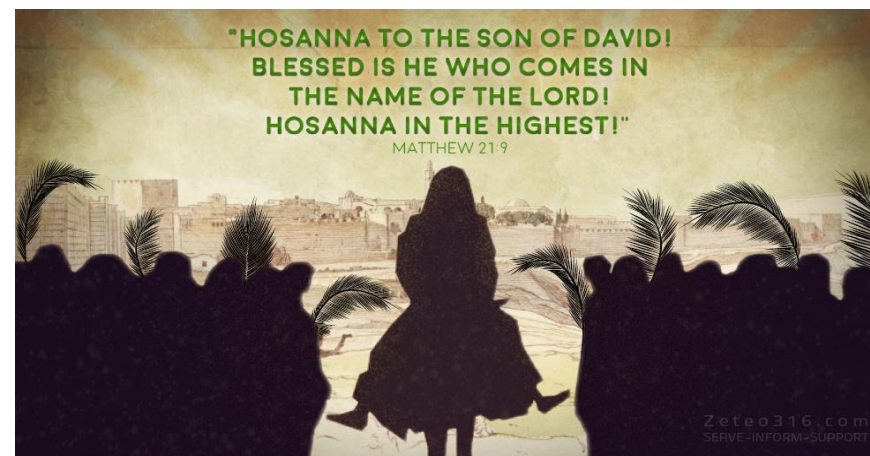
And let's still find ways this Sunday to celebrate Palm Sunday, Jesus' journey back to Jerusalem. What a mixture of emotions for Jesus and His disciples. Palm Sunday is such a wonderful burst of joy, and what people were seeing in Jesus was something never seen before – something, mind-blowing and world changing. Although many probably only understood a little, they were drawn to spontaneous praise and caught up in this moment of celebration and worship.

I will again send out a simple service outline, or you may wish to join with a service online. Maybe find a branch or two from your garden to put up in your house or on your mailbox. Today we also begin our journey into the Easter week. I encourage you this week to begin to reflect, re-read the story and prepare ourselves to

remember both the huge sacrifice of the death of Christ, and the world-transforming miracle of resurrection that followed.

God bless you for this next week.

Blessings, Paula



If you have anything happen over the week that you'd like to share, of something God has done, or a word of encouragement He has given you, or even just something that has happened in you and your family's life, that we could put in the newsletter – please email the office with the details. Photos are welcome too. We would like to be able to put some of our 'stories' in the newsletter to encourage everyone.

A Message from Nona Aston - Thank you so much for our Church service via our digital things. It was so uplifting and was as if we were all together praying and listening and singing and rejoicing in His infinite love and salvation. Wonderful messages, especially as it is the 3rd anniversary of Bill's journey to his Father in Heaven. I almost didn't get to see it as I'm an absolute non technocrat and I was in a flumix and could not get anything right, and was so mad at myself as I had been so looking forward to it. I then calmed down and prayed. And in a moment I was able to start the service and able to get to all the sermons except the children's one. The tears have been present right through but they are tears of joy for the thanks of the years Bill and I had, and the waking awareness of my faith and forgiveness and the new awareness given freely. The words have fitted perfectly with all that has happened and is happening. My daughter's partner has the virus and has isolated himself from them, my anxiety for my daughter and

granddaughter has been strong but after this morning I know my prayers each morning and night will keep them safe. We spoke last night and they are both well. Praise The Lord. Thank you for listening and if you want to use this or any of it as a testimonial please do I would like you all to know how God is working in my life as you have all been so much part of my growth in God. May God bless each and everyone and our beautiful Church. Nona

Church family, please remember to pray for Nona's daughter, daughter's partner and granddaughter.



The Chosen is the first ever multi-season TV show about the life of Jesus. Created outside of the Hollywood system, **The Chosen** allows us to see Him through the eyes of those who knew Him.

No matter where you are at in your journey with Jesus Christ, this TV show is for you. Live streaming the first 7 episodes, one each day. Currently up to episode 5.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBXOFnNTULFaAnj24PAeblg>



Hey Parents!
Looking for good content for your kids to watch during lockdown / church from home?

We at Love out Loud Oz have just released an amazing set of video resources available right now, online for FREE.

There's over 30 different kid's videos with lessons like: Loving Your Neighbour, The Christian Life, Believing God's Promises and many more added each week.

Create an account and check it out at: <https://www.loveoutloudoz.com/>

There is nothing the nearness of Jesus cannot overcome.



Kicks off - Sunday 5th April 5th

FREEDOM
HOPE
LIFE.

Three things we need to keep hold of more than ever in this season, and three things we have access to at all times through grace!

GET A BIGGER PICTURE OF THIS GRACE.

The HOPE at HOME Film Festival starts this Sunday, and the very first thing that will happen is you will get (not one, but) THREE Easter films dropped into your account.



What a wonderful chance to go deeper into the Easter message. Get your Festival Pass now. A pass to the entire festival (including all the live events) costs only \$29.99. That's 10 weeks of uplifting films and events.

For all the info about the Hope at Home Film Festival visit: hopeathome.com.au