

April 5, 2020

## NEWSLINK



### BIBLE READING

**APRIL 5 2020**

*Palm Sunday*

Is 50:4-9a

**Ps 118:1-2,19-29**

Phil 2:5-11

**Mt 21:1-11**

**APRIL 12 2020**

*Easter Day*

Acts 10:34-43

Ps 118:1-2

Col 3:1-4 or Jn 20:1-18  
or Jer 31:1-6 14-24

Acts 10:34-43 or  
Mt 28:1-10

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#### NEW LIFE OP SHOP

**Opening hours**  
Closed till further notice  
Mob: 0491 757 723

#### DIRECT DEPOSIT GIVING:

UCA-Ipswich City Uniting Church  
BSB: 014010  
Account: 387923132



The Uniting Church In Australia  
**IPSWICH CITY**



**IPSWICH CITY**  
UNITING CHURCH

*Finding New Life Together in Christ*

## REFLECTION

### PALM SUNDAY—A FAILED KING?

In the way that the media, a political party, or an economist would measure it, Jesus in his lifetime was a failure. He didn't make the most of his success as a healer and preacher. He did not surround himself with the "right" people. He was hailed as a king not riding a great white horse but a donkey. At the end of his life he was hailed as "The King" in a bitter irony, with a crown of thorns. He died naked, publically shamed and humiliated on a Roman cross. Yet no-one else has been more influential on history.

Care for the marginalised, compassion for the needy, the division of time into BC and AD, inspiration for the arts, comfort for the grieving, food and healing for the needy, and hope and strength and light for those in darkness. Why do it this way, in what seemed to be a failure?

Most importantly so God in Jesus could fix your sin and broken-ness from inside the human condition and share with you, his unbroken relationship with the one he called Father. Secondly so you could know that God can use and include anything and anyone, even YOU, though you may not be great, and in spite of your failures and imperfections.

At this time of isolation you may not feel that you can do very much, but already I am hearing many stories of people encouraging and supporting others. We cannot know how God will use our modest actions. Like Jesus God will use your lives to do significant things even beyond your mortal life.

#### QUESTIONS FOR THOUGHT OR DISCUSSION

What failures have you experienced in life?

In what ways is God asking you to persevere and step out in faith, even if you do not see the final outcome of your obedience? What kind of legacy will you leave behind?

*Andrew*

#### NOTE FROM THE TREASURER

The COVID-19 situation will present a number of challenges for Church Council as a number of income streams have stopped. It will be helpful if the offerings received through the church services can continue as much as possible. You may consider the following options:

- Accumulate your offering at home until normal church services resume.
- Set up a direct credit facility through your bank, for regular or one off payments.
- The church website will soon have a facility to receive donations by credit card.

And, pray for an end to the restrictions as quickly as possible.

*Details for direct deposit giving are in the column to the left.*

#### IPSWICH CITY UNITING WEBSITE

For your information, the church website now contains the online church services from the last two weeks and will be updated each week: <https://www.ipswichcityunitingchurch.org.au/>

## PRAYER POINTS & GENERAL NOTICES

### Hebrews 4:16 ESV

*Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

### Romans 12:12 ESV

*Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.*

### 1 John 5:14-15 ESV

*And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.*

## UNITINGWORLD - FROM DR SUREKA GORINGE, NATIONAL DIRECTOR



**UnitingWorld**  
connecting communities for life

### **When a crisis like COVID-19 hits, it is the poor who are hit hardest.**

Please remember our partner church communities in your prayers. They face the challenge of COVID-19 often without healthcare, sometimes without clean water or food. This crisis will come and go, and we must survive it together. We need to be there for the long road to healing and recovery. Because we are people of hope.

Though we may be walking through the valley of shadows right now, let us do it hand in hand with God's people everywhere. Because we know God walks with us, and that dawn will come. I pray that you and your family be strong and courageous during this time, holding onto hope and health. And I beg that you stand with us, and remember the poorest and most vulnerable in our global neighbourhood. Now more than ever, they need your prayers and your support.

## IPSWICH HOSPICE CARE - FROM CAROL HOPE, DIRECTOR OF NURSING

Due to the COVID-19 crisis Ipswich Hospice is facing associated challenges with increased costs and the fact that their fundraising events for the foreseeable future are cancelled. We are reaching out to the community to ask for help in supporting Ipswich Hospice through the COVID-19 crisis to enable us to stay open for the community.

We are incurring unforeseen costs in several areas, including (but not limited to):

- Purchasing personal protective equipment (PPE) required for COVID 19 – we rarely use these in normal circumstances. We have had to increase stocks in preparation. We are not an acute hospital, and do not qualify for stock from state or federal stockpiles. We have had to purchase as much as we can. An estimate of costs for PPE is around \$1500.
- Purchasing scrubs for the clinical team – we need to follow the Queensland Health guidelines around clothing for clinical staff. This cost is \$4000.
- There are no volunteers to maintain the gardens, so we need to contract a monthly gardener to mow the lawns etc. Anticipated cost for the possible duration of the crisis to total \$3000.

The usual food supplier ceased online delivery, so we have had to go to a commercial supplier. As we are small scale, this is a more expensive option for Hospice. Anticipated additional food costs for the possible duration of the crisis to total \$1000 - \$2000.

If you are able, please make a donation to Ipswich Hospice.

Donate through the website ([ipswichhospice.org.au](https://ipswichhospice.org.au)) or by calling the administration team on 3812 0063.

*"We know there are lots of folks in our community doing it tough at the moment but we really hope we can make it through this crisis with our doors open and our health intact. Thank you so much for your support."*

## BIBLE SOCIETY AUSTRALIA - GRANT Thomson CEO

Please pray for Bible Societies around the world and for the people we help. Many of the people you support live in the most difficult circumstances. They cannot self-isolate. They cannot implement social distancing. Pray for governments, for health workers, for scientists and for the vulnerable.

Our current circumstances makes me even more grateful that we have the Bible to turn to, for where else will we find comfort, love, reassurance and hope in such times?

## BREMER BRISBANE PRESBYTERY

For presbytery events and information please go to: <https://bremerbrisbane.org.au>



## THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA QUEENSLAND SYNOD

To find communications to the Church in Queensland; live streaming worship; resources for and from agencies and community services activities; links to other Uniting Church coronavirus resources; and links to government information pages go to:

<https://ucaql.com.au/>