

The COVID-19 pandemic has infiltrated us all for the last two months. Thousands of lives have been lost globally, and the economic cost has been crippling.

Australia has been joined by others demanding an enquiry into the origin of the virus, and a universal race for a vaccine is underway so '...something like this will never happen again'!

However, while not in any way diminishing the impact of the pandemic, is there a bigger picture we should be seeing?

On one occasion, Jesus was made aware of two disasters in Luke 13:1-5, one manmade (human sacrifice) and the other 'natural' (a collapsed tower). Both resulted in the loss of life. His response showed surprising disinterest in both the extent of the victim's sinfulness and the cause of these tragic events. Rather, Jesus was more concerned with the fact that death (and judgement) will come to all... sooner or later! These events were warnings for all to be prepared!

Similarly, in Matthew 24:6-8, Jesus speaks of wars, famines and earthquakes - all of which have occurred in every generation and claimed countless lives - as the mere birth pangs pointing us to His inevitable second coming and the eternal judgement it will herald.

While we rightly pray for those affected, and a vaccine to combat the corona virus, let us more earnestly pray for this pandemic to awaken sleepy Australians to the truth that there is no refuge from the judgement of Jesus when he returns (Revelation 6:15-17)... but there is refuge in Him!

#### - PHIL PRATT

# **Prayers**

#### **CURRENT PRAYERS**

#### Church people who are unwell

John Angus, Marlene Arthur, Jean Beetles, Jan Crook, Raija Hannam, Robert Hannam, Marylin Kyngdon, Yvonne Matthiassen, Joy Meyer, James Mills, Noel Monk, Pam Moore, Allan Quinn, Esma Quinn, Merv Sercombe, Sue Simpson, Eileen Stokes, Mary Straughan, Charlie October, Betty Uren, Chris Wilson.

#### The family of Gareth Thomas

Pray for Robyn, Sarah, Kate and family as they mourn the passing away of Gareth earlier this week. Pray that they would trust in God and know his love in this difficult time. Give thanks for Gareth's faith in Jesus and that he is now enjoying eternity with his Lord & Saviour.

#### Marylin Kyngdon

Continue to pray for Marylin as she deteriorates in her health. Give thanks to God for her strong faith and conviction in our loving Father. Pray for Geoff and the family especially given the current circumstances of travel restrictions.

#### COVID-19

Please pray for those who are effected by the shut downs especially those for whom mental health issues will make this worse. Please ask God to remind them of his presence with them.

Pray for a vaccine to be developed to treat COVID-19. Thank God that medical researchers are not starting from scratch, and that in his mercy he has given us the ability to save lives from many diseases in this way.

## Mother's Day

Give thanks for Mums everywhere. For their love and service to their families, for the special blessings they are. Pray also for the people who find Mother's Day difficult; perhaps grieving loss or other tensions.

#### **REGULAR PRAYERS (CYCLE 1 OF 4)**

#### **Government:**

The Prime Minister and our federal politicians.

#### **World Focus:**

The continent of Europe. The persecuted church.

#### **Mission Partners:**

Matthew Meek, ministry to overseas university students with AFES in Wollongong and beyond.

Shord and Ann van Donge, training and serving in cross-cultural ministry.

#### **Organisations We Support:**

Evangelism and New Churches, and the fruit of our regular gifts to purchase new church land.

#### **Word Ministry Training:**

Youthworks College.

## Staff and Senior Leadership:

Valerie O'Regan (Parish Administrator).

## Children's and Youth Ministry:

Kids' Club.

#### **Adult Ministries:**

Men's and Women's ministry, including the dinners.

## Local Evangelism:

Our Anglican Southern Illawarra Mission Area church network.

#### **Special Needs:**

Those serving in the defence forces.

## **Other Regular Matters:**

Former members of our church currently in Word ministry roles.

## **DANIEL**

# 4. God restores the humble Daniel 4:1-37

Sam Pursell • 10th May 2020

2. Contentment and prosperity chopped down (4-18)

3. All you have is from God (19-27)

4. Repentance and restoration (28-37)

## **Church News**

#### HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

We pray for all the mothers of the parish and wish you each a very special day, thanking you for your love and for the important role you play in our families, our church and our society.

## **KIDS' CHURCH**

This week's videos and activities for Daniel 4 can be accessed here - <a href="https://bit.ly/3b98YUc">https://bit.ly/3b98YUc</a>

## JESUS IS MISSION LAUNCH BIBLE TALKS

If you would like to access the Jesus Is Mission Launch Bible talks by David Robertson please click here: <a href="https://bit.ly/2W7OnLM">https://bit.ly/2W7OnLM</a>.

### VIRTUAL MORNING TEA

Join us on Zoom after the morning service on Sundays at <a href="https://bit.ly/2ygoOyC">https://bit.ly/2ygoOyC</a> for a virtual morning tea together. You will require a password which is 081977.

#### **OUR BIRTHDAYS**

11th Marylin Kyngdon14th Tania Young16th Dave Crook

## **OUR ANNIVERSARIES**

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**GIVE ELECTRONICALLY - BANK DETAILS** 

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