



Mission Statement:

To love God and to love our neighbours and become an increasingly relevant presence in our community.

During Covid-19, our Eucharist is in individual serves only -
"This is the Lord's table – all who seek God's mercy are welcome"

We do invite visitors to sign our Visitors' Book,
Unfortunately, we still can't share a cuppa after our services.

SUNDAY MARCH 14, 2021 – *"Everlasting God in whom we live & move & have our being, You have made us for Yourself, & our hearts are restless until they find their rest in You: give us purity of heart & strength of purpose, that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing Your will, no weakness prevent us from doing it; that in Your light we may see light, & in Your service find perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives & reigns with You & the Holy Spirit, one God, now & for ever. Amen.*

RECTOR: Rev'd TIM NARRAWAY – (DAY OFF: MONDAY)

PH: 4476 3049 e: revtimanglican@gmail.com

ST PAUL'S, NAROOMA: Sundays: 9am – Eucharist.

1st Wednesdays of Month: 9am – Eucharist & Prayer for Healing

Other Wednesdays: 9am – Eucharist

Musicians: Mary, Denise, David, Steve, Mick,

ALL SAINTS, BODALLA: Sundays: 11.15am – Eucharist

2nd & 4th Thursdays, 4pm – Evening Prayer

Musicians: Len Mulley & Alma Stearn

Aged & Pastoral Care Deacon: Ven Jane Simmonds,

PH: 0438 134 635; e: jane.simmonds@bigpond.com

Deacon in the Community: Rev'd Karly Ferguson – 0412 232 647

Youth & Families: Rev'd Mandy Wheatley, 0401 670 132; e: mmjcwheatley@bigpond.com

Financial Support: Cheques to Bodalla Parochial Council. PO Box 535 Narooma 2546;

MARCH 14, 2021, - 4th SUNDAY of LENT:

Num 21: 4-9Ps 107: 1-3, 17-22

Eph 2: 1-10

John 3: 14-21

Readers: Marie

Peter

Counters: Marie & Pauline

Lachie & Peter

THE IMAGE OF JESUS
AS A SNAKE ON A
STICK SEEMS VERY
DISRESPECTFUL.



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THE CROSS IS
HIS HUMILIATION
FOR OUR
SAKES...



YEAH, BUT A
SNAKE?



JOHN 3:14-21



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ABM Pew Sheet Reflections, 2021: *"What is it about the Israelites? They complain and grumble and are punished by God, then Moses intercedes on their behalf and God saves them. And this is repeated over and over. Finally, in Christ we are redeemed once for all, we are raised from the death of our sins to the heavenly places with Jesus. But let's be clear. There are no acts nor works that anyone can do to be saved. Life with Christ is a gift from God and we celebrate it by doing good to others.*

- **God of the ages**, Your loving mercy is forever, we give thanks for the gift of Your only child, we mourn his death & celebrate his resurrection & praise You for the eternal life You bestow on us.
- **Give thanks** for the work and witness of the Amity Foundation, China
- **"May your Church** be a blessing to the people of Myanmar." - ABM
- **Pray Healing for:** Pam & Chris; Bob B; Marion; Karly; Wendy B; Sylvia; Stephen L; Lindy C; Kerrie Anne; Greg; Stephen G; **Pray Comfort** for all who grieve.
 - **Pray for** our Link Missionaries, Tingle Family in Chiang Mai, Thailand - see **latest news!**
 - **Pray protection & recovery** for our virus, drought, fire, & flood affected nation.
- **Please continue to pray for revival**, & "pray the Lord of the harvest for workers for our field."
- **"Let all peoples use His name in blessing; all nations call Him blessed."** Ps 72:19 (APBA)

• **Please Pray for our Refugee Family**, Selva & Juliat, Lawrence & Marya, during this stressful time as they explore taking their appeal to the Federal Court, that **"the Lord will bless & protect them, be gracious to them, show them His favour, & grant them His peace"**.

"To clasp the hands in prayer is the beginning of an uprising against the disorder of the world." - Karl Barth

To **MAKE OR CHANGE A RESERVATION** for the 9am worship at St Paul's on Sundays &/or Wednesdays, please advise Rhonda: rhonda.both@me.com PH: 0457 477 485.

A basket for your GIVING & DONATIONS is at the rear of the church near the door.
 TODAY, 4pm at St Paul's - Parish AGM & AEM, followed by tea at Golfie.
 NB: FORMS are available to nominate our next Parish Wardens & Councillors

THURS MARCH 18, 1-4pm @ B/Bay Anglican Church – UNDERSTANDING CHANGE, LOSS & GRIEF SEMINAR. (FREE) Sponsored by MacKillop Family Services, “A trained ‘Companion’ facilitates the seminar, in which participants explore feelings, memories, loss & grief in a safe & creative way.” – Contacts: Janice.ackland@anglicare.com.au 0490 258042 or drnewman1956@gmail.com.

TUES APR 13, 3.30pm - SOMA Australia Annual General Meeting

Held via Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87351923242>

Please join us! We'd love to see you there. If you would like an AGM Agenda please email us at contact@somaau.org and we will forward to you a copy.

“We find ourselves in strange lands at present, and I have recently been reminded in Romans 4:13-25, that God’s promises to Abraham was not based on his obedience to God’s law, but on a right relationship with God that comes from faith. Through my reflections on the many journeys within scripture, of the strange lands in which our ancestors travelled, the key encouragement which I believe we can draw from is the steps of faith each of them took. When we put trust in our ever-faithful God, living out of Christ’s character and allowing the Holy Spirit lead & guide us, we live with expectant hearts and hope in the promises of new lands to come.

It is time for SOMA Australia’s mission call, ‘to care for the nervous system of the church’ to be renewed and refreshed, for God is leading us into new lands surrounding this call. We honestly believe God has more for us (SOMA Australia and the body of Christ), if we so boldly stand in faith and continue to press into Him. So please join us, as we together allow God’s will to unfold through the ministry & mission of SOMA Australia for this time” – Rev Liz Rankin, SOMA Aust

Prayer Points:

- Wisdom for SOMA Australia Board
- The refinement of SOMA’s call for the 21st Century both here & Internationally.
- New parish engagements across Australia.
- The many ministries happening in these difficult times in Nepal, Vietnam & Indonesia
- Bishop of Singapore Right Revd. Dr Titus Chung Kham Boon
- National Director of South Africa, Revd. Chris Viljeon, Alison(wife), family and friends, as Chris battles with a stage 4 (terminal) Brain Cancer.
- Archbishop Ben



TIM'S MESSAGE: “The context for today’s gospel reading is Jesus’ discussion with Nicodemus.

It takes place at night, immediately after the table turning incident in the Temple. Jewish leaders are not happy with him. Max Lucado notes that the meeting between Jesus and Nicodemus is more than an encounter between two religious figures, It is a collision between two philosophies. Two opposing views on salvation. Nicodemus thought the person does the work, Jesus says God does the work.

Nicodemus, a Jewish leader (Pharisee), is convinced by Jesus’ actions that he is “a teacher who has come from God.” Implies that there are others who have this same belief. Jesus responds that this isn’t enough. You must be “born anew” to see God’s kingdom.

Nicodemus does not understand, so Jesus explains that people must be “born of the spirit.” Nicodemus still does not understand. This passage is a part of Jesus’ explanation to Nicodemus.

Snakes alive

Jesus words “Just as Moses lifted up the snake” is a clear allusion to our Numbers text for this week. One Nicodemus would have recognised.

Snakes play a prominent role in the Bible’s big story;

1. they are found in the very beginning of the story, as a creature in the garden.
2. Then we have the snakes from our Old Testament passage today.
3. We have the snake in the Book of Acts.
4. We have the serpent in Revelation, whom the child can play safely with. Fulfilling Jesus words in Mark 16v17 and 18

And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they

drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well."

After inviting Nicodemus to be born anew, Jesus tells him in John 3 that *God so loved the world that God sent his son to restore it*. Therefore, when we read John 3:16, we remember that Jesus is God with skin on. Ultimately, love is where he; Is where God begins and ends. This love, like grace, is a gift we do nothing to deserve. Again and again, love is our refrain. Before we act, think, or believe, can love be first for us too?"