

The present exhibition until February 15th at the St Kilda Town Hall Gallery, *Confined*, features works by Indigenous artists currently in or recently released from prison in Victoria. It's a *must see*!

Pick up the latest copy of *Crosslight* from front table.

Notice Board: Latest copy of our Presbytery's newsletter – *Newsbeat*.
Flyers from **Baptist Church** and **Christ Church**.

We respectfully acknowledge the Yalukit Willam clan of the Boon Wurrung. We pay our respects to their Elders and community past and present. We acknowledge and uphold their continuing relationship to this land.

Date	February 12	February 19	February 26	March 5
<i>Worship. W. Assist.</i>	Randall	Mary	Brian	
<i>Welcome at door</i>	Roma	Maureen	Janet	
<i>Pre-Service Prayer</i>	Beverley	Roma	Mary	
<i>Flowers</i>	Desleigh	Mary	Beverley	
<i>Coffee</i>	Mark & Ruth	Maureen	Brian & Janet	

Church

Corner Chapel & Carlisle Sts
St Kilda 3182/9525 4319

Engagement Hub

101 Carlisle St.
St Kilda 3182/9525 5478

Minister: Rev. David Pargeter

saints674@iinet.net.au

PO Box 385, Balaclava 3183.

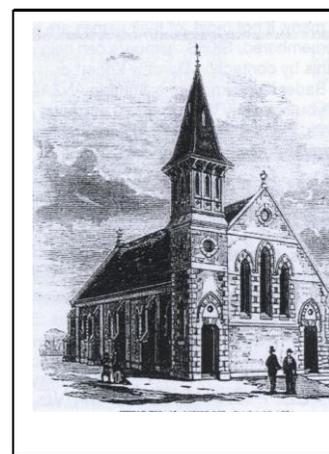
Ph. 0412 334 334

www.stkildaunitingchurch.org

www.facebook.com/stkildaparishmission

VISION STATEMENT: As a community of faith, the St Kilda Uniting Church Parish Mission strives to do what is just, to show constant love and to walk humbly with God.

NEWSLETTER DETAILS: The newsletter editor is Desleigh Kent. Contributions are welcome and can be sent to her at desleighk@ozemail.com.au If you would like to be part of a growing congregational email list (and receive a full colour copy of the church newsletter in pdf format), please contact Rob Hess at Robert.Hess@vu.edu.au



**St Kilda Uniting Church
Parish Mission**

**NEWSLETTER
Volume 52, Issue 3
Sunday, 12 February 2017**

Epiphany 6

You are most welcome to the service today. Rev David Pargeter will lead our worship. Please join us afterwards for tea or coffee.

**Bible Reading: Exodus 3: 7 – 14 pg.64, Exodus 13: 21,22 pg.78
John 4:21 – 24. pg. 1174**

Rev. David Pargeter: Thin Places

“There are places I remember, all my life”

So begins one of the more reflective songs by Beatle Paul McCartney. I suspect that for many of us, certain places hold important memories. I know from my own experiences that whenever I visit places associated with my childhood, all sorts of feelings come to the surface. Usually pleasant feelings. That's the power of ‘place’. Much of that has to do with associating places with things like happiness or love, or even rites of passage.

Some places are naturally evocative because of landscape, atmosphere and history, and have a way of etching themselves into our memories. Some places have been doing that to people for generations. People often struggle to describe what's going on for them and words aren't able to capture the experience – they just know something different is happening. Celtic spirituality refers to such places as ‘thin’ places. Places where the mystery of the divine presence is felt more strongly. I suspect many such incidents described in the bible, like Moses and the burning bush, are examples of ‘thin’ places.

On Wednesday last week I spent some time sitting with ‘Ray’ on the bench outside the church building. PTO

Ray talked about feeling safe sitting near the church, and said “I know people in there are praying for people like me out here”. Clearly, there was a memory at work and it was bringing Ray some experience of comfort.

Sounds to me like Ray had found for himself his own ‘thin’ place.

Stay tuned.
David Pargeter

Songs

You were in this place - but we never knew

At the dawn of the ages,
you pulled land from the sea.
With your word you invented
all we know, all we see:
Creek and desert and forest,
red and grey kangaroo.
You were in this place— but we
never knew.

Paintings seen on the rock face,
footprints left in the sand.
Campfire next to the river,
songs that rise from the land:
Signs that seem so elusive,
shadows just out of view.
You were in this place — but we
never knew.

Do we take after Jacob,
blind to what lies at hand.
needing dreams to inform us

God is here in this land?
See him suffering and dying,
bread and wine tell the news.
You were in this place— but we
never knew.

Jesus, open our senses,
help us see you today
in the person beside us,
as we work, as we play.
While we love you and serve you,
may it never be true:
You were in this place — but we
never knew. Robin Mann

Come and Find the Quiet Centre (tune: Ode to Joy)

Come and find the quiet centre
in the crowded life we lead.
Find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear our eyes, that we can see.
All the things that really matter,
be at peace, and simply be.

Silence is a friend who claims us,
cools the heat and slows the pace.
God it is who speaks and names us,
knows our being, touches base.
Making space within our thinking,
lifting shades to show the sun.
Raising courage when we're
shrinking,
finding scope for faith begun.

In the Spirit let us travel,
open to each other's pain.

Let our loves and fears unravel,
celebrate the space we gain.
There's a place for deepest
dreaming,
there's a time for heart to care.
In the Spirit's lively scheming
there is always room to spare!
Shirley Murray

Notices

Parish Council was held last Thursday. The **church camp** has been confirmed for **Friday 31st March to Sunday 2nd April** at the Lancaster's on Phillip Island Also note the important date of **Sunday May 21st** for the **140th Anniversary celebration of our church and the launch of the book of its history.** More info. later for these events.

Today is the St Kilda Festival. There will be many activities and music throughout the area. If you like community singing then join Digby Hannah at the **Eco Centre at 4pm or go to Christ Church in Acland St. at 6pm.**

163 Table Conversations. Sharing Food – Sharing Ideas

Table Conversations will be this **Tuesday: February 14th at 6.15pm.** The guest speaker will be **Rev. Peter Batten** who will speak and discuss the *Spirituality of Play.* Peter is a Uniting Church minister

(Northcote Uniting Church),
Creative Arts Therapist and
accredited InterPlay leader
This conversation will be
interactive **All welcome!**
Please rsvp to Janet: 0417 670 132.
Donation to cover the cost of dinner
BYO drinks or a bottle to share

**SkillsFest “Life in the Garden”,
next Saturday 18th February, 10
am – 12.30 pm, at Port
Melbourne Uniting Church.**
Hands-on, all ages activities around
life above and below the garden.
More information: Facebook:
SkillsFestPortMelb or
www.spuc.org.au/skillsfest

Progressive Christian Network

The PCNV is **next Sunday 19th February at 3.00pm. Julian Burnside will speak: *on the way ahead for Australia's treatment of asylum seekers.* Venue: Ewing Memorial Centre of Stonnington Uniting Church, corner of Burke Road and Coppin Street, Malvern East. Melway 59 G12**

The Council of Christians & Jews (Vic) presents David Marlow and Mark Zirnsak discussing “*Religion and Freedom of Speech*” **next Sunday 19th February at 3pm,** Friedlander Hall, Temple Beth Israel 76 – 82 Alma Rd., St Kilda \$10 includes Kosher afternoon tea. 9429 5212 ccjvic@bigpond.net.au