



**St Kilda Uniting Church
Parish Mission**

**NEWSLETTER
Volume 52, Issue 24
Sunday, 23 July 2017**

PENTECOST 6

Date	July 23	July 30	August 6	August 13
Worship. W. Assist.	David Beverley	David	Roma	Melissa
Welcome at door	Louise	Beverley	Deb	Mary
Pre-Service Prayer	Beverley	Roma	Melissa	Beverley
Flowers	Mary	Andrej & Petka	Deb	Maureen
Coffee	Beverley	Andrej	Ruth & Mark	Louise

Church

Corner Chapel & Carlisle Sts
St Kilda 3182/9525 4319

Engagement Hub

101 Carlisle St.
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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 for July 23 is Elphine Mostert: elphinmostert@yahoo.com.au Rob Hess will be editor for July30, Aug 6,13. 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

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

Bible Readings: Judges 6: 7-16, and 36-40
Mark 9: 14-24
Mark 15: 33-34

From David:

“I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief”.

This one line found in the Gospel of Mark (9: 24) is a little episode about which I wish we really knew much more. It is fraught with mystery but who doesn't know the experience of deep longing for a loved-one to be made well. Yet, the 'moment' is made the more remarkable because of its courage in naming the inescapable relationship between conviction and doubt. Believe and unbelief.

In my earlier Christian life I once described that dilemma as trying to catch two rabbits running in opposite directions, and that in the end you have to give up on one of them for fear of losing both of them. I don't think like that now. Chasing rabbits doesn't seem important any more. Watching them run around and playing with each other is much more fun!

Back in 1960, shortly after lobbing his theological grenade into the religious institutional world - a book titled *Honest to God* - Bishop John Robinson wrote another that didn't receive quite the same reaction. Personally, I thought it was a much braver book. He called it: *But that I can't believe*.

He was a post WW2 theologian and New Testament scholar (and a Bishop) who, in the still-bright light of some horrendous events in history, set about trying to find ways of writing about God. He was trying to write about belief in ways that might make sense to a 'shell-shocked' public. It was one of those watershed publications.

We are in a very different kind of world today; human suffering continues in a variety of forms, and conflict takes place but not in the same ways. There have been huge advances in science and our understanding of cosmology and psychology. All of these 'shifts' in knowledge require the same kind of

sensitive and brave enquiry around who is God for us? What is God for us? Where is God for us?

So, what have you stopped believing but more importantly, what have you held onto in the light of your own life experiences?

Who is God for you in July 2017?

David

Notices

ADULT'S DINNER

This year the adults' dinner will be on Saturday, August 26th at Lou and Matt's home in Mentone starting at 6.00 pm. More information to come.

St Kilda Gatehouse is in need of warm winter clothes for the women who attend the drop-in. If you have spare coats, jumpers, scarves, socks etc. in good condition please drop off at the Baptist Church. Phone 9525 4620 Thurs/Fri

Run Melbourne – Join the Sacred Heart Mission Team – 30th July 17. See www.bitly.com/runforsacredheartmission

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.

The Church community notes with sadness the passing of Desleigh's Kent's brother David. Funeral details to be advised.

Book Launch Photographs

