

Merricks weekend – flying paper aeroplanes!



Date	1 December	8 December	15 December	22 December	22 December
<i>Worship</i>	David Mary	David Andrej	David Melissa	David Randall	Carol Service 6.30pm
<i>Assistance</i>					
<i>Welcome at door</i>	Maureen	Janet	Louise	Maureen	Roma /Janet
<i>Flowers</i>	Desleigh	Petra	Mary	Roma	
<i>Coffee</i>	Mark	Roma	Louise	Maureen	Janet/ Brian. Roma
<i>Rubbish collection</i>	Roma	Brian	Darren	Randall	

Church

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(cnr Chapel & Carlisle Sts.)

Engagement Hub

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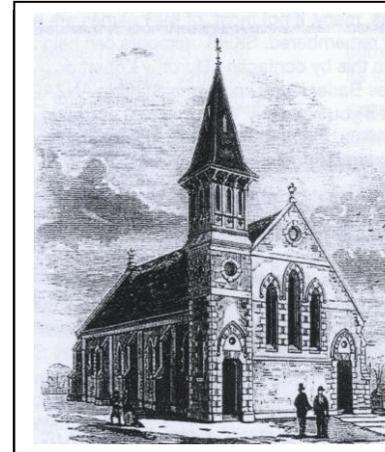
VISION STATEMENT:

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:

Desleigh Kent is the editor and distributor of the Newsletter. If you would like to receive a copy of the church newsletter each week or if you wish to be removed from the list, please contact Desleigh: desleighk@ozemail.com.au

Contributions to the content are also welcomed.



**St Kilda Uniting Church
Parish Mission**

NEWSLETTER

Volume 54, Issue 40

Sunday, 1 December 2019

ADVENT 1

Welcome to you all, including our Zimbabwean friends, to our service this morning. Rev. David Pargeter will lead us in worship which includes communion. Please stay afterwards for tea/coffee and conversation.

Bible Readings: Matthew 24: 36 – 44 pg. 660 *The Inclusive Bible*

From David: It's the vibe

Last Saturday I was queuing up to order a meal in a pub. It was a long queue. Christmas music was playing. Two men in front of me (about my age) were passing the time by talking about the next few weeks and all the end-of-year functions that they would be involved in.

They were laughing and carrying on with a degree of animated enthusiasm when, quite unexpectedly, one them said in rather hushed tones: "You know Tom, I really don't like Christmas very much anymore. It's different. Something has got lost".

"Why's that?" asked Tom.

"Hard to say. It's not just one thing. It's lots of little things. I don't get cards any more; just text messages and little video clips of singing elves with the faces of my grandchildren. And on Christmas day, if we can work out how to get together before everyone disappears for their holiday, we do Kris Kringle now where we only have to think about a gift for 1 other person. We don't cook a traditional roast anymore; just some vegan equivalent that's good for the environment". **PTO**

[Continued from page 1 ...]

“You’re sounding like one of those grumpy old men, Jack”.

“I know. But it’s not grumpiness. It’s more a kind of sadness I think. All the party function stuff is fun and its nice spending time with people over food and drinks. But there’s a kind of emptiness about it all. What’s the point? It’s not nostalgia Tom. It’s more like that sentiment in The Castle. You know, where he talks about the Constitution and says: it’s the vibe of the thing. It’s the vibe.”

“I don’t sense the vibe anymore Jack”.

“Phew, says Jack, so what’s this vibe that you are trying to sense?”

“Hard to say Tom. I’m not a religious man. I used to be, but not anymore. I let go of all that virgin birth and shepherds and angels nonsense years ago. After Jenny died and the kids were small. **But I find myself wanting to put some sort of religion back into Christmas again”.**

“What would you like ?” says the young woman behind the counter.

“I’ll have the roast of the day, says Tom.”

“I’ll have the mushroom risotto, says Jack”.

And the queue shuffles forward.

Peace and Good will. David

HYMNS/ SONGS.

TiS 607 Make me a channel of your peace

TiS 699 A new commandment x 2

TiS 526 Lord Jesus Christ (2 verses)

TiS 658 I the Lord of sea and sky (3 verses)

He’s got the whole world in his hands (words on screen)

We respectfully acknowledge the Yalukit Willam clan of the Boon Wurrung – the Traditional Owners of Port Phillip. We pay our respects to their Elders and community - past, present and emerging. We acknowledge and uphold their continuing relationship to this land.

NOTICES:

CAROL SERVICE at the church will be on **Sunday 22nd December at 6.30pm. Come and join the celebration!** If you would like to join the team of music makers please contact Desleigh 0413158855

CHRISTMAS DAY service will be at 9.30am. Bring yourselves and your neighbours.

HOLDING THE LIGHT: A MULTI-FAITH SERVICE. The National Council of Churches is holding a multi-faith service dedicated to remembering victims & survivors of domestic violence. St Francis’ Catholic Church, 326 Lonsdale St Melbourne **TODAY: Sunday 1st December 2019, 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm**

The **COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL** at Holy Trinity Balaclava will be held this week from Thursday 5th to Sunday 8th December. **Thursday and Friday** 10am to 7pm. **Friday night concert starts at 7pm** with Elwood Community Choir and Friends – supper – gold coin donation. **Saturday** 10 am to 4pm **Sunday** 12md to 4pm followed by **Carols amongst the Trees.**

UNITINGWORLD: Giving Tuesday is **this Tuesday -December 3rd** - and your help is needed to raise **\$25,000** for people striving to overcome poverty and injustice in our world! It's your chance to be part of a whole world of giving – one day of the year in the lead up to Christmas when people all over the world stop, think of others and donate to the causes they're most passionate about.

<https://www.unitingworld.org.au/givingtuesday>

READING AND DISCUSSION group will be at Mary and Brian’s on Thursday 12th December @7.30pm. Please contact Mary0409060846 if you like to participate. All welcome!

CHRISTMAS BOWL - the Christmas appeal of ACT FOR PEACE (the International aid agency of the National Council of Churches). This year is the 70th anniversary of the BOWL and the donations for emergency relief are as important as ever. This year your donation will not only help to provide life-saving water and sanitation facilities to help meet the immediate needs of families in South Sudan but also to create change that lasts. Material available on front table. You can place your donation (clearly marked) in the offering plate, or make your donation online: www.actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl

UNITING CHRISTMAS CARDS – samples available in foyer or order online;
vt.uniting.org/christmascards

FOR YOUR DIARY: February 15th 2020 the church’s dinner (usually adults only) will be at Ruth and Mark’s house in Elsternwick. More information to come. Keep the date free!