

offering plate, or make your donation online:  
[www.actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl](http://www.actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl)

**FOR YOUR DIARY:** February 15<sup>th</sup> 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!

December *Crosslight* and copy of *Newsbeat* on table in foyer.

*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.*

Date	8 December	15 December	22 December	22 December	25 December
<i>Worship Assistance</i>	David Mary	David Melissa	David Randall	Carol Service 6.30pm	<i>Christmas Day</i> 9.30am
<i>Welcome at door</i>	Janet	Louise	Maureen	Roma /Janet	Maureen Roma
<i>Flowers</i>	Petra	Mary	Roma		
<i>Coffee</i>	Roma	Louise	Maureen	Janet/ Brian. Roma	
<i>Rubbish collection</i>	Brian	Darren	Randall		Whoever is around!

**Church**  
 163 Chapel St., St Kilda. 3182  
 (cnr Chapel & Carlisle Sts.)

**Engagement Hub**  
 101 Carlisle St.

St Kilda 3182. Ph: 9525 5478

**Minister:** Rev. David Pargeter

Email: [saints163@bigpond.com](mailto:saints163@bigpond.com)

PO Box 385, Balaclava 3183.

Ph: 0412 334 334

[www.stkildaunitingchurch.org.au](http://www.stkildaunitingchurch.org.au)

**Church phone no.**

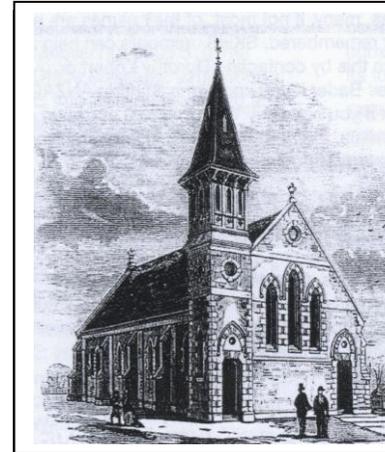
**0458 417 708**

**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](mailto:desleighk@ozemail.com.au)  
 Contributions to the content are also welcomed.



**St Kilda Uniting Church  
 Parish Mission**

**NEWSLETTER**

**Volume 54, Issue 41**

**Sunday, 8 December 2019**

**ADVENT 2**

**Welcome to you all to our service this morning. Rev. David Pargeter will lead us in worship. Please stay afterwards for tea/coffee and conversation.**

**Bible Readings: Isaiah 11: 1 – 10 pg 228. Matt. 3: 1 – 12 pg 645**

*The Inclusive Bible*

**From David: Advent Cousins**

It's the end of school term and I was able to get to one of the grade 6 concerts. It's a very special feeling watching your 2 eldest grandchildren who are cousins performing on stage. Especially when you know they have been rehearsing at home for weeks, stressing out over complicated choreography, and driving their parents crazy with repetitious sound bites.

**But all that slips away as the lights come on and opening lines are said without a stumble or hint of nervousness.** At one point in the concert my granddaughter, who had a lead role dressed as a teddy bear, was responsible for delivering 3 minutes of unhurried passionate dialogue. 3 minutes is a long time on stage in front of a big audience. Tears flowed at that point. Love and pride overwhelmed me. The toddler with the quirky style was now on stage full of confidence and courage. Then my grandson bounced on to the stage and along with 5 other larrikins provided some raucous percussion to back some amusing dance moves. He was grinning from ear to ear and loving every minute of it. I remember holding him in my arms the morning he was born and here he was tall and gangly and oozing with what the French call *joie de vivre* – an exultation of spirit.

[Continued from page 1 ...]

The next morning, I found myself reading material for this coming Sunday. It was a very pertinent text.

**During Advent, we are invited to remember the lives of another pair of cousins who lived in 1<sup>st</sup> C Galilee – John the Baptist ( son of Elizabeth) and Jesus ( son of Mary).** We don't know very much about their early lives growing up together in occupied Judea, and when they do finally arrive on stage, something revolutionary begins to unfold. Clearly they were close and understood what each other was on about. And much has been written and preached about this story. But I often find myself thinking about their mothers (we don't get any sense that their fathers were still around; Zacharia was very old when John was born) and what they imagined their sons would become or what might become of them.

**For me, Advent characterises both the joy and the pain of watching children grow up, move on and craft their own life journeys.** Every parent, guardian and significant adult of a child can enter the poignancy of this Christmas experience, and the hope that every child will either be born into a better time or champion it's arrival.

**Let us pause for a moment this advent season and remember 2 mothers in particular. Two women who nurtured their children in such a way that they had the faith and courage to speak truth to power and risked paying the ultimate price. Which they did in the end.**

**Peace and goodwill.  
David**

## ***HYMNS/ SONGS.***

**TiS. 156 Morning has broken**

**Cov. 144 One more step: v 1,2,3**

**Cov. 144 One more step: v 3,4,5**

**A Journey** (O Jesus I have promised)

**Dawn** heralds this day's journey;  
light floods the earth with gold;  
we feast on morning's freshness  
as peace our world enfolds.  
Earth offers us her beauty;  
bright blue the sky and sea;  
we pause in silent wonder,  
at one with all we see.

**Trees** reach into the sunlight;  
bright dewdrops on their leaves;  
we wait in joy or sorrow  
as life her pattern weaves.  
Wind dances in the valleys;  
flight takes the birds to air;  
we hold these fleeting moments  
as signs of sacred care.

**Clouds** move across the heavens;  
light breaks within the storm;  
we bless the rain of winter  
as night again is born.  
Dusk calls the world to slumber;  
night draws the Milky Way;  
we rest in sacred spaces,  
as darkness ends the day

**Creation** in completeness,  
vitality and grace;  
gives warmth and hope and meaning  
to all the human race.  
Life shares with us her treasures;

our hearts and minds aware;  
we give our thanks for living,  
as joyful life we share.

Helen Wiltshire

## ***NOTICES:***

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

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

The **COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL** at Holy Trinity Balaclava **finishes today Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December 12md to 4pm followed by Carols amongst the Trees.** If you haven't been able to get to Holy Trinity, then our tree will be back here in the church next Sunday ready for gifts to be put under it. **The Engagement Hub (Drop – In)** participants would welcome socks – all adult sizes; undies (male and female) – M and L

**CHURCH COUNCIL will meet this Tuesday. Please speak to any of the Churh Council members if you have any issues you would like to be considered by the CC.**

**READING AND DISCUSSION group will be at Mary and Brian's this Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December @7.30pm. Please contact Mary 0409060846 if you like to participate. All welcome!**

**SPACE2B'S 3RD ANNUAL COMMUNITY ART EXHIBITION OPENING this Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December from 6pm to 8pm, 100 Paintings for Peace,** This year's exhibition features more than 40 artists with works taking a variety of forms, including textiles, original paintings, photographs and high quality giclee prints. An inspiring exhibition to spread the message of **Peace, Acceptance and Respect** until Friday 31st January - 144 Chapel Street (across the road)

**CHRISTMAS BOWL - the Christmas appeal of ACT FOR PEACE** (the International aid agency of the National Council of Churches). This year is the 70<sup>th</sup> 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