



St Luke's Torquay
Transfiguration Angelsea
St Aidan's Aireys Inlet

**TWELFTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

Surfcoast Anglican Parish

27 August 2017

Today's readings: Isaiah 51.1-6; Psalm 138; Romans 12.1-8; Matthew 16.13-20

I was once part of a parish where one of the churchwardens (of all people!) objected vehemently to something new that had been proposed. He thumped the table repetitively, stating: 'I don't like change, I don't want change, I'm not going to change!'

I suggested to him that he should consider changing his faith, since Christianity is all about change. Jesus Christ calls us to change, or be transformed, in the way we perceive and engage with the world. Jesus invites us to be changed, or transformed, in our knowledge and understanding of how God loves us and blesses us.

This needs to be an ongoing process. This is why faith is so often described as a journey, or as a pilgrimage. There is an expectation that our perspective of what is truly meaningful will keep shifting. Not that our previous perspectives are necessarily wrong: rather that fresh perspectives bring a more and more comprehensive understanding.

So Jesus highlights the importance of fresh revelation in today's Gospel passage of his conversation with Peter. And he compares Peter with the prophet Jonah who gained fresh insight into the compassionate nature of God (- the short prophecy of Jonah is always worth re-reading.)

And Paul, in his letter to the Roman Christians, gives us this inspiring exhortation: '*Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect.*' (Romans 12.2)

Parish Mission *(our purpose)*

Surfcoast Anglican Parish exists to:

- nurture people's relationship with God;
- encourage people by example to live by the teachings of Jesus;
- engage and work with the broader community.

Parish Vision *(our aspiration)*

An enthusiastic and welcoming Church valued for its contribution to the wellbeing of the Surf Coast community; and for providing innovative ways for people from all backgrounds to explore their spirituality.

THIS COMING WEEK

Mon 28 Aug Vicar's day off

Tue 29 Aug St Luke's Op Shop, 9am to 1pm (weekly)
Mainly Music, at both St Luke's & Transfiguration 10am
(weekly, Tuesdays during term time)

Wed 30 Aug St Luke's, Eucharist, 10am (weekly)

Thu 31 Aug St Aidan's Group, 10 for 10.30am (fortnightly)
Torquay Home Group, 7.30pm at Roger's home (fortnightly)

Fri 1 Sep St Luke's Op Shop, 9am to 4pm (weekly)
Coffee & Chat, St Aidan's 10am (mthly, every 1st Fri)
Group Meditation, Transfiguration 11am (Fridays, weekly)
G-RAP run (to St Andrew's Corio) from St Luke's at 12.45pm
(mthly, every 1st Fri)

Sat 2 Sep St Luke's Op Shop, 9am to 1pm (weekly)

Sun 3 Sep Transfiguration - Eucharist, 9.15am (weekly)
St Luke's - Eucharist, 10.30am (weekly)
St Aidan's - Eucharist, 10.30am, with Uniting Church
(Patronal Festival, followed by lunch)

Readings for 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 15.15-21; Psalm 26.1-8; Romans 12.9-21; Matthew 16.21-28

Regular Parish Meetings

Parish Lunch, Beach Hotel Jan Juc, noon (*mthly, every 1st Tue*) - next: 5 Sep

Maintenance committee, 11am St Luke's (*mthly, every 2nd Wed*) - next: 13 Sep

Torquay Craft Group, 1.30pm (*2nd & 4th Thursdays*) - next: 14 Sep

Anglesea Aged Care, Eucharist at 10.30am (*mthly, every 3rd Tue*) - next: 19 Sep

Parish Council, 7pm at St Luke's (*mthly, on 4th Tuesdays*) - next: 26 Sep

Elouera, Eucharist at 2.15pm (*mthly, every 4th Tue*) - next: 26 Sep

Mission Committee, after the St Luke's service (*quarterly*) - TBC

St Aidan's Painters, 10am (*Tuesdays, weekly*) - *waiting for Pauline's recovery*

Take A Breath Playgroup, St Luke's 10am (*weekly, Mondays during term time - on sabbatical for Term 3*)

Prayer Chain - please contact Joan Bingham on 5261 2372, for prayer requests or to participate in the prayer chain.

General Notices

Mainly Music - at St Luke's had 14 families attending the third session, and some new families joined in at Transfiguration. With one of the parish team in an advanced stage of pregnancy, it would be very helpful if another parishioner could volunteer to join in this great program.

St Aidan's patronal festival - combined Anglican/Uniting Church service at 10.30am Sun 3 Sep, followed by lunch at Truffles restaurant.

Hall lease discounted - the Parish Council has approved a 100% discount for when the Spring Creek Community House-auspiced MOTHERS group run their planned monthly playgroup from 28 September. Other new regular paying hall tenants are in the pipeline.

Parish Council also affirmed the need for new parish project or support proposals to be assessed by the Council, and in the light of the parish's existing list of planned initiatives shown in the annual report.

Maintenance committee - now rescheduled to meet 11am on 2nd Wednesdays.

Hum at St Luke's - the hearing loop is generating a hum. The problem appears to be from the transformer box on the street-pole outside the hall. Powercor have been asked to investigate with appropriate equipment.

Parish to help sponsor Homework Club

Geoff Ryan, Anglicare's State Manager for Parish Partnerships, writes:

I would like to invite your parish to become a financial supporter of the homework club being run at St Andrews, Corio. The program provides a supportive learning environment to help refugee children in the Geelong region with their studies. Students from two secondary schools provide peer support and parish volunteers assist with the program.

The parish provides the venue free of charge and Anglicare Victoria employs a coordinator to run the program and relies on donations to help cover the cost of the program. You would be welcome, as a parish, to visit the program at a time approved by the coordinator, to see the program in operation. To be viable, it is hoped we could raise an additional \$5,000 per year and I hope your parish and parishioners would consider assisting in this ongoing fund raising activity.

Our parish is already committed to donating 10% of our income to mission and aid agencies, with priority given to a few Anglican organisations covering international, national, and regional projects. In the past few years we have donated thousands of dollars to Anglicare Victoria - but they have always allocated this to their general funds, funding programs across Victoria.

By taking up their invitation, our existing donation to Anglicare will become more focused, on a project that is closer to us, with a parish with whom we

already have a link through G-RAP. This commitment to donate \$5,000 per year to Anglicare will be our total annual giving to Anglicare - we will not be making additional donations to them, but allocate our other giving to other organisations.

The Parish Council has decided to make this commitment for 3 years, to be reviewed annually for each subsequent 3 years. Our income is currently budgeted as \$153,000, i.e. our 10% donations are \$15,300, so this commitment allocates about a third of our current planned giving.

It is intended that we will publish regular updates about the impact our sponsorship assistance will have.

Professional Standards Uniform Act

All *church workers* fall under the impact of this act. All parishioners are *church workers*, and anyone in a position in one of the Parish's groups, e.g. Op Shop volunteer, is also a *church worker*.

Not all church workers need checks and training, but the following positions do: Synod rep, Churchwarden, Parish councillor, Children's group/crèche worker, Op Shop volunteer. The Parish Office is gradually ensuring that all these office-holders have the necessary checks in place.

Working With Children check: if you already have one, it also needs to include the Surfcoast Anglican Parish as one of the organisations you work for. This cannot be assumed, but must be explicitly done. The Parish Office can arrange for Police Checks simply and conveniently, and pays for them.

The Diocese offers opportunities to attend Professional Standards and Occupational Health & Safety workshops.

Contact details for the Parish

<u>Vicar:</u> Rev'd John Webster	<u>Assistant Priest:</u> Rev'd Sharon Valentino
Email: <i>use parish email</i>	Days available: <i>Friday, Saturday, Sunday</i>
Mobile: 0448 499 093	Mobile: 0458 008 300

Wardens:	Ken Farrow	5261 2331
	Roger Brown	5261 4675
	John Morrissy	5263 1304

Parish:	Office:	5261 5558
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*Notices for the pew sheet to the Office by Thursday.
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