



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

## EPIPHANY

# Surfcoast Anglican Parish

31 December 2017

*Today's readings: Isaiah 60.1-6; Psalm 72.1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3.1-12; Matthew 2.1-12*

The magi giving gifts to the infant Jesus reminds me of the carol, *The Twelve Days of Christmas*, where each day starts with 'My true love gave to me ...', with twelve gifts given.

The twelve days of the Christmas season traditionally start on Christmas Day, and end at Epiphany on the 6th of January. (Some people quibble over whether it starts on Christmas Day or Boxing Day - maybe it is better to count the nights!)

Nevertheless, there are many traditions of gift-giving at this time, even starting on 6th December - the feast day of St Nicholas, or Santa Claus, who gave gifts of gold to a poor family with three daughters.

The gifts the magi give are costly, denoting the worth of the recipient. This is emphasised by them kneeling before the infant Jesus and paying him homage.

These actions are repeated later on in Jesus' life, shortly before his death, when his friend Mary (sister of Lazarus) knelt at his feet and poured costly perfume over them.

These are acts of '*living sacrifice*', as we pray in the liturgy after communion - acts of homage with costly gifts, to acknowledge the ultimate costly gift of all: God come among us as one of us, Jesus Emmanuel, the precious Son of God who offers the gift of his life.

May we be encouraged by the costly giving of the magi to give of ourselves in worship of God, and intentionally participate in being '*living sacrifices*'.

### **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 1 Jan	Vicar's day off
Tue 2 Jan	St Luke's Op Shop, 9am to 1pm (weekly)
Wed 3 Jan	St Luke's, Eucharist, 10am (weekly)
Thu 4 Jan	-
Fri 5 Jan	St Luke's Op Shop, 9am to 4pm (weekly) Group Meditation, Transfiguration 11am (Fridays weekly)
Sat 6 Jan	St Luke's Op Shop, 9am to <u>4pm</u> (weekly)
Sun 7 Jan	St Aidan's - Eucharist, 8am (weekly) Transfiguration - Eucharist, 9.15am (weekly) St Luke's - Eucharist, 10.30am (weekly) <u>Readings for The Baptism of our Lord</u> Genesis 1.1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19.1-7; Mark 1.4-11

## Regular Parish Meetings

St Aidan's Group, 10 for 10.30am (fortnightly) - next: to be decided

Torquay Home Group, 7.30pm (fortnightly) - next: to be decided

Anglesea Aged Care, Eucharist at 10.30am (mthly, every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thu) - next: 18 Jan

Elouera, Eucharist at 2.15pm (mthly, usually every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday) - next: 23 Jan

Parish Council, 7pm at St Luke's (mthly, on 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays) - next: 23 Jan

Coffee & Chat, St Aidan's 10am (mthly, every 1<sup>st</sup> Fri) - next: 2 Feb

G-RAP run (to St Andrew's Corio) from St Luke's at 12.45pm (mthly, every 1<sup>st</sup> Fri) - next: 2 Feb

St Aidan's Painters, 10am (Tuesdays, weekly) - next: 6 Feb

Mainly Music, at both St Luke's & Transfiguration 10am (weekly, Tuesdays during term time) - next: 6 Feb

Parish Lunch, Beach Hotel Jan Juc, noon (mthly, every 1<sup>st</sup> Tue) - next: 6 Feb

Maintenance committee, 11am St Luke's (mthly, every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed) - next: 7 Feb

Torquay Craft Group, 1.30pm (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays) - next: 8 Feb

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

## General Notices

**Thanks** - to all who helped make the parish's Christmas services special: our musicians, flower arrangers, cleaners, readers, providers of refreshment, and the general warm welcome shown to all. Thank you.

**Glory be to God** for gifts to aid our worship:

- **Icon at St Luke's** - Ken and Chris Farrow have (after consultation and approval) kindly presented St Luke's with an icon of Christ acquired during their last trip to Greece. This has been installed behind the pulpit.
- **Gospels Book** - a new processional book has been given to St Luke's by an anonymous donor. During the Rev'd Sophie Watkins time the church was broken into by some drunk young adults and some pew bibles were taken and subsequently thrown away. One young man has repented and returned to make recompense. Our previous Gospels book has become tatty, and this has provided an appropriate opportunity for a new one.

**Christmas Bowl** - our mission giving for December/January. Please use the envelopes found in the TMA, or your planned giving mission envelopes, and put it into the offertory plate during any service.

**Op Shop** - summer hours: Saturday opening hours are extended to 4pm.

**Theos, Anglesea** - are camping in Transfiguration until Wed 3 Jan: we pray that they may share the Good News well, and grow in their own faith as they do so.

**Bishop Philip Huggins** - will preside at St Aidan's and at St Luke's next Sunday, 7 Jan. Members of Transfiguration are invited to either attend one of these services, or join those congregations for refreshment after. (The service at Transfiguration will take place as usual.)

**Fete** - now two weeks away (Sat 13 Jan). Look through home libraries for donations to the book stall - clean good quality books, but NO magazines or encyclopedias. Donations to be left inside St Luke's hall near the kitchen servery when the Op Shop is open (Tue/Fri/Sat).

Those who provide cakes, jams, etc, kindly update your details as necessary on the lists on the notice board of each centre.

**Cologne Philharmonia Chamber Orchestra** (Kammerphilharmonie Köln) - returning to the Surf Coast, with 2 concerts hosted by the Catholic Church: Thu 25 Jan at St Therese' Torquay & Sat 27 Jan at St Christopher's Anglesea, both 8pm. Tickets at door. More details to follow.

**St Luke's hall** - now has split system air-conditioning installed. Different opinions have been expressed regarding where the remote controllers should be kept. We need to find a balance between us and hall users being able to access and operate them easily, and keeping them safe.

**Parish Fete: Saturday 13 January - 9am to 1pm**

**Convenor:** Alan Anderson 5261 3691

**Stall-holders:**

Pre-loved toys	Elizabeth Backhouse	0408 324 863
Cakes & produce	Peggy Forbes	5261 7222
Plants	John Bell	5261 3543
Craft	Jan Heiner	5261 9384
Op Shop	Barry Butcher	0458 612 653
BBQ	Roger Brown	5261 4675
Morning Tea	Barbara Bell	5261 3543
Kitchen	Jessica Clement	5261 3231
Books	Peter Murton	5261 4826
Lollies	Helen Clement	5261 3231
Band	James & Thomas Webster	0449 704 715

Kindly contact the stall-holders for any donations/assistance you are able to make.

**Reminder: to work closely with the Op Shop volunteers, as a combined Fete/Op Shop team, both with preparations and on the day.**

*Also, it was decided at a previous meeting not to have the jumping castle, face painting, white elephant, spinning wheel, raffle or mystery parcels.*

**Contact details for the Parish**

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

**Wardens:** Roger Brown 5261 4675  
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*Notices for the pew sheet to the Office by Thursday.  
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