



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

TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Surfcoast Anglican Parish

21 October 2018

Today's readings: Isaiah 53:4-12; Ps 91:9-16; Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:32-45

This is the 3rd time Jesus has spoken about his death, and the 3rd time the disciples can't grasp what's going to happen and the type of Messiah he is. They are amazed at his words, and those on the fringes are afraid. Every time he's gone there, he's had more trouble...If he knows what their plans are, why are we going THIS way, into the thick of it? Is he MAD? It won't just be him, it'll be OUR necks! That's one of the conversations bubbling up amongst the 12. Their shoulders are sagging, their stomachs are churning, they're thinking about their fishing nets and their homes, they'd rather not go to Jerusalem this week. Meanwhile, James and John are hanging back chatting quietly. Last week Jesus said...many who are first will be last, and the last will be first. I don't think the sons of Zebedee heard this, but perhaps they are looking for security against their fears, being savvy in a world where you have to make your own successes. 'Arrange for us sit at your right and left.' Really? Jesus says. Do you know what you're asking. Are you capable of drinking the cup I drink, of being baptised in the baptism I'm about to be plunged into? You think you have what it takes? Jesus settles both the ambition and the indignation buzzing around, with a lesson on servant leadership, an antidote to the usual leadership that strives for material possessions, prestige, titles, salary, position and power. Helpful words for us, too in our dog eat dog, individualistic world.

Taking up the cross of servanthood, doesn't mean being a door mat, or passively accepting violence or abuse. It is an active way of resisting the dominating and selfish systems and practices of our day. Jesus practiced active resistance even though it meant death at the hands of the system, but in a paradox of love he set us free from it and ourselves, free to serve him out of gratitude. We put into practice what we have learnt from him. I commend to you the prayer of St Francis.

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 ways for people to explore their spirituality.

THIS COMING WEEK

- Mon 22 Oct Clergy day off*
Monday Morning Playgroup, 10am St Luke's (term time)
- Tue 23 Oct St Luke's Op Shop, 9am to 1pm (weekly)*
St Aidan's Painters, 10am (weekly)
Mainly Music, at St Luke's & Transfiguration 10am (term time)
Elouera, Eucharist at 2.15pm (mthly, on 4th Tuesdays)
- Wed 24 Oct St Luke's - Eucharist, 10am*
History Group, St Luke's, 11am (mthly, 4th Wednesdays)
Parish Council, 7pm at St Luke's (mthly, on 4th Tuesdays)
- Thu 25 Oct Torquay Craft Group, 1.30pm at 17 Casino Court (2nd & 4th Thu)*
St Aidan's Group, 10.30am (fortnightly, Thursdays)
- Fri 26 Oct St Luke's Op Shop, 9am to 4pm (weekly)*
Group Meditation, Transfiguration 11am (term time)
- Sat 27 Oct St Luke's Op Shop, 9am to 1pm (weekly)*
- Sun 28 Oct St Aidan's - Eucharist, 8.00am (weekly)*
Transfiguration - Eucharist, 9.15Aam (weekly)
St Luke's - Eucharist, 10.30am (weekly)

Readings for 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 31:7-9; Ps 126; Hebrews 7:21-28; Mark 10:46-52

Regular Parish Meetings

G-RAP run (to St Andrew's Corio) from St Luke's (mthly, Tuesdays before the Friday that ends/starts the month) - next 30th October, 27th November. Anyone wishing to help on the next Friday at Corio, Jan Heiner will pick up at 12.45pm. 5261 9384 for details.

Torquay Home Group, Location Roger Brown @ 7 Afzan Court, Torquay (fortnightly) - next 1 Nov

Anglesea Aged Care, Eucharist at 10.30am (mthly, every 1st Thu) - 8th Nov

Coffee & Chat, St Aidan's 10am (mthly, every 1st Fri) - next 9 Nov

Maintenance committee, 11am St Luke's (mthly, every 2nd Wed) - next 14 Nov

Star of the Sea Aged Care, Eucharist at 2.15pm (mthly, every 3rd Thursday) - next 15 Nov

General Notices

Synod - Lynda will report to the AGM on Synod matters. Briefly, the Diocese is reforming its legislation to bring it up to speed with modern processes and standards. This is a vigorous and time consuming process but will enable us to work more effectively and transparently. Other items of note: a presentation from a Palestinian Christian leader; prayers of repentance over abuses committed against children and young people; the ongoing commitment to address gender inequality, saw Archbishop in Council elected representatives now being required to be a 50/50 mix of women and men; we affirmed the need to free children from Nauru and act with justice towards refugees. We also approved a tight budget which responds to current realities including our redress commitments, strained resources and increasing professional standards outlays but allows us to work toward a sustainable financial state.

Meeting our Abuse Redress Obligations - The Diocese recognises that redress for past wrongs is a shared responsibility and some folk would like to contribute to the cost that we will corporately bear. The Melbourne Anglican Foundation has provided a facility to receive donations from parishes, and organisational or individual supporters. If you want to contribute to this fund, contact the Parish Office for details.

Worship Night Invitation TCF - I encourage you to consider attending the Worship Night at **Torquay Christian Fellowship on Sun October 28th 6pm**. We are gathering together to pray for our own renewal and thereby our communities on the Surfcoast. Great opportunity to share with our wider faith community and experience another form of worship.

Clergy Retreat - Sharon is at clergy retreat from 28th-31st October.

Street Stall - Sat 3 November 9am-3pm Cakes, craft and plants. Any donations for sale are welcome. See Peggy Forbes.

Incumbency Committee + 2 - The team continues to value your prayers. As the new priest is a Bishop's appointment, the committee +2 have had their final meeting with Bishop Philip and have now met with Bishop Kate.

EFT DIRECT GIVING

Electronic giving is one way you can give regularly, even if you are on holidays. You set the frequency and amount and adjust it at any time via internet banking. If you are unsure ask your bank to help you set it up. The church bank details are:

BSB: 633 000

Account: 158310276

Message: Create a code with the initial of your first + surname + birth month.

This code allows us to keep track of how many different people are using this option without us being able to identify you easily. Laminated slips will be available in the foyer for you to place in the offertory bowl, enabling you to participate physically in this part of the service.

Children off Nauru - More than 230 humanitarian, refugee, church and human rights organisations are calling on the Federal Government to remove all asylum seeker children from Nauru by Universal Children's Day on 20 November. Anglican groups include St Paul's Cathedral, the Diocese of Sydney, Mothers' Union Australia, and several churches. **Bishop Huggins**, president of the National Council of Churches in Australia, and filmmaker Richard Keddie, have helped some Australian children, who have been supporting children on Nauru through letters and gifts, express their fears about the situation on film. The video was sent to the Prime Minister, along with a request that he meet with the children featured in it to explain why Australia is persecuting those children. The Prime Minister has not responded to date.

South Sudan - The Revd Duku Wolikare, a community chaplain in Melbourne's west backed by the Melbourne Anglican Foundation, says the South Sudanese community does not match the descriptions given by politicians and media. He argues that the public conversation must turn away from one of racism and fear to one of compassion and support for vulnerable young people and their families. "It was chilling to watch the former Australian Prime Minister and Home Affairs Minister speak against a small, struggling community. The consequences of their words have been serious for us, with people experiencing a marked increase of abuse and threats and feeling unsafe on the street and then on social media." Continue to pray for this community.

A prayer during the interregnum and for a new Vicar - Heavenly Father, we thank you for all who have ministered in our Parish. You know the needs of our Parish today, look with grace upon us. Lord Jesus, as we wait, we ask that you would help us to follow you faithfully, love one another and welcome newcomers. Guard and grow this church, as we serve together. Holy Spirit, guide us as we seek the right minister for our church, and guide those who are seeking the right church for their ministry, that together we may discover your way for the future to enable us to fulfil our calling and see your kingdom grow. Amen.

Contact details for the Parish

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Notices for the pew sheet to the Office by Thursday - must be hand-delivered or emailed or posted to PO Box 2.