



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

# EPIPHANY

## Surfcoast Anglican Parish

6 January 2018

*Today's readings: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12*

In today's Gospel, we have an important theme - God's universal sovereignty and love. It's a revelation - a light bulb moment - an epiphany! It is the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles, a fulfilment of the promise to Abraham - the wise men from the East come following a star and find the promised child who will be King of all who will bring peace and blessing to all. Isaiah provides the background: as the exiles from Judah wait in Babylon for the word that will send them home and things seemed as dark as they had ever been. He calls "Stand up and look what's coming!" And when Matthew describes the wise men he draws on the rich imagery of Isaiah.

Epiphany tells us that Jesus is not only for the chosen few. He is for outsiders and he comes to draw people together: wise men from the East, Syrians from the north, Egyptians from the south, Romans from the west. Jesus reveals the extent and depth of God's love which cannot be confined to ethnic or national identity; not restricted by gender nor claimed only by the powerful and privileged. God's grace calls to every last one of God's beloved children who will come from every compass point to worship him, and to dine at the heavenly banquet.

Looking at the plans of God revealed in Epiphany and the message of the Gospel, we are challenged to worship the King we have heard of, to honour him and find ways to follow his commands. We must find ways to shine, to stand up in the darkness, and to declare, in word and deed, the grace shown to us. The Father has a plan for creation, for humanity, bigger than we had imagined, his love reaches to every corner of the world and he has invited us to spread the word. We are Israel taking note of what the Lord is doing, we are the wise men bringing our offerings, we are the Church remembering the light is meant for all, to be shared with all.

Let us celebrate that because of this light any seeker, whether by chance or dogged pursuit, can find his or her way to the manger. In Jesus Christ all are invited. This is the extent of God's love, poured out, overflowing in our cups. Praise him and share the joy.

### 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 7 Jan* Minister's Day Off
- Tue 8 Jan* St Luke's Op Shop, 9am to 1pm (*Tuesday weekly*)  
St Aidan's Painters, 10am (*Tuesday weekly*)
- Wed 9 Jan* St Luke's - No Wednesday Eucharist until 6/2  
Sharon's Induction - 7pm St Luke's
- Thu 10 Jan*
- Fri 11 Jan* St Luke's Op Shop, 9am to 4pm (*weekly*)
- Sat 12 Jan* St Luke's Op Shop, 9am to 1pm (*weekly*)  
Parish Fete, 10am-2pm
- Sun 13 Jan* Combined Transfiguration- Eucharist, 9.15Aam (*weekly*);  
Bishop Kate visiting

### Readings for Baptism of our Lord

Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-22

## Regular Parish Meetings

**G-RAP run** (to St Andrew's Corio) from St Luke's (*mtly, Tuesdays before the Friday that ends/starts the month*) - next TBA. Jan Heiner will pick up those wishing to help at Corio the next Friday at 12.45pm. 5261 9384 for details. Dates TBA

**Mainly Music**, at St Luke's & Transfiguration 10am (*term time*)

**Group Meditation**, Transfiguration 11am (*term time*)

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

**Parish Lunch** - Jan Juc Hotel noon (*1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday*) - next 5 Feb

**Parish Council**, 7pm at St Luke's (*mtly, on 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays*) - 29 Jan

**Anglesea Aged Care**, Eucharist at 10.30am (*mtly, every 1<sup>st</sup> Thu*) - next 7 Feb

**Star of the Sea Aged Care**, Eucharist at 2.15pm (*mtly, every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday*) - next 21 Feb

**Elouera**, Eucharist at 2.15pm (*mtly, on 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays*) - next 26 Feb

**Maintenance committee**, 11am St Luke's (*mtly, every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed*) - next 2019 TBA

**Torquay Home Group**, Location @ TBA 6.30pm (*fortnightly*) - next 2019 TBA

**St Aidan's Group**, 10.30am (*fortnightly, Thursdays*) - next 2019 TBA

**History Group**, St Luke's, 11am (*mtly, 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays*) - 2019 TBA

**Torquay Craft Group**, 1.30pm at 17 Casino Court (*2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thu*) - 2019 TBA

## General Notices

**Wednesday Services in January** - to allow for some space mid week before the normality of the year descends, to allow those who lead and serve a rest midweek in Jan, and to create some space for planning for the year, the Wednesday Communion service will be in recess during January but start up in February as usual. It is a valuable and intimate worship, reflection and fellowship time for those who attend and we will enjoy it again when it returns.

**Aged Care Services During January** - the chapel services at the Aged Care centres will be in recess during January and recommencing in February.

**New Ministry & Induction 9 Jan** - Sharon's induction service will be at St Luke's on 9 January at 7pm. There will be a small supper afterwards, Bishop Kate will be leading the service and preaching.

**Parish Fete Saturday 12 Jan** - An updated list of stall conveners is on the noticeboard, please advise Alan Anderson if there are any changes to this list. If you can contribute items please contact the stall holder.

**Bishop Kate Visits 13 Jan** - Bishop Kate will be visiting the Parish for a combined service at Anglesea on 13th January 9:15am. The service will be followed by a bring and share light lunch.

**Sharon out of Parish 20-24 January** - Sharon is taking time in lieu of the volume of extra hours over the last 6 months. The next dates are from 20/1-24/1 when she will be in Sydney caring for her mother while her father has surgery. She is contactable by her mobile and home email but matters should be handled by the wardens if possible. Rev'd Edwin Lang, who was our locum Archdeacon, will take the services on the 20th.

**Carpark chain** - Don't be put off if you find the carpark has been chained off. We are attempting to limit the opportunity for items of furniture (useful or broken), to be left at the Op Shop. We do not have the capacity to store or shelter these items, and our costs to dispose of them are increasing. This is a trial measure to see if it is useful or unhelpful to ourselves and the Op Shop customers. The code for the lock is the postcode.

If you are aware of people needing to dispose of furniture, encourage them to contact larger Op Shops in Geelong such as St Vinnies, Salvos or the Brotherhood of St Laurence stores. Thank you.

### EFT DIRECT GIVING

**Update!!!** Other parishes have advised us to do EFT giving via the ADF Parish Account so that privacy is better protected. If you would like to give this way take a form from the foyer, fill it in and mail it off. The parish will be able to see the total of the amounts given by EFT in the Parish account, without being able to identify individuals, but you can trace your details via the ADF if you need to.

Laminated slips are now available in the foyer for you to place in the offertory bowl, so you can participate physically in worship during this part of the service.

TMA - Pick up your copy in the foyer.

Offertory Envelopes - Available for pickup up.

#### Contact details for the Parish

Vicar: Rev'd Sharon Valentino (9/1)

Mobile: 0458 008 300

Wardens: Roger Brown 5261 4675

Margaret Vise 5263 3321

Ken Farrow 0457 035 100

Parish: Office: 5261 5558

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*Notices for the pew sheet to the Office by Thursday*