

detained, as of 30 June 2012, over 1000 children were in immigration detention centres. 463 of these children were in secure locked facilities and 158 detained on Christmas Island. These children are at risk of developing post-traumatic disorders as a result of their detention periods – a legacy that will last long after they have been released. Feelings of hopelessness and despair may manifest in long-term depression and anxiety, particularly for unaccompanied minors.

*Justice for Asylum Seekers –
A call to prayer. Uniting Justice*

He said, "Come, little children"
and "For such is the kingdom of heaven."
The child turned and ran
with arms opened wide
as if running to embrace LOVE.

The little one expected a hug from the One,
but she received hugs from the Three.
The One who whispered, "beloved child",
The One who healed her tiny bruised hand
and
whispered, "Forgive and forgiven."
The One who said, "I will not leave you as an orphan."
It was too mysterious, yet entirely enough
for her.

(It is too mysterious, yet entirely enough for
me ... Anna)

Anna Murdock

Rosters for 2 June

PORTARLINGTON

Managers: Keith Knights & Alf Cork
Morning tea: Jan Dryden & Peter Gibbs
Pastoral Care & Prayers: Keith Pigdon
Reader: Elaine Farnell
Power Point Preparation: Joan Kelly
Lawn Roster: 6 June; Bob Sharp,
Wendy Sharp, Ewen McRae

DRYSDALE_ W@9

Kitchen: Jenni's Team
Counting: Sue Polley

DRYSDALE 10.45am

Communion Elder: Ken Handley
Duty Elder/Prayers: Pat Handley
Readings: John Macgillivray
Door: Wilma Mansell
Morning Tea: Hazel & Lindsay James
Flowers: Norma Taylor

ST.LEONARDS

Welcoming/Reading: Marj Wilson
Prayers: Margo Jones
Brass & Flowers: Shirley Hadden

On a lighter note –

A priest was invited to attend a house party. Naturally, he was properly dressed and wearing his Priest's Collar.

A little boy kept staring at him the entire evening.

Finally, the priest asked the little boy what he was staring at.

The little boy pointed to the priest's neck.

When the priest finally realized what the boy was pointing at, He asked the boy, "Do you know why I am wearing that?"

The boy nodded his head yes, and replied, "It kills fleas and ticks for up to three months".

THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



St Leonards



Portarlington



Drysdale

Trinity Sunday

Sunday 26 May 2013

We can be so caught up in our doing each day that we fail to pause and celebrate simply being. We fail to notice the amazing world God has created for us, or even the humour that resides within it. Yet when we step outside of our busyness and simply let ourselves *be*, we can be astounded by the joy God has infused in so much of our world. On this Trinity Sunday the scriptures all celebrate God's presence with us, and the joy that brings. We are loved by God – the scriptures make this clear over and over again. Indeed, God delights in all creation. In accepting that simple truth hopefully we can dare to open our minds and hearts to experiencing God in a wide variety of ways. It is indeed a sometimes playful God who created us!

Seasons of the Spirit

LECTIONARY

May 26 Trinity Sunday	Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 Romans 5:1-5	Psalm 8 John 16:12-15
June 2 Pentecost 2(9)	1 Kings 18:20-21 (22-29) 30-39 Galations 1:1-12	Psalm 96 Luke 7:1-10

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THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS

SUNDAY 26 May

Portarlington

9.00am Drysdale Lay Team – Vince King & Co.

Drysdale

9.00am Worship @ 9 Rev Bob Stevenson, Graeme's Team assisting

10.45am Drysdale Lay Team – Vince King & Co.

St Leonards

5.00pm Drysdale Lay Team – Vince King & Co

MONDAY 27 May

9.30am KYB Bible Study

2.00pm St Leonards UCAF

WEDNESDAY 29 May

9:30am -12:30pm Drysdale mainly music

10:00am Drysdale Coffee and Chat

THURSDAY 30 May

9.00am Drysdale & Portarlington Choir Practice

7.30pm Linked Worship Workshop @ Drysdale

FRIDAY 31 May

9.15-10.00am Drysdale Friday School

SUNDAY 2 June

Portarlington

9.00am Rev. Margaret Manning

Drysdale

9.00am Worship @ 9 Rev. Marion Latham, Wayne's Team assisting

10.45am Rev. Marion Latham
Holy Communion, Loose Change and Food Bank both services

St Leonards

5.00pm Rev. Marion Latham

OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

DRYSDALE

Fundraising Dinner and Concert

Members of all congregations are invited to attend Drysdale's Annual Fundraising Dinner and Concert to be held on Saturday, 22 June, 6.00m for 6.15pm in the church hall.

A delicious 3 course meal will be followed by entertainment from the *Coryule* Chorus, and not to be missed. We have lost our stalwart, Claude Stanley, who has organised the concert for many years, so let's make this a night to remember and a tribute to Claude.

Tickets are now available from Val Lestrangle or Harvey Davis at only \$15 each. Please get your tickets early so we know our numbers.

PORTARLINGTON

UCAF

The June meeting of the Portarlington UCAF will be on Monday, 3 June, early due to the June long weekend. The meeting will be held in the meeting room at 1.30pm for a time of Fun and Games.

Everyone is welcome. For any enquiries, contact Margaret Campbell on 52592521.

Old Timers Fete: Alice Springs

A reminder to those who sew and knit to finalise your goods for the Old Timers

Fete in Alice Springs by the end of MAY. Please place your goods in the box in the Narthex at Port. Any queries please see Wendy Quill.

July Fellowship Breakfast.

The Portarlington July Breakfast meeting will be held on Saturday, 15 July (Note change of date, a week later than usual) commencing at 7.30am.

Guest Speaker will be Mr. Geoff Pryor and his topic will be "Is Family History". Knowing Geoff as we do, this is bound to be an interesting address. All members of the Linked Congregations and their friends are warmly invited to attend. Acceptances please to Barry Ruler on 5259 3304 by Thursday evening 13 July.

ST. LEONARDS

On Monday, 27 May **St. Leonards UCAF** will be hosting Peter Breen (blind pianist and singer) previously with Christian Blind Mission. Peter and his wife to be our entertainment for our Birthday celebration. Donations accepted – afternoon tea, beginning at 2.00pm. Further information from Marj Wilson 5257 1096.

FOR ALL CONGREGATIONS

Combined Churches Prayer Meeting

There is to be another combined churches prayer meeting, at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 29 May, at Springdale.

All are welcome and encouraged to come, to pray for the advance of the Kingdom of God on the Peninsula.

Some truth about Asylum Seekers and Refugees Mandatory Detention

Australia is the only developed country in the world with a policy of mandatory detention for all asylum seekers who arrive in Australia without a visa.

In late 2011, the Government announced that, following initial health and security checks, increasing numbers of people in immigration detention would be moved into the community. While the Uniting Church welcomed this move, it has lamented the recent developments in Australia's refugee policy, including the implementation of offshore processing, the re-opening of the detention centre on Nauru, and the continued demonisation of asylum seekers who arrive by boat.

The negative effects of mandatory detention are well documented. Asylum seekers have already experienced trauma before arriving in Australia, including torture, separation from family and community, extreme hardship and food scarcity and appalling conditions during their journey here. These traumas are exacerbated by our current system of indefinite detention, resulting in high rates of self-harm and attempted suicide amongst asylum seekers and refugees. Children and young people are particularly at risk of serious long-term harm. While government policy dictates that children will not be