

a place at the table

when you hold a mirror
to my longing for promotion
and when I see my ego
staring back at me with pride
I ponder on your story
and I sense your great frustration
and I wonder who is sitting
(glad at least that they are seated)
at the lowest place
where you've reserved
a setting at their side

for all the good I've offered
and the times I've stooped to serve
you
and the Sunday morning sleep-ins
I've forgone to praise your name,
don't you think that I'm more worthy
than the sinner in the corner
who waits with arms quite empty
and a coat that's lined with shame?

still you hold the mirror
and the image is persistent
and still I see my ego
eclipsing the whole scene
as your kingdom story beckons
I'm lost in sheer confusion
and the least becomes the greatest
(and the greatest is defeated)
you pour the wine
and break the bread
and nothing's what it seems

Jennie Gordon



Rosters for 8 September

PORTARLINGTON

Managers: David & Elizabeth
Thompson

Morning tea : Marg Hutcheon, Sue
Handley, Sylvia Blegg

Pastoral Care : Elaine Farnell

Prayers : Elaine Farnell

Reader : Neil Bell

Comm Prep: Elaine Farnell

Serving: Ken Farnell, Catherine & Alex
Eagleson

Power Point.: Catherine Eagleson

DRYSDALE

W@9

Kitchen: Graeme's Team

Counting: Jonnie Mander

10.45am

Elder: Ken Handley

Prayers: Ken Handley

Readings: Vince King

Door: Vince King

Morning tea: Joy Krahe & Marilyn
Lloyd

Flowers: Betty Rule

ST. LEONARDS

Welcome: Margo Jones

Reading: Margo Jones

Prayers: Marj Wilson

Brass & Flowers: Wyn Moriarty,
Marie Alexander



St Leonards



Portarlington



Drysdale

Pentecost 15

Sunday 1 September 2013

Today's scriptures are full of pathos from a God who wants only good things for God's people. Yet, time and again, we forsake living water for cracked cisterns that can hold no water. We defile the land that God has given us for our fulfilment. Our religious leaders do not know the laws of life, and our rulers transgress against the Lord. We seek the seats of honour rather than looking to the needs of others. How long will we neglect to show hospitality to strangers? How many times have we failed to see angels in our midst, who seek only to bless us? God's pathos flows from these passages. Will we listen? Will we hear? Will we honour the One who seeks our welfare?

Abingdon Worship Annual

LECTIONARY

September 1 Pentecost 15	Jeremiah 2: 4-13 Hebrews 13:1-8,15-16	Psalms 81:1, 10-16 Luke 14: 1, 7-14
September 8 Pentecost 16	Jeremiah 18: 1-11 Philemon 1:21	Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18 Luke: 14: 25-33

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Village Walk Drysdale
Phone: 5251 3640

THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS

SUNDAY 1 September

Portarlington

9.00 am Rev. Margaret Manning

Drysdale

9.00 am Rev Marion Latham HC
Jenni's team assisting

10.45 am Rev. Marion Latham HC

Loose change at both services

St. Leonards

5.00pm Rev. Marion Latham HC

MONDAY 2 September

9.30am KYB at Linda's

WEDNESDAY 4 September

9.30 am-12.30pm Drysdale mainly music

10:00 am Drysdale Coffee and Chat

1.30pm Drysdale UCAF

5.00pm mainly music Fathers' Pizza Night.

THURSDAY 5 September

9.00am Drysdale & Portarlington
Choir Practice

SATURDAY 7 September

1-5 pm. Women's Retreat at Narana.

SUNDAY 8 September

St. Leonards

9.00am Combined Rev. Marion Latham
HC *Loose change & food bank*

Portarlington

9.00 am Rev. Marion Latham HC

Loose change & Food bank

Drysdale

9.00 am Wayne's Team

10.45 am Rev. Margaret Manning

5pm-6.30pm Drysdale Evening
Service 'Messy Church'

OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

PORTARLINGTON

Portarlington Church Lunch

All Portarlington members are warmly invited to join in the fellowship of a church luncheon on Sunday 22nd. September at 12 noon at the Portarlington Golf Club. 2 course lunches available from \$19 pp. Please let Jan Hall know if you are coming on 5259 3114 or tell her at church.

DRYSDALE

Loose change Offering

A thank you letter has been received from Uniting World (and is on the notice board). It comments that our offering has helped provide three gravity feed water supply systems in three villages in Papua New Guinea as well as the installation of sanitation facilities and education programs. Today's offering will go towards Uniting World's Women's Leadership project in the Solomon Islands

Messy Church

Next week at 5.00pm we have Messy Church with the theme of "Love for the World." Come along and bring your friends to take part in creative activities first, followed by a celebratory service and then a shared tea finishing at 6.30pm. Come and get some glue or paint on your fingers to get "messy"



Drysdale UCAF invites members of the congregations to celebrate with us our 100th birthday anniversary on Wednesday 25 September at 1.30pm. Entertainment by Coryule Chorus. RSVP by Friday 13 September to 5251 2352 or 5251 3075

ALL OUR CONGREGATIONS

Fellowship Breakfast Meeting

The next Breakfast Meeting will be held at Portarlington on Saturday 14th September, commencing at 7.30am. Guest speaker will be Mr. John Norman. John has recently retired from working with Uniting World and will give us some insights into what projects he has been involved with.

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 12th. September.



St Andrew's Justice & Mission team invite you to support newly arrived refugees.

Most asylum seekers who are being temporarily settled in the Geelong Region under the 'No Advantage Visa' arrive with very little in the way of personal items. Queenscliff Rural Australians for Refugees (RAR) has initiated a program to distribute "Welcome Packs" to them. It is a wonderful way to show support and to say "Welcome to our Community"

Can you please help support this project?

There is a *take home list* of the items needed in the Church Narthex.



One word, perhaps, sums up the Lectionary readings this week: humility. In the face of a culture in which we are all encouraged to 'value ourselves', to 'reach for what we want' and to 'not let anyone stop us', this can be a difficult, even ridiculous, word. To claim that true, vibrant, authentic life is found in simplicity, fidelity, contentment and humility sounds naive and out of touch. And yet, this is exactly what Jesus asks us to believe – and to embrace.

Sacredise



The Scripture lessons call us to choose what is worthy and life-giving. They call us to choose God and God's ways. In Jeremiah, God accuses Israel of following other gods—mere "worthless idols" (NIV) and "cracked cisterns." God alone is worthy. God alone is the "fountain of living water." Hebrews focuses on how we give life to others through acts of mutual love. Implicitly, the writer calls us to choose commitment and connection to others rather than a life ruled by greed. In Luke, Jesus bids us to choose the way of humility and radical hospitality to all, not the way of pride and the exclusion of the lowly.

Ministry Matters