

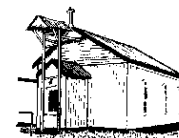


## LECTIONARY



Date	Day	1st Reading	Psalms	2nd Reading	Gospel
Dec 20	Advent 4	Mic 5: 2-5a	Lk 1: 47-55 or Ps 80: 1-7	Heb 10: 5-10	Lk 1: 39-45, (46-55)
The Christmas-Epiphany season includes Christmas Eve/Day and the twelve days of Christmas. It recalls the stories of the birth and infancy of Christ. The Church in this time celebrates the wonder of the incarnation; the season concludes with Epiphany.					
Dec 24/25	Christmas Day 1	Is 9: 2-7	96	Tit 2: 11-14	Lk 2: 1-14, (15-20)
	Christmas Day 2	Is 62: 6-12	97	Tit 3: 4-7	Lk 2: (1-7), 8-20
	Christmas Day 3	Is 52: 7-10	98	Heb 1: 1-4 (5-12)	Jn 1: 1-14
Dec 27	Christmas 1	1 Sm 2: 18-20, 26	148	Col 3: 12-17	Lk 2: 41-52
Jan 1 2016	New Year's Day	Eccl 3: 1-13	8	Rev 21: 1-6a	Mt 25: 31-46
Jan 1	Holy Name of Jesus	Num 6: 22-27	8	Gal 4: 4-7 or Phil 2: 5-11	Lk 2: 15-21
Jan 3	Christmas 2	Jer 31: 7-14	Ps 147: 12-20	Eph 1: 3-14	John 1: (1-9) 10-18
Jan 6	Epiphany of the Lord	Is 60: 1-6	72: 1-7, 10-14	Eph 3: 1-12	Mt 2: 1-12
After Epiphany - a period in which the church reflects on the manifestation of Christ to all people. The Baptism of the Lord is the first Sunday of this period. The Transfiguration of the Lord is the last Sunday. The length of this period varies depending on the date of Easter.					
Jan 10	Baptism of Jesus	Is 43: 1-7	29	Acts 8: 14-17	Lk 3: 15-17, 21-22
Jan 17	Epiphany 2	Is 62: 1-5	36: 5-10	1 Cor 12: 1-11	John 2: 1-11
Jan 24	Epiphany 3	Neh 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10	19	1 Cor 12: 12-31a	Lk 4: 14-21

## THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



St Leonards



Portarlington



Drysdale

### Advent 4

**Sunday 20 December 2015**

On this fourth Sunday of Advent, like Mary, we are pregnant with expectation. Something amazing is coming on Christmas day, and we can hardly wait. Even if we don't feel this way as Christmas approaches, today's scriptures call us to joyous expectation. When Micah prophesies to Bethlehem, he proclaims a joyous hope for one who will come forth to bring security and peace, and nurture and strength, to the entire nation. When Elizabeth receives Mary's visit with joyous expectation, she is filled with the holy Spirit. When Mary receives Elizabeth's blessing, she is filled with a new hope and confidence for the blessing she carries for the world. As Christmas approaches, remember to be pregnant with expectation. Only then may we notice the amazing miracle of Christmas anew; only then may we receive the blessings of Christ's presence with joy and hope.

*Abingdon Worship Annual*

Teach us to sing your praise, O God. Teach us to sing with notes formed by hopes and acts of justice. Teach us to sing with harmonies shaped by mercy's wide embrace. Teach us to sing Mary's song of birth and rebirth for all creation.

*Amen*

#### CHURCH OFFICE:

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#### UNITINGCARE OPSHOP:

Village Walk Drysdale

Phone: 5251 3640

## SERVICES FOR OUR CONGREGATIONS

### Sunday, 20 December

#### Portarlington

9.00 am Rev Ian Porter, Choral Service

#### Drysdale

9.00 am Graeme's Team  
10.45 am Rev David Walker

#### St Leonards

7.00 pm Rev Ian Porter, Choral Service

### Thursday 24 December

#### Christmas Eve

#### Portarlington

11.15 pm Rev Margaret Manning

#### Drysdale

11.30 pm Lay Team

#### St Leonards

No Service. Combine with Portarlington or Drysdale

### Friday 25 December

#### Christmas Day

#### Drysdale

8.00 am Rev Ian Porter

#### Portarlington

9.00 am Rev Ian Porter

### Sunday 27 December

#### Portarlington

9.00 am Portarlington Lay Team - David & Lorraine Hughes

#### Drysdale

9.00 am Worship @ 9 Denise's Team  
10.45 am Portarlington Lay Team - David & Lorraine Hughes

#### St Leonards

7.00 pm Portarlington Lay Team - David & Lorraine Hughes

### Saturday, 2 January

9.30 am Drysdale Pilgrimage - the 'Living Land'

### Sunday 3 January

#### Portarlington

9.00 am Rev Bob Thomas

#### Drysdale

9.00 am W@9 Rev David Walker, Wayne's Team assisting

10.45 am Rev. David Walker

*HC, Loose change & Food Bank both services*

#### St Leonards

7.00 pm Rev Bob Thomas, HC, Loose Change and Food Bank

### Sunday, 10 January

#### Portarlington

9.00 am Rev. Margaret Manning HC  
*Loose change and Food Bank*

#### Drysdale

9.00 am W@9 Wayne's Team  
10.45 am Rev Margaret Manning

#### St Leonards

9.00 am Combined Holy Communion Anglican/UCA  
Rev Malcolm Campbell

### Sunday, 17 January

#### Portarlington

9.00 am Rev David Walker

#### Drysdale

9.00 am W@9 Graeme's Team  
10.45 am Rev David Walker

#### St Leonards

7.00 pm W@9 Team - Graeme's

### Sunday, 24 January

#### Portarlington

9.00 am Drysdale Lay Team - Macgillivrays

#### Drysdale

9.00 am W@9 Jenni's Team  
10.45 am Drysdale Lay Team - Macgillivrays

#### St Leonards

7.00 pm W@9 Team - Jenni's

## OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

### DRYSDALE

#### Pilgrimage

Saturday 2 January, 9.30 am start and 1.00 pm finish at Percy Cherry Park, Curlewis. The theme is "Living Land" with the liturgy written by members of our congregation.

Only short distance walking or driving. Lunch supplied. No cost. Please book in on the sheet in the foyer or with Wayne.

This is a wonderful way to start the new year and all are welcome.

### PORTARLINGTON & ST LEONARDS

The Small Change offering from St Leonards and St Andrews for December was \$133.25. This will go to Samaritan House and Timor Leste medical clinics.

Thank you to all for your faithful support.

Please note that St Leonards will not have a service on 27 December.

## ALL OUR CONGREGATIONS

### Rosters for January

Please check your own personal rosters to see if you are on duty.

### Church News Sheet

The next news sheet will be published on Sunday, 24 January 2016. Email content to [drysdaleuc@yahoo.com.au](mailto:drysdaleuc@yahoo.com.au) or put in pigeon hole at Drysdale by Tuesday, 19 January.

### Prayer Cycle : Presbytery of Port Phillip West

We pray for Uniting Church Agencies, Congregations and Schools, together with the Ministry Agents who serve God in their various placements. We remember today:

- Retired Ministers: Retired Ministry Fellowship
- Chaplains in Hospitals & Prisons
  - Sheree Anderson (St Vincents)
  - Pastor Martin Prewer (Royal Melbourne Hospital)
  - Rev Tevita Holani (Prisons)
  - Rev Robert van Zetten (Barwon Health)
  - Rev Ray Gormann (Western Health Mental Health)
- Winchelsea, Mr John Bumford & Congregation
- Korean Uniting Church of Western Melbourne, Rev Eun-doek (David) Kim
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Lord guide and bless your work in our Presbytery that it may flourish for the good of the people and for your glory.

Amen