

# THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA

## Rosters for 23 June

### PORTARLINGTON

**Managers:** Marg Hutcheon, Sue Handley & Peter Gibbs

**Morning tea:** John & Jan Hall

**Pastoral Care :** Barry Ruler

**Prayers:** Port.WL team

**Reader:** Port.WL team

**Power Point Preparation:** Joy Porter

**Lawns 27 June:** Alf Cook, Harold Gould & Len Stratton.

### DRYSDALE W@9

**Kitchen:** Denise's Team

**Counting:** Margo Jones

### DRYSDALE 10.45am

**Duty Elder:** Marguerite Edgar

**Prayers:** Port.WL team

**Readings:** Port.WL team

**Door:** Hazel & Angus Wyllie

**Morning Tea:** Pat & Ken Handley

**Flowers:** Irene Stevenson

### ST. LEONARDS

**Welcome:** Margo Jones

**Reading:** Port.WL team

**Prayer:** Port.WL team

**Brass & Flowers:** Helen Steogen

Of the 10.4 million refugees under the UNHCR's mandate between 2005 - 2010, the top five refugee-hosting countries took in almost half of all people deemed to be refugees. On this scale, Australia ranked 47th. When all refugee-hosting countries are assessed according to their national wealth, Australia ranked 91st.

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

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### Another thought on the lectionary:

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### LOVE PROVES IT

Did you see her slip in  
by backdoor from the street,  
and the prophet accept her  
to tear-wash his feet?

Did you see the proud host  
draw back with a glare,  
as the woman of faith  
towelled with her hair?

Did you see holy fire  
as he rebuked the bore,  
and the woman so grace-full  
leave by the front door?

*From "Beyond Words"  
B.D. Prewer & JBCE*



St Leonards



Portarlington



Drysdale

## Pentecost 4

**Sunday 16 June 2013**

Often when conversations about forgiveness come up, it is common to speak about repentance as the requirement for forgiveness. And so, as Church, we have rejected and judged others on the basis of their perceived lack of repentance. However, for Jesus, it seems, repentance is a response to forgiveness, not a pre-requisite for it. This week, the readings are all about forgiveness – especially forgiveness that is undeserved, and that comes through confession, brokenness and repentance. Paul makes it clear that we are made right not by our own efforts and obeying the law, but through the grace of Christ. Jesus confronts the religious elite who make the law a gatekeeper to God, and offers forgiveness and restoration to a broken and penitent woman. The power of this undeserved forgiveness is at the heart of the Christian experience and allows us to live "in Christ" – or live as those in whom Christ lives, as Paul puts it.

Sacredise

## LECTIONARY

June 16 1 Kings 21:1-10, (11-14) 15-21a Psalm 5:1-8  
Pentecost 4 (11) Galatians 2:15-21 Luke 7:36 – 8:3

June 23 1 Kings 19:1-4,(5-7) Psalm 42 & 43  
Pentecost 5 (11) Galatians 3:23-29 Luke 8:26-39

### LINKED MINISTER:

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## THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS

### SUNDAY 16 June

#### Portarlington

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

#### Drysdale

9.00am Worship @ 9 Graeme's team

10.45am Rev. Marion Latham

#### St Leonards

5.00pm Rev. Marion Latham HC  
*Loose change and food bank*

### MONDAY 17 June

9.30am KYB Bible Study

### TUESDAY 18 June

10.30am Drysdale Grove Service

### WEDNESDAY 19 June

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

10:00am Drysdale Coffee and Chat

### THURSDAY 20 June

9.00am Drysdale & Portarlington  
Choir Practice

11.00am Anne Nichol Service

### FRIDAY 21 June

9.15-10.00am Drysdale Friday School

### SATURDAY 22 June

8.00am Drysdale Prayer Breakfast

### SUNDAY 23 June

#### Portarlington

9.00am Port Lay Team  
Ian & Joy Porter

#### Drysdale

9.00am Worship @9 Rev. Marion Latham Graeme's team helping

10.45am Port Lay Team  
Ian & Joy Porter

5.00pm Messy Church

#### St Leonards

5.00pm Port Lay Team  
Ian & Joy Porter

## OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

### DRYSDALE

#### U.C.A.F.

Drysdale U.C.A.F will meet on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June at 1.30pm. Members and friends are each asked to bring a treasure for "show and tell" Edna and Norma are hosts for the afternoon.

#### 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.

### Messy Church

Sunday, 23 June is our next Messy Church service commencing at 5.00pm. This is a time of worship undertaken with creative activities, a short celebratory service and then sharing over a meal together.

The theme this time is "Seasons". Come along, bring friends, bring a plate of food if you can. Finishes at 6.30pm.

## FOR ALL CONGREGATIONS

### SOME TRUTH ABOUT ASYLUM SEEKERS & REFUGEES

#### Why do people risk the boats?

At the age of nine Dihn Tran didn't want to leave her homeland. Eventually it became too dangerous to stay. During the rough four-week sea voyage to Darwin there was barely enough food for the 170 people on board. As Dihn sums up her experience: "When we left my Mum and Dad had already accepted that we were all going to die. That is the only way you can do it. You risk everything on a boat, it is so dangerous. So the only reason you do it is that you have no choice....."

#### of the asylum seekers who arrive by boat , around 90% are determined to be genuine refugees...

Like many members of the Hazara minority, Chaman fled his homeland to

escape persecution. When he was 19, family members combined their life savings to have him smuggled out of Afghanistan. The deal had to be arranged secretly, so that the Taliban would not find out. Chaman recounts that: "After I left, my father was tortured so badly that he died in prison. If I stayed in Afghanistan the same thing would have happened to me."

#### Whether asylum seekers arrived in Australia by boat or by plane, whether they have identity papers or not – they are not illegal. They are exercising their right under Australian and international law to seek asylum.

*This is a poem written some years ago by 'a prisoner at the Baxter detention Centre - no name, he has only a number'.*

*Circulated by the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre in Melbourne.*

I do not know  
what will happen after I die.  
I do not want to know.  
But I would like the Potter to make a  
whistle  
from the clay of my throat.  
May this whistle fall into the hands of a  
naughty child  
and the child to blow hard on the whistle  
continuously  
with the suppressed and silent air of his  
lungs  
and disrupt the sleep  
of those who seem dead  
to my cries.