



# Surfcoast Uniting Churches



## Lectionary Readings

### Transfiguration of Jesus: 23rd Feb 2020

Ex 24: 12-18  
Psalm 2 or 99  
2 Peter 1: 16-21  
Matthew 17:1-9

### Lent 1 March 1st 2020

Genesis 2: 15, 17- 3: 1-7  
Psalm 32  
Romans 5: 12-19  
Matthew 4:1-11

## SERVICES ON THE SURF COAST

### This Sunday 23rd February 2020

Anglesea: Rev Dr Kevin Yelverton 9:00  
Airey's Inlet: Rev Suzie Castle via Video 10.30  
Torquay: Rev Suzie Castle 9.30  
Bellbrae: Rev Suzie Castle 11.00

### Ash Wednesday 26th Feb

@ Bellbrae Rev Suzie Castle 10:00

### Next Sunday 1st March 2020

Anglesea: Rev Margaret Russell-HC 9:00  
Airey's Inlet: Rev Suzie Castle HC 10.30  
Torquay: Brian Shaw 9.30  
Bellbrae: Brian Shaw 11.00

23rd February 2020

### Minister: Rev Suzie Castle

Sunday to Tuesday  
Thursday & Friday  
M: 0421 023 197

E: [suzie.castle@gmail.com](mailto:suzie.castle@gmail.com)

[www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au](http://www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au)

*Check our website regularly!*

### Congregation Contact Information

Ph:(03) 5261 2369  
P.O. Box. 536 Torquay. 3228 VIC.

### Aireys Inlet

St Aidan's Church  
29 Great Ocean Rd,  
Aireys Inlet.  
[aireysinletunitingchurch@gmail.com](mailto:aireysinletunitingchurch@gmail.com)

### Anglesea

Trinity Uniting Church  
Murch Crescent. Anglesea.

### Bellbrae

Bellbrae Uniting Church  
School & Anglesea Rds Bellbrae.

### Torquay

Torquay Uniting Church  
27 Anderson Street Torquay

## BELLBRAE BRIC-A-BRAC OP SHOP & BOOK ROOM

Uniting Church Hall, School Road  
BELLBRAE  
Phone: 5261 5139

### OPERATING HOURS

Thursday & Friday: 10 am – 4 pm.  
Saturday: 10 am – 1 pm.

**Sorting Day: Tuesday 1 – 4pm**

Because Epiphany 6 falls before Ash Wednesday this year, we use the Transfiguration readings. **The alternative is Matthew 5:21-37.**

**The words of Matthew 5:21-37** can be some of the most difficult to accept within the whole Bible. However, this is where the true depth of the gospel becomes clear as Jesus unpacks what it means to be a child of God who is forgiven and engrafted into God's own love. In the Sermon on the Mount, the values of the Kingdom are laid bare, and they are different to the world's values and expectations. While received wisdom recommends an eye for an eye, revenge and payback, Jesus' kingdom values urge us to forgive, and do more than forget, by going beyond the requirements of the law entirely.

At the root of Jesus' injunction lies

the belief that if we could go beyond our human desire to get even, or to receive justice, and reach beyond ourselves to others, then we might be able to transform the way they see and act in the world. The objective is to live a life that spreads compassion contagiously so others are also changed/infected to continue the spread. What Jesus isn't suggesting is a meek acceptance of cruelty and domination by others. Rather it is a non-violent response of resistance to those who would seek to abuse the weak and impose patterns of injustice on relationships or social systems.

It's actually a counter-cultural response that makes a dramatic point to the unjust and oppressor by going the extra mile and beyond oneself, in order to reveal their own weakness. It's a powerful expression of a hope for a better world, in which we think of others and beyond ourselves. What Christ suggests is a very pointed way indeed of showing that there is another way for the world and for us to live by. What change can be wrought in a world where people have the courage to love? What change can happen in us when we see examples of forgiveness beyond what one could rationally expect? I wanted to highlight this week's alternative reading because we have seen this example of radical love and forgiveness through Daniel and Leila Abdallah response to the horrendous deaths of their children Antony, Angelina, Siena and niece Veronique by Samuel Davidson. What challenge to the structural powers, or simply to bad habits of injustice by individuals, do we bring when someone is brave enough to live by a different set of values and show the way of love?

Peace be with you, Rev Suzie Castle



## DIARY DATES : February/ March 2020

**Monday February 24th at 12 noon:** Torquay Dine Out group. Beach hotel , Jan Juc. Contact Jean Elder 52615540

**Tuesday 25th February.** Pancake Day, Aireys Inlet Community Hall . See below.

**Wednesday February 26th Ash Wednesday Service** will be held at Bellbrae Church at 10:00am led by Rev Suzie. Please join for coffee afterwards at RACV club lounge.

**Thursday March 5th @ 11am Please note change of day and time.** Torquay Lenten Studies commence at Torquay Church. All churches are welcome. We are using Lent Event Material.

**Thursday March 5th @ 2:15pm.** Service at Elouera Aged care Torquay .

**Friday March 6th @ 10:00am** Aireys Inlet Coffee & Chat

**Friday March 6th @ 2pm World day of Prayer at Torquay..** See notice followed by **SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP @ 4:15pm** .. See notice

**Tuesday March 10th :** Anglesea Aged Care Service

## EVERY WEEK

### Tuesdays

Torquay Beaut Beanies 10:30am

Anglesea Prayer Shawl Knitting Gp 2:00pm

### Thursdays & Fridays

Torquay Coffee and Kids 9:30am

## ONCE a MONTH

### 4<sup>th</sup> Monday

Dine Out Lunch Group 12 noon

### 2nd Tuesday

Anglesea Aged Care Service

### 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday

Anglesea Fellowship 1:30pm

### First Thursdays

Elouera Aged Care Service 2.15pm

### First Fridays

Aireys Inlet Coffee & Chat 10am



**Come to PANCAKE DAY**

**Tuesday February 25th**

**11.00 am - 4.00pm**

**Aireys Inlet Community Hall**

**\$3.00 - \$4.00 a pancake, with topping of choice.**

**Tea and coffee available**

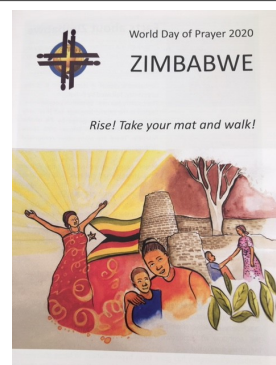
**Proceeds to Uniting Geelong.**

## TORQUAY ANNUAL REPORTS TIME

Please submit all Torquay annual reports to Val Clarke at [val.clarke@rocketmail.com](mailto:val.clarke@rocketmail.com) by COB Friday 28 February.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP TORQUAY

THIS GROUP IS HAVING A REVIVAL WITH TRICIA GENAT AND REV SUZIE LEADING THIS GROUP. THE FIRST MEETING WILL BE AFTER THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER, SO ABOUT 4:15PM FRIDAY MARCH 6TH . ALL WELCOME.



## WORLD DAY OF PRAY

hosted by Torquay Uniting Church this year. The ecumenical Link service ,that is focused on Zimbabwe is on

**Friday March 6th at 2pm.**

Church members are asked to bring plate of afternoon tea to share.

**Aireys Inlet Hotel Film Screening: *Against Our Oath* Sunday 23rd of February** at 3.00pm.

Tickets: \$10.00 by prior booking with Rosita Vila ([rositacvila@gmail.com](mailto:rositacvila@gmail.com) or 0425 792 911) or at the door. **Sponsored by the Aireys Inlet Rural Australia for Refugees.**

This film provides the inside story on the medivac legislation and explores the predicament of medical professionals when treating refugee patients. It comes highly recommended. The film will be introduced by experienced refugee advocate, Margaret Sinclair. Margaret has recently visited some of the medical evacuees being held in the Mantra hotel in Preston. She will also be available to answer questions at the end of the film.

**The Geelong and District Progressive Christian Group** warmly invite you to attend our next meeting on **Thursday 27th February at 1:30pm at Western Heights Uniting Church (31 Douglass Street, Herne Hill).**

Our Guest Speaker will be **Rev Linley Liersch** and her topic will be 'Encouraging local church leadership and outreach'. Rev Linley Liersch has just been appointed to the position of 'Mission Development Strategist' for the Uniting Church Presbytery of Port Philip West. She is experienced in Mission Strategy, and is enthusiastic about supporting local ventures in discipleship and ministry. Please contact Geoff Naylor on 0409740539 or Heather Dennis on 0409176319 for further information.

EACH WEEK WE LIST MEMBERS FROM OUR COMBINED CHURCH DIRECTORIES FOR YOUR PRAYERFUL CARE (IN ALPHABETIC ORDER)

ANGLESEA: MERRY,Ken

ANGLESEA: MORRISON,Ruth and John

ANGLESEA: MILLARD,Dorothy

ANGLESEA: MURDOCH,Margaret



**YOUR NEWSLETTER** can be delivered to your INBOX every Friday, just email us to be included.

**NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS** and all queries to: [newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com](mailto:newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com) **DEADLINE:** Thursday at 4pm