

Vice Chancellor's Fellow University of Melbourne and former President of the Australian Human Rights Commission. **Martin McKenzie Murray**, Journalist and Chief Correspondent for The Saturday Paper (TBC)
Please register: <https://iccforumatrmit.eventbrite.com.au>. Free event.

We respectfully acknowledge the Yalukit Willam clan of the Boon Wurrung. We pay our respects to their Elders and community past and present. We acknowledge and uphold their continuing relationship to this land.

Date	November 26	December 3	December 10
<i>Worship Assistance</i>	David Pargeter Desleigh	Brian	Simon
<i>Welcome at door</i>	Melissa&Darren	Janet	Mary
<i>Pre-Service Prayer</i>	Melissa	Beverley	Janet
<i>Flowers</i>	Beverley	Deb	Desleigh
<i>Coffee</i>	Beverley	Randall	Roma

Church

Corner Chapel & Carlisle Sts
St Kilda 3182. Ph:

Engagement Hub

101 Carlisle St.
St Kilda 3182. Ph: 9525 5478

Minister: Rev. David Pargeter

Email: saints674@iinet.net.au

PO Box 385, Balaclava 3183.

Ph: 0412 334 334

www.stkildaunitingchurch.org.au

Church phone no.

0458 417 708

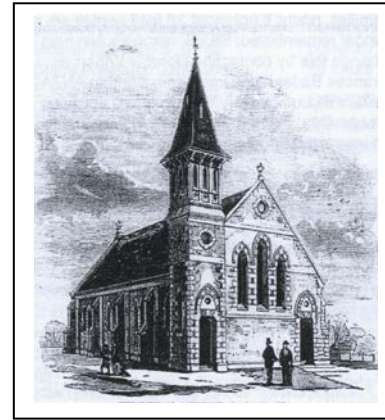
VISION STATEMENT:

As a community of faith, the St Kilda Uniting Church Parish Mission strives to do what is just, to show constant love and to walk humbly with God.

NEWSLETTER DETAILS:

Desleigh Kent is the editor of the Newsletter. Contributions are welcome and can be sent to her at desleighk@ozemail.com.au

If you would like to be part of a growing congregational email list (and receive a full colour copy of the church newsletter in pdf format), please contact Rob Hess at Robert.Hess@vu.edu.au



**St Kilda Uniting Church
Parish Mission**

NEWSLETTER

Volume 52, Issue 42

Sunday, 26 November 2017

You are most welcome to the service today. Rev David Pargeter will lead our worship. Yesterday we had an inspiring music workshop with Robin Mann so today he will lead us with the music. Please stay afterwards for tea/coffee.

Bible Readings: Psalm 68. Pg.636

From David: 'Sam' was not well on Tuesday morning. We were standing in the shade of the small tree near the bins; he was smoking, I was drinking a mug of coffee. I offered to make him one. He said he didn't drink tea or coffee. Said they weren't good for you.

When I say "not well", what I really mean is that Sam was distressed. During the night someone had pinched his bag which had his book in it. "I've had that book forever", said Sam, "I knew I shouldn't have come here yesterday". He said that he was a stranger to St Kilda and was heading toward Mordialloc where he had grown up as boy. "I'm doing the Bing Crosby thing" he said. "I'm going home for Christmas". Then, in a crooning kind of tenor voice, he started to sing 'I'll be home for Christmas. You can plan on me'. He laughed pleasantly. He was quiet for a while. Just stood there closely examining his cigarette.

As we talked more I learned there was no family in Mordialloc. "All gone", he said. "Just me now as far as I know. I'm just going to hang around where we used to live. Go down memory lane. Might even throw a line in the creek, if you still can". I got the sense that he had just come out of a spell in hospital.

Then, out of a deep place he said, "Fostered out when I was 11". We talked about that for a while.

And then, a thought-filled silence embraced each of us. I don't know what he was thinking, but I found myself thinking about home. About family. What is home? Where is home? I've had many homes. What does going home for Christmas really mean?

We chatted some more.

"Well, must be off", he said.
"No worries, come back soon", I said.
"I hope you find the home you're looking for".
He called back – "It's always with me. It's in my head".
I suspect that's the truth of it.

Best wishes David

Songs/Hymns

Various songs will be used throughout the worship service today. These will be led by Robin Mann.

NOTICES

Eddie Bear and Robert Hoskin's book: *Return to Majaddin: a Kimberley homecoming* was launched last week. If you would like to purchase a copy of the book, there are order forms on the front table.

For more information:
<https://thekimberleyvoice.com.au>
www.boabnetwork.org is a voluntary organization set up by the Floreat Uniting Church WA.

If Robert's work is of interest to you, you might like to attend a meeting on **Tuesday 12 December 6 – 8pm** in the Habitat Library, Minona St., Auburn, where the guest speaker will be Janet Turpie-Johnson, a local indigenous elder who is undertaking doctoral studies at ANU.

163 Table Conversations. Sharing Food – Sharing Ideas. Next Tuesday, November 28 at 6.15pm. Dr Rob Hess will speak about his co-authored book on the hidden history of women's Australian Rules football. On the eve of the second season of the AFLW, he explores what the past can tell us about the future of the women's game. All welcome. Please RSVP to Janet: 0417 670 132 for catering purposes. BYO drinks. Donations appreciated.

Church Council was postponed until next Thursday Nov. 30th : 7.45pm at the church. If you have anything you would like discussed at this meeting please talk to David, Simon, Mary, Randall, Louise or Desleigh. Report in next week's newsletter.

The next **Poetry and Faith** group will meet here next **Wednesday 29th Nov. at 6.30pm.** Please talk to David if you would like attend. **All welcome.**

The St Kilda Baptists in Pakington Street are holding a **SUMMER FESTIVAL** next **Sunday from 3 - 7pm** to support St Kilda Gatehouse and Pay-a-sack Forward. Local Art and craft; musicians - *Abby Rose, Eden Gospel Singers, LowRez and Yirrmal*; face painting, food, drinks and door prize. **All Welcome!**



Our St Kilda Uniting Church and Drop - In community is saddened by the death of Michelle Short – a tireless staff member at the Drop – In for over 17years. Michelle was a gentle person who was always calm with participants, had a warm friendly smile and a keen listening ear. It was staff like Michelle who made the Drop – In so successful and welcoming over the years. Her

funeral was held last Friday and David is leading a memorial service with the Drop – In here at the church next Tuesday November 28th at 1.30pm. Anyone is welcome to attend

Celebrate music legends with the 100 voices of the Melbourne Singers of Gospel and The Soul Train band - next Saturday December 2nd, 3pm and 8pm at the Alex Theatre, level 1, 135 Fitzroy Street St Kilda. Book at ticketek.com.au Notice board

THERE IS AN ONGOING RALLY EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE STATE LIBRARY AT 5.30 RE THE SITUATION ON MANUS ISLAND.

PUBLIC FORUM: : Thursday 7 December 2017: 6:00 – 8:00 pm RMIT University, City Campus Building 80, Level 2, Lecture Theatre 2, 445 Swanston Street, Melbourne, Vic. .Australia's treatment of asylum seekers and refugees - can the International Criminal Court prosecute Australia's leaders for crimes against humanity? Speakers **Mohammad Ali Baqiri, Refugee advocate formerly detained on Nauru. **Tracie Alymer**, Human rights advocate, and submitter to the ICC. **Julian Burnside QC** and**