

# Southern Coastal Deanery

12<sup>th</sup> June, 2022

Trinity Sunday

**Please pray for:**  
Bishop Steve and Lorraine, Ministry Educator Michael Godfrey, CYF Educator - John Graveston, Community Support Enabler - Anne Van Gend, the Diocesan office staff and Council.  
For the global effort to contain the Covid19 pandemic  
For peace in Ukraine.

Those who are sick: Alaric & Celine, Anne, Ashley, Bev, Bill, Bridget, Chris, Cruz and Mason, Dorothy H, Elizabeth, Gary Griffith-Smith, Gerald, Gerald J, Ginny, Grant W, Finn, Jean V, Jim L, Joan F, Jenny M, Malcolm, Mike, Muriel and family, Lysiane, Myrtle, Louise, Marilyn, Margaret, Nick D, Philip, Sarah, Sharron M, Shirley M, Ruby, Val S.

## Worship Schedule

**Brighton 10.30a.m. 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays**  
**Green Island 10.30a.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays**  
**Mornington 9.30a.m.**

**Except for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday when we have 4pm Soup & Communion**

**St Kilda 11a.m. (Morning tea served from 10.15a.m.)**

**Midweek service**  
**Wednesday @ 1pm at Holy Cross**

### Southern Coastal Deanery

St Margaret's 4 Seaview Road, Brighton - St Mark's 27 Shand St, GI  
St Mary's 3 Whitby St, Mornington  
Holy Cross 5 Bellona St. St Kilda

**Southern Coastal Deanery web page: [scd.org.nz](http://scd.org.nz)**

Regional Dean: Jan Clark 455-6032 or 027 3515171  
[janclark8260@gmail.com](mailto:janclark8260@gmail.com)

Regional Dean's Warden: Catherine Caley 0211432974

Mornington Warden: Alyson Manning 455-0163

St Kilda Warden: Gerald Harley 456-0573

We can be so caught up in our doing each day that we fail to celebrate simply being. We overlook the amazing world God has created for us. Pausing to simply let ourselves be, we can wonder at the joy God has infused in our world. On this Trinity Sunday, the scriptures all celebrate God's presence with us and the joy that brings.

**Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31** Today's focus passage is one of the many creation stories in the Bible. Receiving them as divinely inspired rather than history or science brings an appreciation to the wondrous nuances of Proverbs 8.

Proverbs is one of the Wisdom books in the Hebrew Scriptures. A key theme of those writings is establishing that God is the creator and sustainer of all things. The method of creation is never the issue, but the acknowledgment of God as Creator is paramount.

The book is filled with advice on how to live, interspersed with teachings on the life of Wisdom, a personified being. Some see Wisdom as an aspect of God (often equating her with the Holy Spirit – generally referred to as feminine in the Hebrew) while others see her as an entity in relationship with God. Either way, she is always portrayed as feminine.

Wisdom is crying out at the city gates, or in the centre of the city, depending on one's translation. It does not matter. The point is that Wisdom sees herself calling the people to task and takes her message to the place where it will reach the most people.

In verses 22-31, Wisdom places herself squarely in the midst of the act of creation. One can imagine Wisdom assisting God in the act of creating, as she refers to herself as a master craftsworker or artisan. The Hebrew word *amon* in verse 30 can be translated as "artisan" or "worker," or as "little child," referring to a nursling or toddler. Thus, we can understand Wisdom as being God's assistant in the act of creation either as a craftsperson or perhaps as a child inviting God into a sense of joy and playfulness. Wisdom is God's "delight" (verse 30) suggesting

**Green Island - Brighton, Mornington, St Kilda**

that God celebrated this companionship; clearly, it shines forth in the joy of creation. At the same time, we are challenged to experience the wondrous joy and playfulness of creation and find our place within it. Through all of chapter 8 is a great sense of delight, even fun. The feminine aspect of God present here wants us to understand and appreciate God's pure delight in humankind and in the world God has created. Indeed, life comes to its fullness when we celebrate creation and cry out for justice for those who are unable to enjoy the fullness of life because of oppression by others.

Also writing of God's amazing love and care, Paul states in **Romans 5:1–5** that God's presence with us since the beginning of time is active in creation through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. He assures the Christians in Rome that God is with us whatever we face, whatever we endure, and, ultimately, whatever we survive.

Jesus tells the disciples in John 16:12–15 that he has much more to tell them and that the Spirit of Truth will lead them and guide them in truth. God does not abandon us.

We are loved by God – the scriptures make this clear over and over again. Indeed, God delights in all creation. In accepting that simple truth, hopefully we can dare to open our minds and hearts to experience God in a wide variety of ways. It is indeed a sometimes playful God that created us! How ready are you to join Wisdom's eager dance of joy? How will you respond to Wisdom's call to responsible living? How will you work for justice for all God's creation? What is Wisdom's voice saying to us today?

### Opening prayer

We delight in you, O God. We give thanks for Wisdom woven, at the beginning, brought forth from you, Creator God: before land was shaped, before the waters swirled and flowed. Wisdom stood beside you and before you, as you carved the mountains and bent the streams. She spoke then; she speaks still. May we listen for her. May we open our ears and our hearts to her inspiration. We delight in you, O God – and we give you thanks that you delight in us. Amen.

**Sentence:** Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice? 'The Lord created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago.' *Proverbs 8:1, 22*

### Collect of the Day.

God, glorious in Trinity, no dimensions can define you or thoughts contain you. Beyond stretch of time and space you unfold the cosmos, from the rising of the sun, to its setting, blessed are you. God of unchangeable power, you have revealed yourself to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit; keep us firm in this faith that we may praise and bless your holy name; for you are one God now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Readings.** Prov 8:1-4,22-31, Rom 5:1-5, John 16:12-15

**Hymns:** HTC 7 Holy, holy, holy, HTC 429 Firmly I believe and truly  
HTC 414 Let us talents and tongues employ, HTC 583 Praise the Lord,  
you heavens adore him

### Readings for 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2022

1 Kings 19:1-4, 8-15a, Gal. 3:23-29, Luke 8:26-39

**Tuesday 14th June;** No Oasis this week.

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June;** No midweek communion this week

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June;** Fruit & Vege distribution 10.30am – 11.30am at GI, 4-5.30pm at Holy Cross,

### The practice of exploring scripture.

Directions 1. Look up and explore the five creation stories in the Bible: Genesis 1:1—2:4a, Genesis 2:4b–25, Psalm 8, Proverbs 8:1–8, 22–31; and John 1:1–18. 2. Reflect on or discuss: Q What might these different stories of creation be trying to tell us? Q How are they similar? How are they different? Q Which one(s) do you like the best? Why?

Q If you were writing a creation story, what might it be like? 3. Take some paper and write down – in words or pictures – some of your thoughts.



***I imagine many of us viewed parts of the Queen's Jubilee celebrations offering thanksgiving and praise for her faith and service. Part of the celebrations included a skit with the Queen and Paddington Bear. This***

***delightful cartoon appeared early this week as the celebrations concluded.***