

Southern Coastal Deanery

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.

Give thanks for the life and service of the late Queen Elizabeth II

Give thanks for the life of Ted Berney and pray for his family

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

Worship Schedule

Brighton 10.30a.m. 1st and 3rd Sundays

Green Island 10.30a.m. 2nd & 4th Sundays

Mornington 9.30am

**Except for the 3rd 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

Regional Dean: Jan Clark 455-6032 or 027 3515171

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Regional Dean's Warden: Catherine Caley 0211432974

Mornington Warden: Alyson Manning 455-0163

St Kilda Warden: Gerald Harley 456-0573

18 September, 2022

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prayerful Living

With the community addressed in 1 Timothy, we are reminded that God's people pray in all circumstances. We are urged to pray for everyone, including political leaders, so that all people may live in God's reign of peace and wholeness – shalom. God's wise ways lead and encourage us as we seek to live prayerfully as members of the Body of Christ and citizens of our own countries.

Jeremiah 8:18—9:1, the prophet laments that the people have been unfaithful to God's commands. Leaders have been carried off into exile. When the relationship with God seems broken, God's people cry out in lament, a prayer for help in a time of grief. **Psalm 79:1–9** echoes Jeremiah's lament, weeping over the destruction of the temple and the death of the people at the hands of the Babylonians. This is an image of life in the absence of shalom.

1 Timothy 2:1–7 When the early Christians realized that Jesus would not return soon, they worked to organize communities of Jesus' followers for ongoing worship and service. Leaders like Paul wrote letters of teaching to these groups, offering their interpretation of the meaning of Jesus' life, death and resurrection, and the implications of Jesus' teachings for the Body of Christ. The letters to Timothy most likely date from a later time than the life of Paul, but they reflect Paul's teaching.

In this week's reading from 1 Timothy, the author teaches about prayerful living, urging the community to pray for everyone. The call to pray for all people reflects the author's vision of God as Saviour of everyone.

These verses also address a thorny question facing those who lived in the Roman Empire. Should a Christian pray for an emperor who demanded to be honoured as a god and before whose statue oaths were taken? The author tells the Christian community it is "right" and "acceptable" to pray for political leaders so that they might live "a quiet and peaceable life" (v. 2). Some scholars suggest this urging did not mean yielding to Roman custom but embodying a desire to see God's peace (shalom) established for all

Green Island - Brighton, Mornington, St Kilda

people. Other scholars suggest that the author was using Paul's "voice" to encourage the church to befriend the empire and its ways in order to move forward. Others suggest these words encourage church members to be "wise as serpents and innocent as doves" (Matthew 10:16) to survive.

The author says God, "our Saviour," desires for all to come to the saving knowledge of the truth of God's saving ways. This message of inclusion is grounded in the belief that there is one God and one mediator between God and humankind, Jesus the Christ. In verse 6, Jesus is described as "a ransom for all." Though Christian theology has several ways of exploring what this means, a cornerstone of our faith is belief that the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ declare God's victory over evil and bring new life. The kernel of the author's message is that God is a God of salvation, forgiving and restoring to wholeness all who call on God's name.

Like the church in Timothy's time, Jesus' first hearers struggled to find a way to live in the world, and yet not of it.

Luke 16:1-13, Jesus tells a story of a wise manager. Accused of squandering his master's money, the manager visits the debtors with a plan to repay the master and provide for his own future. Jesus commends this manager for finding a way to live in the current situation, yet also speaks to the responsibility to live faithfully into the shalom of God's reign. Prayer is part of living faithfully as citizens of God's realm. God's people are called to pray for peace and justice for all people. What does it mean to pray in Jesus' name for leaders? How might prayerful living strengthen us to work for justice, even as we pray for God's shalom?

Opening prayer

Renewing Spirit, as open windows let fresh air in, so prayer is like an opening into our soul through which you can flow. Blow through each one of us and through this community. Stir our stale places. Ruffle our status quo. Be like a breeze gently unsettling our religious certainties. May we be wholly shaped by you through prayer. **Amen.**

Sentence: Then we your people, the sheep of your pasture, will praise you forever; from generation to generation we will proclaim your praise. Psalm 79:13

Collect: God our true wealth, may we be faithful in things both small and great, and serve the needy and the poor, so that finally we can be entrusted with your true riches; through Jesus Christ our Liberator,

who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Readings. Jeremiah 8:18-9:1, 1 Tim 2:1-7, Luke 16:1-13

Hymns: HTC 333 The kingdom of God, HTC 342 let the world in every corner sing, HTC 328 Lord for the years

Notices

Sunday 18th Sept; 10.30 Eucharist at Brighton, 11am Eucharist at St Kilda, 4pm Soup & Communion at Mornington.

Tuesday 20 Sept; 3pm Oasis after school group, 7pm Young adults group,

Wednesday 21 Sept; 10am Taieri Eucharist, 1pm midweek communion at Holy Cross, 2pm Home communions, 5.30pm Meditative Prayer at Holy Cross Hall, 7.30pm Sth Dunedin Churches Praying together at Mercy Parish . Care of creation..

Thursday 22nd Sept; Fruit & Vege distribution 10.30am – 11.30am at GI, 4-5.30pm at Holy Cross

Friday 23rd Sept; 3pm Mornington Churches planning meeting

September is Mission Month – Please consider supporting Pakistan. CWS is running an emergency appeal to provide help after the recent flooding. You can donate directly to CWS or place donation in a marked envelope in the collection.



3 DAY CENTERING PRAYER RETREAT 1 – 3 OCTOBER 2022

Register by Friday 16 September, please register by email or mail to: TRISH FRANKLIN franklytrish@gmail.com 22 Pinfold Place, Mosgiel 9024 or phone 021 279 8343