

### Please pray for:

Bp Anne, Ministry Educator Damon Plimmer, CYF Educator - John Graveston, the Diocesan office staff, and Council.

We give thanks for the lives of Mavis Burgess and Ruby Hammon and pray for their families

Pray for our Warden's and vestry as they lead and guide the Deanery  
Those who are sick: Noeline, Alaric & Celine, Andrew, Andy, Ben, Bill, Chris, Eleanor D, Gerald, Heather, Jenny W, Eleanor L, Louise, Maggie & Barrie, Margaret S, Pat C, Pat G, Philip, Ruth M, Sarah, Val H and family, Vera Booth

### September Schedule for worship

|                             |                                                               |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>7<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>  | <b>10.30am Communion at St Margaret's, Brighton</b>           |
| <b>14<sup>th</sup> Sept</b> | <b>10.30am Communion at Holy Cross, St Kilda</b>              |
| <b>21<sup>st</sup> Sept</b> | <b>3pm Mornington extended communion &amp; afternoon tea)</b> |
| <b>24<sup>th</sup> Sept</b> | <b>1 pm—possible if clergy is found to take service</b>       |
| <b>28<sup>th</sup> Sept</b> | <b>10.30am Green Island extended communion</b>                |

Mornington Methodist would also be very pleased to welcome any St Mary's people who wanted to join them on the first Sunday of the month for worship. This service would be at 9.30am

### 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

Parish cell phone nos 022 062 0017

|                      |                 |            |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Bishop's Warden:     | Catherine Caley | 0211432974 |
| GI- Brighton Warden: | Christine Shaw  | 0274391324 |

|                         |              |             |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Mornington Co- wardens: | Felicity Sim | 0211292367  |
|                         | Iona McGhie  | 03 476-7726 |

|                  |                 |             |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| St Kilda Warden: | Robin Versteeg  | 027 4710001 |
| Admin:           | Kat Hammerstein | 021 2233225 |



## Southern Coastal Deanery

Green Island - Brighton, Mornington, St Kilda

September 2025

### 7<sup>th</sup> September 2025- 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

The essential message of this week's readings may boil down to two things: 1) We are constantly faced with the choice to do the right thing or not; 2) Doing the right thing (or following Jesus, if you will) is very costly. Unfortunately, in our world, expediency, short-term thinking and prosperity preaching have all made the Gospel of counting the cost very unpopular. But, in truth, life is not found in quick fixes, or in pandering to our appetites – we know this. Life is found in following Christ's sacrificial, life-giving ways – which is what it means, really, to do the right thing. May our worship lead us to count the cost, and choose to be people who always seek to do the right thing.

**SENTENCE:** Whoever does not carry the cross and follow Jesus cannot be his disciple. *Luke 14:27*

**COLLECT:** Servant God, grant us opportunity, give us willingness to serve you day by day; that what we do and how we bear each other's burdens, may be our sacrifice to you. Hear this prayer for your love's sake. Amen.

### READINGS:

**Jeremiah 18:1-11:** Jeremiah is instructed to observe the potter at work, and God explains how God works – how good that is promised may not happen if a nation turns to evil, and bad that is prophesied may not happen if the nation repents and turns back to God. Then God's people are called to turn back to God.

**Philemon 1-21:** Paul writes to Philemon asking him to "do the right thing" and accept Onesimus, his runaway slave, back as a brother in Christ, without judgement or punishment.

**Luke 14:25-33:** The cost of following Christ is everything, and Jesus encourages us to count the cost before committing ourselves to him.

## 14<sup>th</sup> September 2025- 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

The concept of repentance is a tad unfashionable these days, but justice cannot be achieved without it, and worship becomes shallow for lack of it. It's easy to denounce the "godless" as "foolish" and to point fingers at those who bring injustice and suffering into the world, but if we're honest, we are them – the same darkness in them dwells in us. This means we have at least two responses to make: 1) We must face our own "lostness" and repent, opening ourselves to God's transforming grace and 2) We must offer grace and transformation to those with whom we disagree and even those we find shocking, wrong or evil. This work of justice and worship is not for the faint-hearted!

May our worship lead us into true repentance – the starting place of justice in our own hearts – this week.

**SENTENCE:** I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents. *Luke 15:10*

**COLLECT:** Loving God, in Jesus you gather us into your family; confidently we call you Father; may your Spirit bring us to share the glorious liberty of your children. Hear this prayer for your love's sake. Amen.

### READINGS:

**Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28:** God proclaims judgement on God's foolish people, who are skilled at evil, but have no knowledge of doing good, and the land is destroyed in the wake of God's anger.

**1 Timothy 1:12-17:** Paul celebrates God's mercy in that God forgave him and empowered him for ministry, in spite of his sinfulness and ignorance.

**Luke 15:1-10:** Jesus explains his friendship with 'sinners' using the parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin – where celebration is inspired by the lost thing being found again.

## 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2025- 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Parable of the Shrewd Manager is a difficult one to make sense of, and a rough one to apply. But, at the heart of all of the readings this week is the idea of inappropriate grace, and releasing our inappropriate devotion to money – which opens the doors to moments of both amusement and seriousness.

May this week's worship teach us to be people of scandalous grace and generosity.

**SENTENCE:** You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. *2 Corinthians 8:9*

**COLLECT:** Almighty God  
fount of all wisdom, crown of all knowledge;  
give us eyes to see  
and minds to understand your marvelous works,  
that we may know you through your handiwork  
and use your creations to your glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

### READINGS:

**Jeremiah 8:18-9:1:** Jeremiah grieves the destruction of his people, who insisted on worshiping idols, but for whom there is now no salvation.

**1 Timothy 2:1-7:** Paul calls for believers to pray for all people, including leaders, reminding them of Christ's pleading for us with God – for which Paul has been called as an apostle to the Gentiles.

**Luke 16:1-13:** Jesus parable of the shrewd manager who wins social capital and his master's commendation through the act of radical, inappropriate, forgiveness.

## 28<sup>th</sup> September 2025- 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Lectionary continues to challenge us about money, wealth and poverty. It's not a particularly new theme to explore, but it is a significant focus of the Gospel, and an integral part of our mission as Church.

May we be challenged to continue to seek creative ways to bring good news to the poor as we worship this week.

**SENTENCE:** Confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. *James 5:16*

**COLLECT:** Almighty God,  
you alone are our true judge,  
for you know what we are,  
you know what we should be,  
and with you there is mercy.  
Give us feeling for what is right;  
set us on fire to see that right is done.  
Hear this prayer for your love's sake.  
Amen.

### READINGS:

**Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15:** In spite of his prophecies of the destruction of Judah, Jeremiah buys his cousin's field and proclaims God's word that people will again buy property in the land of Judah.

**1 Timothy 6:6-19:** Followers of Christ are encouraged to be content with what they have, not to strive after wealth, and to share generously with others.

**Luke 16:19-31:** Jesus tells a parable about a wealthy man who failed to share with the poor beggar outside of his gates, and who finds himself in torment after death, while Lazarus, the beggar, finds himself in comfort.

## NOTICES

### Bed pushers sought for Dunedin Public Hospital

**Andrew Metcalfe**

#### A request to Dunedin Parishes and Faith Communities.

After a long break it is hoped to begin Sunday Services at Dunedin Public Hospital in September.

To make this happen we need 'bed-pushers'. Actually 'bed-pushers' are so much more. As well as transporting patients in beds or wheelchairs to and from the wards they are fellow worshippers and assist and support patients during the half hour service.

**We are trialling a new worship time of 1.30pm** so on their rostered Sunday a team of 6-8 people need to be available from 1.05 to about 3.45pm.

If you are interested or require more information please contact me.

Thank you

Vivienne Galletly Interim Lead Chaplain (Southern).

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### Possible Wednesday service on 24<sup>th</sup> September

We are exploring the possibility of holding a mid-week service at Holy Cross on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 1 pm if we can arrange clergy to take the service.

A huge thank you to all the Deanery family for your generous and kind words, for the amazing farewell gifts and for sharing your lives with us as we have served in this special part of God's kingdom.

We continue to hold you in prayer and hope you will do the same for us as we move into the season of retirement.

*Jan and Alec Clark*