

### Please pray for:

Bishop Steve and Lorraine, Ministry Educator– Michael Godfrey, Diana Abercrombie, the Diocesan office staff and Diocesan Council.

For those whose anniversaries fall at this time.

Those who are sick: Agnes, Ashley, Bill, Bridget, Brian, Chris, Cruz and Mason, Deborah, Denise, Dorothy & Dick, Dorothy H, Ellen, Eric, Gerald, Graham, Helen, Jan Y, Jean V, Jesse Bessant, Jim L, Keith M, Les, Lysiane, Marilyn, Margaret, Mark S, Murray, Pat G, Peggy, Philip, Ross, Sarah, Sharron M, Stewart, Susie, Tim, Ruby, Val S, Yvonne B, Claire J

# Southern Coastal Deanery



**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**23<sup>rd</sup> December, 2018.**

## Worship Schedule

**Brighton 10.30a.m. (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays)**

**Green Island 10.30a.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays**

**Mornington 9.30a.m.**

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

**Midweek service**

**Recommence on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January**

## 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 17 Ajax 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)

Administrator: Phone 488-0020 email to [janclark8260@gmail.com](mailto:janclark8260@gmail.com)

Regional Dean's Warden: Helen Humphrey 488-2696

Green Island Warden: Pam Brown 488-1909

Mornington Warden: Alyson Manning 455-0163

St. Kilda Warden: Robin Versteeg 471-0001

**Micah 5: 2-5a** Micah was a young contemporary of Isaiah who was concerned with ethical issues. Coming from the borderland of Judah in the north where the Assyrians are closer (v. 5 b), he was much more aware of what the enemy was up to than Israel's wealthy and powerful leadership in Jerusalem. He told his audience to listen to the small and the marginal voices for true information. Bethlehem (v.2) home to one of the small clans, was the place to be if peace is to come (5 a).

**Hebrews 10: 5-10** For the writer of Hebrews, the old practices of sacrifice have no value. God can be found in the world through Christ (v.5a). God does not want animal sacrifices but obedience to God's will (v.7).

**Luke 1: 39-45(46-55)** In the story that we know as the visitation is so familiar, we may miss the unusual. Mary appears to travel alone to the hill country – something highly unusual for the time – suggesting strong bonds of love between the two kinswomen. Normally their discussion would be seen as women's business – certainly not worth recording in such detail. Elizabeth in v.45 acknowledges Mary's faith and obedience to God's will. Mary displays this in the words from v.46-55 which form the Magnificat, a revolutionary song of liberation. These powerful words of hope have provided strength for many people living in violent places where hunger is present.

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

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

Today we gather to sing in words ancient and modern  
**The parables of new life we have heard all our lives**  
Stories of courage and delight and purpose  
**Stories of fear and shadows and pain**  
Stories which echo our lives and our times  
**Stories of unconditional love and intentional grace**

The journey continues on which we are invited to travel  
**Taking each step is an adventure**  
Many walk this journey together  
**Each seeking transformation**  
Let us trust the new life journeying brings  
**New life for you and for me and for all the world**

**Read the Partner Story from the South India: For Gender Equality**  
For years, most south Indian girls suffered in silence. Their brothers ate the best food, attended school and did fewer chores. When they grew up, the same patterns continued. It was not fair. The number of violent attacks on women are increasing. EKTA has been a lifeline to men and women wanting change. They do the research, educate men and women about gender, and run successful campaigns to stop discrimination based on gender and make the city of Madurai safer. Already they have lobbied local government to set up a desk at a major bus station to help children who are lost or in danger of being trafficked.  
**Be the Lifeline to women and men seeking safety and fairness.**

### Lighting the Advent Candle of Love

For those who look for love, but are abused,  
For those who have lost family and friends,  
For those who live where there is strife or war,  
We light the candle of love.

*Light the candle.*

**You, Lord Jesus, renew our love, and pour love into the world.**  
**May this light signal a breakthrough, a brighter future,**  
**A new order and a better way.**  
**A new order and a better way.**

**Sentence:** Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord. *Luke 1:45*

**Collect:** God, your purpose exceeds our understanding: grant us the grace you gave to Mary; help us recognise your presence; and, at our end, know the joy of your embrace; through Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Micah 5:2-5a, Hebrews 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)

**Hymns:** Look toward Christmas, Carol our Christmas, HTC 417 Lord Jesus Christ, HTC 42 Tell out my soul

### Sending Out / Dismissal

We travel together towards the new birth, towards the new start  
We follow the signs which show us the way  
***To do what is right To seek justice***  
***To walk humbly with God. We go in peace. Amen.***

### Notices

#### Monday 24<sup>th</sup> Dec – Christmas Eve

Mornington - 9.30pm Carols and Eucharist

St Kilda - 9pm Carols and Eucharist

Green Island - 9pm Carols & Eucharist

#### Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> Dec. Christmas Day Service –

9am St Margaret's Brighton Deanery Eucharist.

This will be the only service in the Deanery.

#### Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> Dec. – 10.30am Deanery Eucharist @ Holy Cross, 5

Bellona St, St Kilda.

We will share a pot luck lunch after worship.

*May you know the wonder of the gift that is forever new – God in Christ, loving you.*  
*If you are going away on holiday may you have a blessed Christmas and safe travel.*