

# THE DIOCESE OF THE WINDWARD ISLANDS



Diocesan Office:  
Tel: 784-456-1895  
Fax: 784-456-2591  
Email: [diocesewi@vincysurf.com](mailto:diocesewi@vincysurf.com)

P. O. Box 502,  
St. Vincent &  
the Grenadines  
West Indies

*The Rt. Rev'd C. Leopold Friday, B.A., M.A.*

## **Bishop's Easter Message, 2022**

### **427 CPWI Hymnal**

1. Through all the changing scenes of life,  
in trouble and in joy,  
the praises of my God shall still  
my heart and tongue employ.

2. O magnify the Lord with me,  
with me exalt his name;  
when in distress, to him I called,  
he to my rescue came.

3. The hosts of God encamp around  
the dwellings of the just;  
deliverance he affords to all  
who on his succour trust.

4. O make but trial of his love:  
experience will decide  
how blessed are they, and only they,  
who in his truth confide.

5. Fear him, ye saints, and you will then  
have nothing else to fear;

make you his service your delight,  
your wants shall be his care.

6. To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
the God whom we adore,  
be glory, as it was. Is now,  
and shall be evermore.

As we came to the end of 2021, we were all looking forward to the New Year. Naturally, we were hoping that the COVID-19 Pandemic would dissipate, so we could move on with our lives without the protocols and restrictions and recoup from the economic impact it has caused. In St. Vincent and the Grenadines, we were emerging from the ashes, so to speak, following the explosive eruption of the La Soufriere volcano. Throughout the diocese, we experienced the effects of hurricanes, storms and floods as well in differing degrees. We have made some positive strides, but there is still more work to be done.

As we waited with great expectation, we heard of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and even though several miles away from us, it had its impact. The Pandemic has negatively impacted various sectors and people in our society. The cost of containers increased, which led to a rise in the cost of commodities. With the increase in oil prices since the invasion, there has been a further uptake in the cost of goods and services. In addition, we continue to face the other challenges of life. For some, the last two years have been quite taxing and demanding.



In the book of Genesis, when Joseph revealed himself to his brothers, who many years before, because of jealousy, had sold him to the Ishmaelites and they took him into Egypt, Joseph said to his brothers - **'I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither ploughing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. (Genesis 45: 4-8)**

And in 2 Corinthians 5: 19, St Paul states that at the crucifixion, **"in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself."**

These passages inform us that God journeys with us through all our experiences and is working to bring about transformation long before it happens and even before we realise or understand it.

At Easter, we celebrate the glorious resurrection of our Lord and saviour, Jesus Christ, who defeated the powers of evil, sin, death, and hell and rose triumphantly from the grave and is alive forevermore.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! The Lord has risen indeed. Come, let us adore him. Alleluia!

I take this opportunity to wish you a Blessed Easter on behalf of my wife Lois and three daughters, Marcella, Malaika, and Mikayla.

Your friend and Bishop

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "C. Leopold Friday". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal dashed line.

The Rt. Rev'd C. Leopold Friday  
Bishop of the Windward Islands