

READINGS FOR TODAY

1st Reading: Haggai 1:15b-2:9

Psalm: 145:1-5,17-21 2nd Reading: 2 Thessalonians

2:1-5,13-17

Gospel: Luke 20:27-40

9 NOVEMBER 2025

22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

REFLECTION

When I last wrote a reflection, I was waiting for a friend to finish having the medical tests she needed rather impatiently because one of our number was dying, and all I wanted was to be with her. Sometimes we have to wait for things to happen, and sometimes life does the opposite and we are begging for everything to slow down. For most of us what we really want is stability and predictability and a clear view of what tomorrow will bring. That way we could be prepared and pace ourselves. We could be more certain of the dependability of God because we would see what He was doing in context of our daily, carefully curated, lives. But life is never like that, and God would not be God if we could predict his every movement. What God has done is revealed his nature in his Son, Jesus, and through the witness of scripture and the words of the prophets. The whole witness of the word of God shows us that God is very reliable and chooses to show us what is happening in the world when it is needed for us to know. So Haggai is able to speak to Zerubbabel in the city of Jerusalem in the province of Jehud to assure him that even though the building before him which was the new temple was not very impressive, one day it will be filled with splendour and greater than the temple that David and Solomon built. This word given at the right moment encouraged Zerubbabel the governor and Joshua the priest to keep going – and the temple they built did indeed eventually become the amazing building which was Herod's temple, known for its glowing gold and white marble which could be seen for miles around. In 2 Thessalonians Paul writes to his people of the coming man of lawlessness and the mess the world will be in at the last. He tempers that with a reminder that they are saved and safe as God's people and in the strength of the Holy Spirit can stand firm even on the last of days because eternal life is already theirs. Has life got you down right now? Are you looking at tomorrow with fear or a sense that somehow you don't matter anyway? Open the witness of the scriptures and read the truth about us. We are children of the living God - the best is yet to come!

Janice

THIS WEEK: 9 - 16 NOVEMBER

TODAY: Holy Communion, 8.45am

Family Service, 10.30am Youth Group, 4.00pm

MONDAY: Prayers for the Parish, St Mark's, 4.00pm,

Contact: Janice

TUESDAY: Cenotaph service for Remembrance Day, 10.30am

cnr Verdon St and Pt Nepean Rd

Funeral service for Marlene Wallis, 2.30pm

Here at St Mark's: We are providing afternoon tea so

please bring something if you can

Zoom Bible Study, 7.00pm Contact: Graeme (0490 664 843

WEDNESDAY: Holy Communion, 10.00am

Bible Study Group, St Mark's, 11.00am

Contact: Janice

Cuppa, Craft & Chat Group, St Mark's, 12.30pm

Contact: Robyn (0409 425 044)

Coffee and Chat at Pilgrim, 1.30pm

for those living with cancer

Fete Planning meeting, 2.30pm (rescheduled from last week)

THURSDAY: Men's Coffee & Chat, Blackthorn Cafe, 10.00am

Contact: Steve (0437984679) Keith T (0413 319 327) **Women's Bible Study Group,** St Mark's, 9.30am

Contact: Carol (0411 405 597)

FRIDAY: Janice's Day Off

SUNDAY: COMBINED HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE, 10.00am

ST MARK"S ANNUAL MEETING, 11.30am

Early on Monday morning 3rd November Marlene Wallis was promoted to glory. Her family are grateful for this Church and the Op Shop for filling her last couple of years with community and love. We will gather at 2.30pm this Tuesday 11th November to farewell Marlene here at St Mark's. Please bring something for Afternoon Tea if you can.

PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

Monitored contact points: 0493 280 691

contact@stmarksdromana.org.au

Pastoral Care Coordinators: Kevin and Anne (0438 234 457 Kevin)
Parish Web Address: www.stmarksdromana.org.au

Facebook page: stmarksdromana

For Parishioners Only Janice's contact number: 0401 717 435

Please call Kevin if you need to contact Janice on her day off (Friday)

NOTICES

NOMINATIONS FOR PARISH COUNCIL CLOSE ON 12TH NOVEMBER, 2025.

We are prayerfully seeking nominations for : Church Wardens (2) and Parish Councillors (6). Keith Thomas has nomination forms for your use.

2025 ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of St Mark's will be held in the church on Sunday 16th November following a combined service at 10.00am. Contact Keith Thomas if you have any questions or an apology.

SMALL HALL PROJECT

The concept design is now available for inspection in the Narthex and will be discussed at the Annual Meeting to inform the next step in the Project.

HEARING LOOP

The hearing Loop is now working.

The Loop was installed for the front seats of the church when they were facing the original Sanctuary which are now the back seats.

This means to take advantage of the Loop you will need to sit in one of 18 seats in the 3 back rows, that is the 3 seats closest to both sides of the aisle in the 3 back rows.

You will need to adjust your hearing aid to the relevant setting on your aid or your mobile device. Speak to Steve Parkinson if you need assistance with the Loop.

<u>CHURCH FETE</u> SATURDAY 22ND NOVEMBER 10.00AM - 2.30PM

Morning Teas, Luncheon, Cakes, Plants, Art Show, Jams, Books, Craft, BBQ, Kids crafts and face-painting.

It is coming up quickly. Anyone who would like to be involved in any way please contact Cheryl. Set up will be from 8am on the day and everyone is welcome. Does anyone have a 3×3 marquee we could borrow on the day?

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS FOR FAMILIES IN NEED

Once again we are wanting to make up Christmas Hampers for distribution to families in need through Dromana Primary School. Food items would be appreciated before the end of November. Anyone who would like to donate cash for us to purchase other items, please put it in an envelope marked "Christmas Hampers" & place it in the offering bag. Queries to Carol Parkinson or Cheryl King.

Set up an online Direct Debit for your weekly/monthly offering St Mark's banking details: **633-000 140772872**

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER FOCUS

In our country and the world:

- For all needing support following home invasions and all other violent attacks.
- For Government action to address the out of control protests and crime in Melbourne.
- For the Government plans to address the rise of antisemitism in Australia.
- For families suffering as a result of violence and home invasions.
- For all facing homelessness, hardship, anguish & despair amid rising costs.
- For all in Israel, Gaza, and Ukraine and Myanmar.
- For those affected by natural disasters around the world.
- For King Charles III, the UK and the Commonwealth.
- For peace and unity in countries around the World.
- For aid agencies such as "Save the Children", Oxfam, CARE, UNICEF, World Vision.

In our community:

- For teachers and students.
- For doctors, nurses, paramedics, Coast Guard, the CFA & SES.
- For local community outreach groups such as the Dromana Community House and "Food for All".

In our Diocese and beyond:

- For Melbourne Archbishop-elect Right Reverend Dr Richard (Ric) Thorpe as he prepares for his installation as Archbishop of Melbourne on 30 November.
- For Archbishop Geoffrey Smith's ministry as Primate of Australia.
- For the ministry of Bishop Paul Barker in the Jumbunna Region and Archdeacon Rev'd Sam Bleby, in the Frankston Archdeanery.
- In our Deanery, we pray for the parish of St George's Red Hill and their Vicar, Rev'd Jennie Savage.
- For the work of the Church Missionary Society and Wei-Han the Victorian Director.
- For Anna Radkovic our CMS Link Missionary in Watamu, Kenya.
- For Christian churches around the world to be free to worship and be witnesses of the love of God shown through the coming of His Son.

In our Parish:

- For our leadership and ministry teams.
- For our Vicar Rev'd Janice O'Gorman.
- For the finances of our Parish.
- For our Parish, its people and those we reach out to every week.
- For the success of the new Family and Children's Ministry.
- For the Alpha program, the leaders and all who attend.
- For the 9am at home prayer time for the Parish, Dromana, & Mornington Peninsula.
- For all members of the Parish Council.
- For Hope25. That the Good News of Jesus will be known in Dromana.
- For Wallis family, Cheryl K, Jeff Carter and family, Karen, Mary, Jan K, Steve (not Parkinson) and family, David, Belinda, Joan R, Lynda & Ian, Robyn, Phillip, Nikki, Jason, Rhiannon, Richard, Pat, Lorna & Peter, Keith S, Harry, Jen, Mike, Chloe, Ted, Monica, Jessica, Audrey, Backy, Fred, Robert, David.

Please send items for Pew Sheet to Maggie Dodu by Wednesday: margaretdodu@me.com