



1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 58:1-12

Psalm: 112

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-13

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20

**8 FEBRUARY 2026**

**EPIPHANY 5**

**REFLECTION**

The Corinthians were an interesting bunch. A mixture of people of Jewish and gentile backgrounds, the one having understood and now embraced Messiah but also getting used to that change, and the other having come out of paganism and the practices of the Greek philosophers who put great emphasis on the mind and the wisdom found in our inner thinking which helped describe their world. These people were doing what the ancient world had taught them to do – to think their way through what Christianity meant to them. Paul came with signs and wonders and the demonstration of the power of God which witnessed to the supernatural presence of our God in Jesus Christ, not as a philosophy, but as a real presence, not as a prophecy and a hope but the tangible and present Risen Saviour. This was necessary for these people to really understand that he was not just peddling the latest philosophical understandings, or the teachings of a wise man who called himself Son of Man. Paul introduced the Corinthians to the Holy Spirit working through faith in Jesus Christ and it knocked their philosophical socks off. In the witness of the Holy Spirit to his message of the gospel of Jesus Christ, Paul was given God's key to break through to the hardened hearts of the people of Corinth and also set them on fire in such a way as to mean they wanted what he had – so they listened and believed. Only then could Paul begin to teach them 'God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory' 1Cor2:7. Christian maturity comes with being able to enter into the truth of God's wisdom deeply in faith. It is difficult to hear and understand the depth when you have only seen the surface. Paul's invitation to go deeper, learn more, invite Holy Spirit to lead you further into the heart of God and to cultivate the mind of Christ which we have through the Holy Spirit within, is a great invitation for us too.

***Janice***

## THIS WEEK : 8 - 15 FEBRUARY

**TODAY:** Locum for all services Rev'd Julia Boyd  
**Holy Communion**, 8.45am  
**Family Service** 10.30am

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

**TUESDAY:** **Janice back from Leave**  
**Zoom Bible Study**, 7.00pm  
Contact: Graeme (0490 664 843)

**WEDNESDAY:** **Holy Communion**, 10.00am  
**Bible Study**, St Mark's, 11.00am  
Contact: Janice  
**Cuppa,Craft & Chat Group**, St Mark's, 12.30pm  
Contact: Robyn (0409 425 044)  
**Coffee & Chat for those living with cancer**, 1.30pm  
**Wardens' meeting**, 3.00pm

**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)  
**Christianity Explored** begins, St Mark's, 7.30pm

**SUNDAY:** **Holy Communion**, 8.45am  
**Family Service**, 10.30am  
**Parish Council Meeting**, 1.30pm

**Shrove Tuesday** - 17th February, 4pm gathering at a venue to be finalised - shared meal and pancakes.

**Ash Wednesday services** - 18<sup>th</sup> February 10am and 7pm Holy Communion with imposition of ashes.

**Good Friday** - 3rd April.

**Easter Sunday** - 5th April.

### PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

**Monitored contact points:** 0493 280 691  
[contact@stmarksdromana.org.au](mailto:contact@stmarksdromana.org.au)

**Pastoral Care Coordinators:** Kevin and Anne (0438 234 457 Kevin)

**Parish Web Address:** [www.stmarksdromana.org.au](http://www.stmarksdromana.org.au)

**Facebook page:** stmarksdromana

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

Please call please contact Jan Glass 0421 047 513 or Keith Thomas 0413 319 327 if you need to contact Janice on her day off (Friday)

## NOTICES

**VICAR ON LEAVE** - Janice will be on Annual Leave from 27<sup>th</sup> January to 9<sup>th</sup> February inclusive, returning to work on 10<sup>th</sup> February. Our Locum for the Sundays will be Rev'd Julia Boyd. To contact Rev'd Julia please call the Parish phone 0493 280 691 and leave a message. If the matter is urgent please call Keith Thomas 0413 319 327.

### **THANK YOU**

Thank you to all who assisted with the Chamber Orchestra evening.

**CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED** - for anyone who has questions and would like to explore Christian faith, we will be running this course led using videos by Rico Tice and using Mark's Gospel. Begins Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm and runs weekly for 7 weeks.

For information please speak to Janice or take a postcard available in the Narthex.

### **MEN'S BREAKFAST**

The first breakfast of the year will be on Saturday 21st February at 8.30 am. \$6.00 will provide you with egg and bacon roll, coffee and excellent company.

Our speaker will be John Beasey.

RSVP essential to Steve Parkinson by 18th February.

(Confirming your attendance guarantees you are catered for, and keeps Carol happy as she shops for the food!) BYO gluten free bread.

Future breakfast dates for your diary:

April 18<sup>th</sup>, June 20<sup>th</sup>, August 15<sup>th</sup>, October 17<sup>th</sup>, December 12<sup>th</sup> (TBC).

### **YOUTH GROUP**

St Mark's Youth Group resumes at 4pm on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February with games on the beach (if the weather is good) meet at the church and dress appropriately.

### **"EXCLUSIVE OFFER ENDS SOON"**

For fellowship and exercise come along to the following working bees:-  
Monday 23rd February 0930 to 1330 - Vicarage

Tuesday 3rd March 0930 to 1330 or when finished - Church hedges, yukka's and gardens

For your exercise please bring weeders, kneelers, secateurs, loppers, and yourselves.

Please let Graeme King know if you can attend either or both.

As they say "many hands make light work"

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 those who suffered loss in the Wye River flood, and now the Victorian fires.
- ❖ For the people of Venezuela and Iran.
- ❖ For the victims and those who are mourning after the Bondi terrorist attack.
- ❖ 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 like 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 Right Reverend Dr Richard (Ric) Thorpe as Archbishop of Melbourne.
- ❖ 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 All Saints Rosebud with St Katherine's McCrae and their Acting Vicar.
- ❖ Keiron, Vicar of Flinders/Balharring.
- ❖ 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 the Christianity Explored seminars and those participating in them.
- ❖ That the Good News of Jesus will be known in Dromana.
- ❖ For Jen, Brian Van Twest and family, Ian & Adam Rivett and family, TJ and family, Cheryl K, Karen, Mary, Jan K, David, Belinda, Joan R, Robyn, Phillip, Nikki, Jason, Rhiannon, Richard, Pat, Lorna & Peter, Keith S, Harry, Mike, Chloe, Ted, Monica, Jessica, Audrey, Backy, Fred, Robert, David.

Please send items for Pew Sheet to Maggie Dodu by Wednesday:  
[margaretdodu@me.com](mailto:margaretdodu@me.com)