



**ANGLICAN PARISH
OF
ST MARK'S DROMANA**

LIVING FOR JESUS;
LOVING LIKE JESUS;
LEADING TO JESUS

READINGS FOR TODAY

Reading: Genesis 21:8-21
Psalm: 86:1-10,16-17
2nd Reading: Romans 6:1-11
Gospel: Matthew 10:24-39

21 JUNE 14026

PENTECOST 4

REFLECTION

In life there are times when it seems that everything around us is conspiring to stop what we are believing and hoping for. When Abram had not had a child yet after many years, even though he had the Lord's promises, he was discouraged and began to worry about having an heir. God's timing seemed off, or even stopped, as if he had changed his mind. The practical issue that Abram was getting older and his only heir was not even a blood relative weighed on him. Sarai understood, and as was customary at the time, suggested that he could do this through their maid, Hagar, and Abram agreed. Of course, this elevated Hagar's status and she became proud and treated Sarai unkindly. Sarai treated her unkindly in return and Hagar ran away. By a spring in the wilderness an angel of the LORD found her and told her to return home and then gave a promise to her that her son would prosper and God would look after him. Thus, Hagar the maid bore Abram a son whom he named Ishmael, which means 'God hears'. All this happened long before the Lord made a covenant with Abram and changed his name to Abraham and again promised a child through Sarah. It happened long before the visit of the LORD in the three strangers who came and spoke to Abraham and Sarah and again renewed the promise of a son through her. Ishmael's birth was a misstep born from doubt, fear, disappointment and frustration. Although God promised to look after Ishmael, he made it clear that this was not what he wanted. Abraham asked that Ishmael 'live in God's sight'. Meaning that he be counted as an heir. 'No' was the reply. Abram tried to force God's hand and God still looked after Hagar and Ishmael, but if Abram had kept his nerve things would have been far less complicated later on... but that's another story. If life is not bringing what you believe the Lord has promised to you, keep looking to him in faith. He will come through. I know this is hard, so does the Lord, but it's harder to fix our mess if we try to force God's hand. Our God is faithful and he does keep his promises.

Janice

THIS WEEK : 21 - 28 JUNE

- TODAY:** **Holy Communion**, 8.45am
 Family Service, 10.30am
 Parish Council, 1.30pm
- MONDAY:** **Prayers for the Parish, St Mark's**, 4.00pm
 Contact: Janice
- TUESDAY:** **Zoom Bible Study**, 7.00pm
 Contact: Graeme (0490 664 843)
- WEDNESDAY:** **Holy Communion**, 10.00am
 Op Shop Open, 10.00am - 3.00pm
 Bible Study, St Mark's, 11.00am
 Contact: Janice
 Cuppa,Craft & Chat Group, St Mark's,12.30pm
 Contact: Robyn (0409 425 044)
- THURSDAY:** **Women's Bible Study Group**, St Mark's, 9.30am
 Contact: Carol (0411 405 597)
 Op Shop Open, 10.00am - 3.00pm
 Men's Coffee & Chat, Blackthorn Cafe, 10.00am
 Contact: Steve (0437984679) Keith T (0413 319 327)
 Men's Bible Study, Mark's Place, 11.00am
 Contact: Kevin (0438 234 457)
- FRIDAY:** **Janice's Day Off**
 Op Shop Open, 10.00am - 3.00pm
- SATURDAY:** **Op Shop Open**, 10.00am - 2.00pm
- SUNDAY:** **Holy Communion**, 8.45am
 Family Service, 10.30am

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 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

CRAFT GROUP

Due to school holidays there will be no craft group on 1st and 8th of July and no Thursday bible study on 2nd and 9th July.

OP SHOP

If you have a 1/2 a day spare once in a while and would like to assist us in the shop, we have a variety of ways in which you can help out including : Tip Runs , working B's. Weekly sorting, cleaning, sewing counting jigsaw pieces!, or going on the shop roster once a month. Every little helps and we would love to hear from you.
Vicki. 0425770197.

CAN YOU HELP?

We are again putting carry bags in the Samaritan's Purse boxes this year. Could you please look through your fabric box and see if you have any pieces you could donate.

The fabric pieces need to be a minimum of 50cm X 85cm of light weight cotton in cheery prints. They can be given to Edna or put in the box in the narthex.

SAVE THE DATE!

I know this feels awfully early but our Parish Fete will be held on Saturday 5th December so it's time to get those plants and craft projects going. It will be nice and close to Christmas so Christmas presents will be on people's agenda. Put the date in your diary and plan to be part of the fun.

Building Appeal Donations are not Tax Deductible

Account Name – St Mark's Anglican Church Dromana
BSB – 703 122 Account Number – 05010814

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 de-escalation of the Middle East war.
- ❖ For the people of Israel and Iran and Middle East countries.
- ❖ 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 St John's Sorrento with St Andrew's Rye and their Vicar, Rev'd Stephen Dent.
- ❖ Keiron, Vicar of Flinders/Balnarring.
- ❖ 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 the success of our building permit application.
- ❖ For our Parish, its people and those we reach out to every week.
- ❖ For the success of the new Beachside Youth program.
- ❖ For those preparing for baptism.
- ❖ For the 9am at home prayer time for the Parish, Dromana, & Mornington Peninsula.
- ❖ For all members of the Parish Council.
- ❖ That the Good News of Jesus will be known in Dromana.
- ❖ For Doris B, Ellen, Ted & Monica, Lorna, Louise, Jen, TJ and family, Karen, Mary, Jan K, David, Belinda, Joan R, Robyn, Phillip, Nikki, Jason, Rhiannon, Richard, Pat, Keith S, Harry, Mike, Chloe, Jessica, Audrey, Backy, Fred, Robert.

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