



**ANGLICAN PARISH
OF
ST MARK'S DROMANA**
LIVING FOR JESUS;
LOVING LIKE JESUS;
LEADING TO JESUS

READINGS FOR TODAY

Reading: Genesis 25:19-34
Psalm: 119:105-112
2nd Reading: Romans 8:1-11
Gospel: Matthew 13:1-23

12 JULY 2026

PENTECOST 7

REFLECTION

In our Genesis reading for this week, we move on to the birth of Jacob and Esau. Isaac has prayed for Rebekah to have children and she bears twins. The Lord told Rebekah that the older twin would serve the younger, and we see how this happens in the reading for today. Esau was born first but Jacob was born holding on to Esau's heel. Esau is a hunter, Jacob is a home body. After a day out hunting Esau is very hungry. He is so hungry he proclaims that he is famished. Jacob calmly says, 'First sell me your birthright'. This isn't the usual answer anyone would give to a request for food. Maybe Jacob has managed to get other less important things from Esau this way. The text doesn't tell us that, but it does show Jacob's calculating character. Now Esau, focused on his empty stomach and only thinking of his physical needs says, 'I am about to die; what use is a birthright to me?' Jacob says, 'Swear to me first'. Amazingly Esau swears and Jacob serves him a nice big bowl of stew and some bread. Having sold his birthright for some stew, Esau then goes on his way. Jacob gets his prize too easily because Esau is too self-focused to see his mistake. The Lord said it would happen, but the ease with which Esau allowed Jacob to take first place is a lesson in itself. How often are we blinded by our own discomfort and vulnerable to Esau's choice? When we are hungry for something, we can focus on that thing and not keep our mind tuned to the Lord's voice and our eyes open to the things around us. Distracted by discomfort it is easy for the voice of the thief to whisper, 'I can get that for you if you will just do this one thing.' So we give in to the temptation to take the easy way – to use credit rather than saving, to tell a lie, or to sign that paperwork without reading the fine print. In that hungry yes, like Esau we can lose the ability to change track once we realise our mistake. If you've made Esau's choice hand it to the Lord, repent and ask him to forgive you, then surrender the consequences to his grace and let Jesus our Redeemer have his way in them. Praise the Lord that he loves us and can bring good out of evil for his children. We need not be afraid to ask for his help.

Janice

THIS WEEK : 12 - 19 JULY

- TODAY:** **Holy Communion**, 8.45am
 Family Service, 10.30am
 Beachside Youth, 4.00pm
 Mt Eliza Anglican Church, 105 Koetong Pde, Mt Eliza.
 The hall is to the right as you enter off Koetong Pde.
 Plenty of parking on site.
 Evensong at St John's Flinders, 5.00pm
 After the service there will be refreshments
 and a glass of wine in St John's hall
- TUESDAY:** **Zoom Bible Study**, 7.00pm
 Contact: Graeme (0490 664 843)
- WEDNESDAY:** **Holy Communion**, 10.00am
 Op Shop Open, 10.00am - 3.00pm
 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 Council, 1.30pm

Janice will be at the Diocesan Ministry Conference from 14th to 16th July.
For urgent pastoral matters please contact Keith Thomas 0413319327 or
Jan Glass 0421047513 during this time.

OUR PARISH CONTACT NUMBER HAS CHANGED

**Please replace the old number in your contacts with the new one
0494 654 685. Thanks.**

PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

Monitored contact points:	0494 654 685 contact@stmarksdromana.org.au
Interim Pastoral Care Coordinator:	Janice 0401 717 435
Parish Web Address:	www.stmarksdromana.org.au
Facebook page:	stmarksdromana
<u>For Parishioners Only</u>	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

EVENSONG

There will be an Evensong service at St John's Flinders today at 5.00pm. The Byrdsong choral ensemble will be singing Lead Me Lord (Samuel Sebastian Wesley), If Ye Love Me (Thomas Tallis), Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis (H Walford Davies). Guest Speaker: Tatenda Hopkinson - A Journey from Zimbabwe to Balnarring.

After the service there will be refreshments and a glass of wine in St John's hall

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. Please give to Edna or put in the box in the narthex.

LISTENING IN LENT

What We Heard draws together the main themes that emerged from almost 3,000 responses and engagements across the diocese.

It offers an initial summary of the hopes, concerns, prayers, and invitations that were shared, and has helped shape the shared journey now emerging across the diocese.

You can read the summary here: melbourneanglican.org.au/listeninginlent

STEP BACK IN TIME: A SIMPLE BIBLICAL MEAL EXPERIENCE

You are warmly invited to share in a special evening inspired by the simplicity and spirit of meals in Biblical times. Gather around a table where food is shared, not rushed-where conversation, connection, and quiet reflection are part of the experience. Rather than recreating a perfect historical feast, this evening offers a gentle step back in time-an opportunity to experience how people once gathered, ate simply, and connected deeply with one another. All welcome.

Saturday 5th September 2026 6pm to 9pm here at St Mark's

Cost \$33 per person. Bookings via <https://www.trybooking.com/DNRM>

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 Holy Trinity Hastings and their Vicar, Rev'd Tim Anderson.
- ❖ 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 Kevin, Anne, 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