



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

READINGS FOR TODAY

Reading: Genesis 45:1-15
Psalm: 133
2nd Reading: Romans 11:13-36
Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28

16 AUGUST 2026

PENTECOST 12

REFLECTION

In our Genesis reading this week we have the other end of the story of Joseph who was sold into slavery by his brothers. Through several trials, including false accusations and prison, Joseph has been brought into the place his dreams had shown him all those years before. He is second in the land of Egypt only to Pharaoh himself and is now watching his own brothers, who have come from Canaan seeking food because of a famine in the area, bowing down to him. He has the power to harm them. He could repay them for their act of cruelty to him and enslave them in return or send them away with nothing knowing they would starve to death, but Joseph has no such bitterness in his heart. He has forgiven their betrayal and has waited for the fulfilment of God's promises to him. Now he reveals his identity to them and they are truly shocked, then afraid because they know what he could do to them. Instead, Joseph says to them, 'Do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life... God sent before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors'. Joseph now understands his dreams from childhood and sees his role in this family. He even sees God's hand in bringing him to Egypt for this moment in time. There is famine everywhere and he has charge of the food stored in Egypt for feeding the nation during this famine. God knew that to preserve the people of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as his own, they needed Joseph and his grain, so he set this up all those years ago, making sure that Joseph would be there now. What an extraordinary God we have. Not only did he preserve Joseph's life, but he used the cruelty of his brothers to save the people of Israel. We often have misfortunes in our lives and it's easy at those times to become bitter or to decide God doesn't care but God knows the end from the beginning. He is never just a spectator but actively works for the good of his people. The hard things, the heartache, even the deliberate acts of cruelty God can use for our good and his own glory. If you are in hard circumstances hold on to that truth.

Janice

THIS WEEK : 16 - 23 AUGUST

- TODAY:** Holy Communion, 8.45am
Family Service, 10.30am
Parish Council, 1.30pm
- 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: 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
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

JARS FOR JAM

Ellen is making more jam and has asked for small jars.
Please give to Ellen or leave in the Narthex. Thank you.

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.

National Grandparents Conference on Saturday 29th August 9am to 4.30pm
livestreamed online at St Mark's direct from the conference happening in NSW.
Please let Graeme King know this Sunday 16 August afternoon on 0490664843 if you are planning to be there so registrations can be finalised.
Cost \$30 (discounted for a group of 10 or more).

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/DNRMY>

AUSTRALIAN ANGLICAN CHURCH CALENDAR 2027

These are now available at a cost of \$18 each plus postage of \$5.80.
Please contact Keith Thomas by late August if you wish to buy one.
Bulk orders incur reduced costs (depending on numbers ordered).

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 Colombia and all who have suffered in the devastating earthquake.
- ❖ 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 William, 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