



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

READINGS FOR TODAY

Reading: Exodus 3:1-15
Psalm: 105:1-6, 23-26
2nd Reading: Romans 12:9-21
Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28

2330UGUST 2026

PENTECOST 14

REFLECTION

Last week we looked at the first part of this passage in Matthew 16:13-20. We looked at Peter's declaration of who Jesus is – The Messiah, Son of the living God and declared this truth with him. Now let's look at the next part from verse 21. Jesus now teaches his disciples about what being Messiah, Son of the living God means. He tells them that he has come to die at the hands of the very people he has come to save and then to be resurrected on the third day. Peter can't cope with this. He's just discovered the most profound truth about his beloved Rabbi Jesus and now he's told this same man is going to be killed. Nope. You can hear it in the exchange. "Oh no! That can't happen Lord!" But Jesus is not to be persuaded and rebukes Peter. "Get behind me Satan! You are a stumbling block for me; for you are setting your mind not on the things of God but on human things." The strength of the rebuke is striking. Jesus has often corrected his disciples, but this is a direct rebuke of Satan himself and of Peter. What's happening here? Notice that Peter very quickly drops his revelation of Jesus as Son of the living God in the face of the fear of losing him. He is focused on his own fear and his need to prevent that feared thing from happening so much that he speaks words which are what Satan wants to see – rebuking Jesus his Lord for choosing to go to the cross. Immediately Jesus rebukes Satan and speaks to Peter sternly. Satan is told to get out of the way. Peter is told he is a stumbling block. His fear is in the way of God's will and purpose in Jesus and has just been used to serve the enemy of God's people. Jesus points Peter to the problem: his mind is set on human things, not on God's things. Peter, who walked on water without fear only a short while ago, is now blinded by fear of Jesus' death and willing to try to stop it. Peter didn't hear the hope in Jesus' words that said he would rise again. He wasn't focused on Jesus, he was reacting in fear not listening in faith. How often have you seen something awful approaching and reacted in fear, even though it was only a possibility not a certainty? Fear will say there is no hope, but faith speaks life and rebukes the fear. Always, even in the darkest times, Jesus is Lord of all circumstances. Look to Jesus and fear will leave.

Janice

THIS WEEK : 30 AUGUST - 6 SEPTEMBER

- TODAY:** Holy Communion, 8.45am
Family Service, 10.30am
- MONDAY:** Last day for Biblical Meal bookings (extended)
- 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 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
Biblical Meal, St Mark's, 6.00pm
- SUNDAY:** Holy Communion, 8.45am
Family Holy Communion, 10.30am
Healing Service, 5.00pm

Reminder of upcoming events:

Saturday 3rd October Trivia Night 6.45pm for 7pm \$10 per person

Sunday 4th October Bp Paul Barker visiting both services

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

Janice is away on leave from Saturday 22nd August to Friday 4th September inclusive. While she is away, please call Jan Glass 0421 047 513 for any urgent pastoral matters. On Sundays our Locum will be the Rev'd Julia Boyd. Wednesday services will continue as normal..

Thank you to Graham King for organising the **National Grandparents Conference** livestream at St Mark's.

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/DNRMV>

We still have plenty of room at our tables.

The Biblical Meal cut-off date has been extended to allow for those who may have needed one more day to book. No further bookings can be taken after Monday evening at 5pm so that catering can be arranged properly. If you gave your name to Janice please make sure that you are able to pay for your ticket/s on the night, cash or card will be acceptable.

CMS ANNA

7th September - Alf Stanway lecture at Ridley college.

Anna Radkovic our link missionary, now on home assignment, will speak with Wei Han Kuan about her work in Kenya.

(Arrangements will be made to join the livestream together in the church)

CMS ANNA'S VISIT TO ST MARK'S

Saturday 31st October - Sunday 1st November

Exciting and informative events are planned. Details to follow.

CMS SUMMER CONFERENCE

7th & 8th January at Crossway Baptist Church

Early bird tickets are now available online <https://my.cms.org.au/>

Speak with Steve Parkinson for more details.

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 all affected by the Nepal-Tibet floods, particularly for the missing Australians
- ❖ 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 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