



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

LIVING FOR JESUS;
LOVING LIKE JESUS;
LEADING TO JESUS

READINGS FOR TODAY

Reading: Exodus 12:1-14

Psalm: 149

2nd Reading: Romans 13:1-10

Gospel: Matthew 18:10-20

6 SEPTEMBER 2026

PENTECOST 15

REFLECTION

Our state is having an election in November and the political scene has been ramping up for some time. In Paul's time the Roman government wasn't really elected anymore, the democratic processes at the top of the social order had begun to collapse with the rise of the emperor cult. As he writes Romans, he is writing to people who are finding it hard to work within the confines of Roman persecution and the ongoing pressures this produced. In this atmosphere you might think that Paul would write to the Christians recommending civil disobedience or some sort of revolt to free themselves from Roman Tyranny. Instead, Paul recommends that they be subject to their governing authorities because they are there by God's design and purpose. He calls on the Romans to recognise that the Lord is sovereign in appointing our leaders and so revolt against our leaders is revolt against the Lord's plan for them. He points out that government exists to maintain order so those who keep order should not fear the government. Those who disobey and are wrongdoers are those who are subject to punishment. Paul goes on to say we should always pay our taxes – 'revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due, honour to whom honour is due'. What is the take-away from this part of Romans? Governments are not supposed to be agents of evil but of good, and we are supposed to be subject to them in the things which are theirs to govern. For many Christians in Rome, the government was hostile and they had reason to fear it, but Paul has just reminded them in Romans 12 not to repay evil for evil and not to seek revenge, but to recognise the Lord as judge and the only one with the right to bring vengeance. Our response, says Paul, is to care for our enemies and do good to them. In this way we will not be overcome by evil but will overcome evil with good. This is our context for the passage in Romans 13. Even though governments can seem like our enemy, they are given authority over us by the Lord's sovereignty so the call is to live in love for one another and for those around us, to fulfil the law by loving our neighbour and doing no wrong to them. In this way we don't give in to evil but overcome evil with the good which only comes in Jesus. Pray for our politicians and for the candidates for the upcoming election and bless them. Ask the Lord to raise up a good and moral government for this state which will legislate according to his will.

Janice

THIS WEEK : 6 - 13 SEPTEMBER

- TODAY:** Holy Communion, 8.45am
Family Holy Communion, 10.30am
Healing Service, 5.00pm
- TUESDAY:** Zoom Bible Study, 7.00pm
Contact: Graeme (0490 664 843)
Healing Service Planning, 12.15pm
- 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)
Wardens Meeting, 7.30pm
- 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
- SUNDAY:** Holy Communion, 8.45am
Family Service 10.30am
Beachside Youth, 4.00pm - details to follow

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 has some surgery scheduled for next Friday 11th September, so will be back with us this week but on sick leave from Friday 11th for a few days afterwards (not sure how long that will be). A locum minister will be here for the 13th September.

The **Global Week of Prayer for 2026** runs from **6th to 13th September** and is organised by the [24-7 Prayer](#).

This global initiative invites believers across every nation to lift up the name of Jesus and pray for transformation in their communities and the world. We can take part in this by getting together with others or linking up online and through the Lectio 365 App on our phones.

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)

The next **PENINSULA EVENSONG** is at St George's Red Hill.

5pm on Sunday 27th September followed by refreshments.

Everyone welcome.

TRIVIA NIGHT

3rd October 6.45pm for 7pm \$10 per person.

Bookings via Trybooking <https://www.trybooking.com/DNRLV>

This event is part of Senior's Month and bookings can also be made by giving your name to Keith Thomas.

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 Mornington & Mount Martha Church, and their Vicar Rev'd Colleen Clayton.
- ❖ 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