ANGLICAN PARISH OF ST MARK'S DROMANA

LIVING FOR JESUS;
LOVING LIKE JESUS;
LEADING TO JESUS

READINGS FOR TODAY

Reading:	Revelation 7:9-17
Psalm:	34:1-10,22
2nd Reading:	1 John 3:1-3
Gospel:	Matthew 5:1-12

1 NOVEMBER 2026 **ALL SAINTS DAY**

REFLECTION

What is 'blessed'? The word means to be made holy, to be happy, to be a recipient of favour. It can be interpreted in various ways according to the context. In the Beatitudes, our Gospel reading today, it is the state of one who is named in the blessings Jesus pronounces. It follows that we will be holy, happy and favoured if we are 'poor in spirit', 'mourning', 'meek', 'hungry and thirsty for righteousness', 'merciful', 'pure in heart', 'peacemakers', 'persecuted for righteousness sake' or 'reviled and persecuted and spoken evil of falsely on Jesus' account'; but how can we be holy, happy and favoured in those circumstances? Surely not. Yet "Blessed are you if…" says Jesus. To walk God's path is not always going to be easy. If it were Jesus would not have told us to take up our cross and follow him in his sometimes difficult calling. Yet, without Jesus we are nothing, dust which will return to dust and spirits separated from the only true source of life and peace - which is hell indeed. This difficult path requires us to be poor in spirit, humble, mourning the things we lose or perhaps let go for the Lord but knowing the reward is worth it, seeking righteousness and bringing peace and mercy to others' lives, while living each day before God in an attitude of thankfulness, repentance, love and praise which a pure heart can carry because none of the filth of this world can cling to it without permission. We can only walk this path willingly, for to come any other way will mean we give up when the hard things come - but in the end our reward is with us, for Jesus is Lord and we are blessed - holy, happy and favoured by God. All Saints Day is a celebration of our blessing in being part of the company of those who have received through faith, by grace, the righteousness of God. It is a day to recognise that by the grace of our sovereign Lord our place is amongst those whom John writes of in Revelation: 15 For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. 16 They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; 17 for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." Revelation 7:15-17 Happy All Saints Day.

Janice

THIS WEEK : 1 - 8 NOVEMBER

TODAY: Anna will speak at both services today
Holy Communion, 8.45am
Family Holy Communion, 10.30am
No Healing Service tonight

TUESDAY: **Melbourne Cup Day Holiday**
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: **Combined Holy Communion Service,** 10.00am
St Mark's Annual Meeting, 12 noon

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

ELECTORAL ROLL & NOMINATION FORMS

Anyone eligible but not on the Electoral Roll please complete the application form on the bench near the power point and building plans in the Narthex. Nomination Forms for Parish Council are also on the bench. Please note only those on the Electoral Roll can serve on Parish Council.

Nominations close Thursday 5th November.

ST MARK'S DROMANA PARISH ANNUAL MEETING

Our Annual Meeting will be held in the church at 12:00 pm on Sunday 8th November following a combined service at 10:00am.
Electronic copies of the Annual Report will be emailed to all on the Pewsheet mailing list.
Anyone not on the Pewsheet mailing list or who would like a hard copy, please see Keith Thomas.

FÊTE

A reminder that the Parish Fête will be held on Saturday 5th December and we will be looking for volunteers for setting up and pulling down as well as some donations of marquees to use over the stalls. If preparing plants, it would be helpful to have a picture of the flower if not currently in bloom and what the plant is. We have a volunteer who will help with labelling. Please see Janice.

"FOR THE HARVEST"

Here is the link for an electronic copy of 'For the Harvest', Archbishop Ric's vision for our diocese for the next 10 years.
ADM_ForTheHarvest_Strategy2026_Digital.pdf

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 P. 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:

- Helen Haines, her family, and community of Wangaratta.
- For the people of Israel and Iran and Middle East countries..
- 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 All Saints Rosebud with St Katherine's McCrae and their Acting Vicar.
- 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 Janice & family, William, Kevin, Anne, Doris B, Ellen, Ted & Monica, Lorna, Louise, Jen, TJ and family, Karen, Mary, Jan K, David, Belinda, Robyn, Phillip, Nikki, Jason, Rhiannon, Richard, Pat, Keith S, Harry, Mike, Chloe, Jessica, Audrey, Backy, Fred, Robert.

Please send Pew Sheet items to Maggie Dodu by Wednesday:
margaret.dodu@stmarksdromana.org.au