



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

READINGS FOR TODAY

Reading: Exodus 33:12-23
Psalm: 99
2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Gospel: Matthew 22:15-33

18 OCTOBER 2026

PENTECOST 21

REFLECTION

Last week we looked at the vision for our diocese which Archbishop Ric has brought together, based on the responses to the Listening in Lent exercise, the feedback of clergy and others who are working in leadership in ministry across our diocese, and Archbishop Ric's own vision informed by his considerable experience in ministry in the UK. 'For the Harvest' is a document with so much in it that it can't be just skimmed over, yet it is very well presented and written so that it can be understood by all. The link for an electronic copy of this document is in this pewsheet.

As I read 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10, our epistle for this Sunday, the enthusiasm with which the Thessalonians received the gospel, and the way in which they then took it up and out into the region around them rings with the sort of enthusiasm our diocesan vision is hoping to foster in us. This was probably Paul's first ever pastoral letter, his ministry to the Thessalonians being early in his journeys, and it is full of his love for these people and his encouragement to keep going. The Thessalonians had endured persecution very early on and were battling through anyway, determined to get the good news out to others. Paul had sent Timothy to check on them since they had such a rough start, but Timothy's report told him that despite this the Christians of Thessalonica were strong in faith and following through in their discipleship, teaching new Christians how to follow Jesus and spreading the gospel far and wide. Paul was delighted and wrote to build them up and help them to keep going. His emphasis was on how to have healthy relationships and to serve one another humbly with love. Paul wanted them to be truly countercultural and holy in their way of life. He wanted them to recognise that their response to persecution needs always to be love, grace and generosity, and he wanted them to be motivated by hope in the coming kingdom of Jesus, which has already begun with his resurrection from death. This is our calling too, and I pray that we, like the Thessalonians might truly follow Jesus in holiness, love and future hope. May we also be workers for the harvest here.

Janice

THIS WEEK : 18 - 25 OCTOBER

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



ANNA'S VISIT TO ST MARK'S

"Lunch with Anna"



This is the last Sunday to sign up for lunch on 31st October, to enable time to order food.

* Does anyone have a large rice cooker they are willing to loan. All the better if you are able to cook a quantity of rice!

* There are also opportunities to "chop" salad vegetables and peel "things".

* The food for preparation will be provided.

Please contact Carol by SMS. 0411405597 by next Sunday 25th.

PRAISE & WORSHIP SERVICE

On Saturday 31st October at 7pm there will be an 'All Hallows Eve' Praise and Worship service here at St Mark's. Let's come together to praise the Lord and to pray together.

ST MARK'S DROMANA PARISH ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting will be held in the church at 12:00 pm on Sunday 8th November and will follow a combined service at 10:00am.

Annual Reports will be available in printed form from 25th October. Electronic copies can be provided by Keith Thomas.

"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:

- ❖ 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 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