ANGLICAN PARISH OF ST MARK'S DROMANA

LIVING FOR JESUS;
LOVING LIKE JESUS;
LEADING TO JESUS

READINGS FOR TODAY

Reading:	Joshua 24:1-3a,14-25
Psalm:	78:1-7
2nd Reading:	1 Thessalonians 4:9-18
Gospel:	Matthew 25:1-13

8 NOVEMBER 2026 **PENTECOST 24 - REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

REFLECTION

In 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Paul is trying to tackle some of the questions about what happens when we die. People understood the concept of being alive in Christ and being with him when they died, but it seems that they were unsure about the time between now and the return of Jesus. Paul is clear that those who have died in faith are with the Lord and will be raised. He speaks of the day of Jesus' return as the time when all those who have died in the Lord will rise first and we also will meet him 'in the air' at the sound of the trumpet. Is this the rapture that so many discuss today? Yes and no. it appears from Paul's teaching that the final resurrection comes when Jesus returns coming in the clouds, as the angels at the ascension told the disciples. It also says that those who are alive at that time will meet the Lord Jesus in the air and will be with the Lord forever. It does not say anything about those who are not of faith. It makes no mention of people left behind or any sort of being snatched out of tribulation. Where scripture is quiet it is best not to add our ideas, and this scripture is the only clear scripture which says we will meet Jesus in the air, so this is 'the rapture', but without any qualification about what happens to those who do not believe at that time and no detail about what happens to the earth and creation, we need to take care not to read something in which Paul did not say. Paul's intent is to encourage the believers in their faith. He wants them and us to understand the great miracle of resurrection and that nobody is left behind who is of faith – all will be with Jesus forever. He is not looking at what happens if you're not of faith because this is not what's on the minds of his readers. The Thessalonian church is under persecution. The people they know and love who have come to faith are being killed for that faith and the separation of grief is real for them. These words are an assurance that all who die in faith in Jesus Christ are with him, and we will all be reunited when he returns. This is our hope. Even though we die we shall live for we know that our Redeemer lives and will take us to himself.

Janice

THIS WEEK : 8 - 15 NOVEMBER

TODAY: **Remembrance Sunday**
Combined Holy Communion Service, 10.00am
St Mark's Annual Meeting, 12 noon

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: **Vicarage Working Bee,** 9.00am
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**
Funeral of Karl Hiehler here at St Mark's, 10.30am
Op Shop Open, 10.00am - 3.00pm

SATURDAY: **Op Shop Open,** 10.00am - 2.00pm

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

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

NOTICE OF PARISH ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday 8 November, 12.00 noon

All nominations have now closed.

Names of those nominated are posted on the doors at the church.

Thank you to those who have sent questions.

It is with sadness that I must let you know the Karl Hiehler passed away in the early morning of Thursday 5th November.

His funeral will be held at St Mark's on Friday 13th November at 10.30am with refreshments after being held elsewhere - venue TBA. Please keep Rachel and the family in your prayers.

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.

VICARAGE WORKING BEE

Assistance is sought for Vicarage working bee Thursday 12 November commencing at 9am and concluding no later than 12 noon. Please contact Graeme King if you are able to assist and also if anyone has any spare tip voucher to cover the green waste and some landfill.

"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 St John's Sorrento with St Andrew's Rye and their Vicar, Rev'd Stephen Dent.sKeiron, 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 Rachel and her family on the passing of Karl Hiehler, 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