



Western Port Catholic Parish

Newsletter

Immaculate Conception Hastings, St Peter's
Shoreham and St Brendan's Church Somerville

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B, 28 January 2024

PARISH CONTACT

DETAILS

Parish Priest: Fr Shymon
Thekkekalathungal

Parish Secretary:
Hijacinta Svabelj

**Office Hours: 9.30am-
3.00pm (Tuesday-Friday)**

Phone - 5979 4374

PARISH CENTRE:

71 Marine Parade Hastings

POSTAL ADDRESS:

PO Box 76 Hastings 3915

Email:

westernport@cam.org.au

Parish Web Site: [http://
westernportchurch.com.au](http://westernportchurch.com.au)

BAPTISM ENQUIRIES &

COMMUNION TO THE SICK:

Parish Centre 5979 4374

PARISH SCHOOLS:

CRIB POINT St Joseph's
Primary School 5983 9374

HASTINGS St Mary's Pri-
mary School 5979 1959

SOMERVILLE St
Brendan's Primary School
5977 7277

MORNINGTON Padua
College Vice Principal
Matthew Williams 5976 0100

VINNIES OP SHOP 83 High
St Hastings 5979 4373

**St Vincent de Paul Help
Assistance Call Centre**
(9am-noon M-F) 5976 4974

First Reading

[Deuteronomy 18:15-20](#)

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: "Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die;" and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 94:1-2. 6-9](#)

(R.) If today, you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord.

Come in; let us kneel and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.'

Second Reading

[Corinthians 7:32-35](#)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia!

A people in darkness have seen a great light: a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 1:21-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.



In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit, and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside

The Gospel of the Lord.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Discipleship requires a change in us. We want to change because in so many ways we are being strangled to death by demons. We are caught in dysfunction and sin; we live in the midst of the battle between good and evil, the struggle of human finitude and failure. We are plunged into the throes of human suffering and pain, and there seems to be no escape.

The demonic seduces us in more ways than we can count and we are often caught in its web before we recognise what has happened. There have always been many and varied voices that claim to have the remedy for our ills. Preachers and politicians have stirred up crowds and ignited their emotions. Promises have been made and predictions advanced, yet the conflict goes on, the demons continue to hold sway. The demon recognised the authority in the voice of Jesus. Do we recognise it?

When we are released by Jesus from the demons that possess us, we are freed from the stranglehold of evil and liberated to live far less encumbered and divided lives. No Earthly reality will possess us, neither relationships nor obligations nor even religious practices. Rather, we will be possessed by Christ who liberates us for the reign of God. Therefore, whether married or unmarried, whether in the midst of the community or at its margins, we will be able to heed the voice of God in our hearts and to recognise Jesus in our midst.

REFLECTION FOR YOUTH

SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

The Messianic Secret

A feature of the Gospel of Mark is an element of secrecy and confusion that surrounds Jesus' identity. He silences demons who would announce his identity and warns those he heals to be quiet about what has occurred. There is a real lack of understanding displayed by the disciples about who Jesus is. At one point, Jesus asks the disciples, "who do you think I am?" They identify him as the Messiah but immediately demonstrate that they don't really understand what that means. The theme that runs through the gospel is a developing understanding of what it means that Jesus is the Messiah.

Western Port Parish is committed to making our Church a safe place for children and young people and protect them from harm.

LITURGIES THIS WEEK, 29 January—4 February

MONDAY

No Service

TUESDAY 9.30am Mass at Somerville

WEDNESDAY No Service

THURSDAY 9.30am Mass at Hastings

FRIDAY 9.30am Mass at Hastings

SATURDAY

6.00pm Mass at St Brendan's Church, Somerville

SUNDAY

8.00am Mass at St Peter's Church, Shoreham

10.00am Mass at Immaculate Conception Church Hastings

PRAYERS AND PETITIONS

Please pray for those who are sick, especially Mary Sloan, Paula Murphy, Tony Brown, Pat Tagliabue, Michael Pound, John Kelly, Janice Danaher, Vicky Mathis, Edna Walsh, Jane Maria, Frank Tagliabue, Oliver Munoz, Kathy Burke, Frank Howard, Paul Creed, Geoff Hardingham, Mike Mason, Leo Gilfedder, Kevin Paganoni, Elaine Duyvestyn, James Smythe, Lucy Triffett, Helena Jaskolski, Oscar Dixon-Rotherham, Margaret Sherlock and all those who need our prayers. May they receive the Lord's comfort and strength.

Please pray for those who have died recently, especially Margaret Thompson and Mary Hines, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially Antonina Pellicano and Mary Marx. May they rest in peace.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL APPEAL:

We are in need of Pasta & Sauces, Cans of Tuna, Salmon, Meat & Vegetables, Tins of Soup, Tinned fruit, tins of vegetables, Spaghetti, Baked Beans, Diced Tomatoes. Spreads such as Jam, Peanut Butter, Vegemite, Honey. Packets of Sweet and Dry biscuits, Cereal, Tea and Coffee, Long Life Milk, Rice, Two Minute noodles and Cup of Soup packets, and toilet-ries. Please **do not** donate Sugar, Powdered Milk or Cheese Spreads. Thank you for your ongoing support!

NAMES ON ROSTERS BELOW FOR MASSES NEXT WEEKEND 3/2 & 4/2/2024

-MINISTRY	Somerville	Shoreham	Hastings	Piety Stall	
Lector	Marie Ernestine	Joan White	Brian Stahl	Flowers Hastings	
Eucharistic Ministers	Mary Marshall	Sylvia Falzon	Sarah Ernestine Barbara Farley	Mass Welcomer Hastings	Maggie Parsons
Commentator	Sandy Adolphus	Anthony Grimes	Tom Leyden	Counters This Week	Helga Crinis, Judy Deefholts
Altar Linen		FEBRUARY—Sylvia Falzon		Counters Next Week	Heiman Sissing, Hijacinta Svabelj
Mass Prep	Christine Coleman	FEBRUARY—Anne Maree Dyer		Statue of Our Lady	
Flowers	Paula Street	Somerville Maintenance	Hastings Maintenance Team	Communion to the Sick This Week	Group 1 - Group 2 —Anne-Marie Lawson
Cleaning	FEBRUARY—Christine Coleman				

LADIES LUNCH

Friday 2nd Feb 12 pm at the Westernport Hotel.

Please call Val 0409 774 919 or Paula on
0423 004 921

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AT HASTINGS – POSTPONED FOR ONE WEEK

This February, Eucharistic Adoration at Hastings is going to be held on February 9th, at 8.30am.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024— PALESTINE

Friday, 1 March at 1:30pm at St Peter's Church —7 Byrnes Road Shoreham 3916

Contact person: Ann Lorkin—5989 8835

LITURGY MEETING

There will be Liturgy meeting on Thursday, 8 February at 2.00pm, at Parish Activity Centre Hastings

DONATION TAP MACHINES

Tap machine for donations are now available at each mass centres. This is designed to accommodate individuals who prefer electronic transactions using credit or debit cards. The machines have four different pay options or you can select the amount you wish to pay to support the parish and parish house accounts. Your support is greatly appreciated, and we thank you for your generosity.



PARISH VOLUNTEERS

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK AND ONLINE TRAINING

Is your Working With Children Check registered with our Parish Secretary? Please forward your current card details to the Parish Secretary at the office in Hastings or via email to westernport@cam.org.au.

Training online and signed Code of Conduct should be completed at the link below and details posted/emailed to the Parish Secretary. Face to face training (one session) will be offered during the year after mass at a date to be notified. [Safeguarding Children Training | Westernport Church](#)

Thanks to all those who already provided their details and completed their online training.

Offertory Giving Campaign

Dear Parishioners,

On the weekend of the **10th/11th of February**, we will commence our **Offertory Giving Campaign** in our parish community, which will run over a three-week period. Giving generously is a way to deepen our faith and is a vital part of our identity as Christian worshippers. You are encouraged to engage prayerfully with the content presented and provided over this time and we look forward to growing and going deeper in our relationship with Christ through this process.

Fr Shymon

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Scripture says, "God loves a cheerful giver". Westernport parish is blessed with lot of cheerful givers in many ways. I really acknowledge and appreciate for all your assistance to the parish through the gifts that you have received from God. Many of you do your maximum! That's the beauty of this parish. However, I would like to encourage more people young and aged to share your experience and enthusiasm by being part of parish's different teams.

If you feel that you have some time to spare for the better governing of the parish, kindly hands up for your interest to be part of the various parish teams, Such as: Parish Leadership Team, Finance Team, Liturgy Team, RCIA Team, St Vincent De Paul Team, Communication Team, Child Safeguarding Team and Sacristans.

Please leave your details at the foyer of our churches or at the Parish Centre. Fr Shymon

PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY PLACES IN EUROPE

Fr Richard Rosse would like to invite you for an 14-day pilgrimage departing on 21st May 2024. This pilgrimage features Fatima, Valladolid, Lourdes, Nice, Siena, Rotondo and Rome for all-inclusive price of \$8190. The fare includes Return Economy Airfares + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + All Breakfasts & Dinners + Catholic Priest + English speaking professional guides. For enquiries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or 1300 721 561 or email us pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au.

Total givings from the week 19/1/-24/1/24

1 st Collection – Presbytery	\$917.85
2 nd Collection – Church Account (Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards and cheques)	\$1011.45

Thank you for your ongoing support!