



## Western Port Catholic Parish

### Newsletter

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

#### 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B, 4 February 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](mailto: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

Job 7:1-4. 6-7

##### A reading from the prophet Job

Job began to speak:

Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, his time no better than hired drudgery? Like the slave, sighing for the shade, or the workman with no thought but his wages, months of delusion I have assigned to me, nothing for my own but nights of grief.

Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?' Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!' Restlessly I fret till twilight falls. Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind. Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy.

##### The word of the Lord.

##### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 146:1-6

**(R.) Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.**

Praise the Lord for he is good; sing to our God for he is loving:  
to him our praise is due. **(R.)**

The Lord builds up Jerusalem and brings back Israel's exiles,  
he heals the broken-hearted, he binds up all their wounds.  
he fixes the number of the stars; he calls each one by its name. **(R.)**

Our Lord is great and almighty; his wisdom can never be measured.  
The Lord raises the lowly; he humbles the wicked to the dust. **(R.)**

##### Second Reading

1 Corinthians 9:16-19. 22-23

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

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessing.

##### The word of the Lord.

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering. **Alleluia!**

**Gospel**

Mark 1:29-39

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark**

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straight-away. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA**

Today we see three snapshots from the photo album of life.

Suffering comes to everyone. It can take such a hold of us that the happiness of the past is swallowed up, the beauty of better days is forgotten, and the hope of a brighter future is imperilled. Life ceases to be an adventure and takes on the guise of drudgery. At such times suffering appears to be our permanent fate, and life seems too short for suffering to run its course. If we become identified with our distress, we will be tormented. Jesus knew the harshness of life, because he was one of us. He saw it in the lives of those he loved, and he was touched by their torment. He came to release people from the demons that possess them, from the illness that undermined their lives. He came to bring the reign of God, the reign of peace and fulfilment. He came to heal the brokenhearted, to bind up their wounds.

Paul was a messenger of this gospel of salvation and fulfilment.

He was so committed to his mission that he empathised with all those who heard his preaching – the slaves, the weak, the brokenhearted, all those who knew well the harshness of life.

Now it is our turn. We are the disciples who must bring the good news to the brokenhearted, to those who are enslaved, to those who are weak. We are the ones who will then share in the blessings of this good news.

**REFLECTION FOR YOUTH****LIVING  GOSPEL****Prayer**

*In the midst of an extremely hectic 24 hours where Jesus effectively launches his public ministry, Jesus takes time to go aside to a lonely place and pray. The passage tells us that it was 'long before dawn' that he did this. It may have been his usual practice to pray early in the morning or he may have been restless after the events of the previous day and the thought of what lay ahead. Nevertheless, Jesus provides us with a model of using prayer to reflect on events and to prepare ourselves for the day ahead.*

**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, 5 February—11 February**

**MONDAY** No Service

**TUESDAY 9.30am** Mass at Somerville

**WEDNESDAY 9.00am** Mass at Shoreham

**THURSDAY 9.30am** Mass at Hastings

**FRIDAY 9.00am** Eucharistic Adoration at Hastings  
**9.30am** Mass at Hastings

**SATURDAY**

**10.00-10.30am—Reconciliation at Hastings**

**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

*For the school Masses this week, please see the following page.*

**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, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially Leo 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-tries. Please **do not** donate Sugar, Powdered Milk or Cheese Spreads. Thank you for your ongoing support!

**NAMES ON ROSTERS BELOW FOR MASSES NEXT WEEKEND 10/2 & 11/2/2024**

<b>-MINISTRY</b>	<b>Somerville</b>	<b>Shoreham</b>	<b>Hastings</b>		
<b>Lector</b>	Lanii Birks	Damian Ireland	Tom Leyden	<b>Mass Welcomer Hastings</b>	Barbara Farley
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Sandy Adolphus	Val Fakhry	Lioba Robinson Isabel Wilson	<b>Counters This Week</b>	Heiman Sissing, Hijacinta Svabelj
<b>Commentator</b>	Sarah Ernestine	Clare Shearman	Michael Binney	<b>Counters Next Week</b>	Kees & Genevieve Meyer
<b>Altar Linen</b>		FEBRUARY—Joan Power		<b>Statue of Our Lady</b>	
<b>Mass Prep</b>	Mary Marshall	FEBRUARY—Margaret Grant		<b>Communion to the Sick This Week</b>	Group 1 - Group 2—Mary Marshall
<b>Flowers</b>	Maree Chapman	<b>Somerville Maintenance</b>		<b>Hastings Maintenance Team</b>	
<b>Cleaning</b>	FEBRUARY—Christine Coleman	Bill & Anne-Marie Lawson			

## LITURGY MEETING

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

## 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

## SCHOOL MASSES THIS WEEK

### • **WEDNESDAY, February 7th**

BEGINNING OF THE YEAR ST MARY'S MASS - Immaculate Conception Church at 2:00 pm.

### • **FRIDAY, February 9th**

BEGINNING OF THE YEAR ST JOSEPH'S MASS & STAFF COMMISSIONING MASS -

St Joseph's School at 2:00 am

## **LENT 2024 WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY, BRUCE DOWNES**

Lent is a time when we can grow closer to God and prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Easter. Be inspired. Be refreshed. Be renewed! For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful.

This program is FREE and you can sign up here: <https://BruceDownes.org/Lent>

## **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](mailto: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. [Safe-guarding Children Training | Westernport Church](#)

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

## Offertory Giving Campaign

Dear Parishioners,

Next weekend, we will commence our Offertory Giving Campaign in our parish community, which will run over the next three weeks. Please pray for our community as we enter into this time of discernment. Our offering is a powerful witness and a personal prayer. 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

## **HOW TO ENTER INTO THE YEAR OF PRAYER**

To prepare for the 2025 Jubilee Year, the **Holy Father** has called for a Year of Prayer, a time of 'rediscovering the great value and absolute need for prayer, prayer in personal life, in the life of the Church, prayer in the world'. **Archbishop Peter A Comensoli**, who was recently in Rome, has recorded a special message for the local church of Melbourne in which he suggests three simple prayers to help us enter into this time of preparation.

Continue reading: [Archbishop Comensoli on how to enter into the Year of Prayer](#)



## **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

## **Total givings from the week 25/1/-1/2/24**

1 <sup>st</sup> Collection – Presbytery	\$972.05
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection – Church Account (Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards and cheques)	\$1673.90

Thank you for your ongoing support!