



Westernport Catholic Parish Newsletter

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

3rd Sunday of Easter- Year B, 14 April 2024

PARISH CONTACT

DETAILS

Parish Priest: Fr Shymon
Thekkekalathungal

Parish Secretary:
Hijacinta Svabelj

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

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PARISH CENTRE:

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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

Acts 3:13-15. 17-19

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter said to the people 'You are Israelites, and it is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, who has glorified his servant Jesus, the same Jesus you handed over and then disowned in the presence of Pilate, after Pilate had decided to release him. It was you who accused the Holy One, the Just One, you who demanded the reprieve of a murderer while you killed the prince of life. God, however, raised him from the dead, and to that fact we are the witnesses.

'Now I know, brothers, that neither you nor your leaders had any idea what you were really doing; this was the way God carried out what he had foretold, when he said through all his prophets that his Christ would suffer. Now you must repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 4:2. 4. 7. 9.

(R.) Lord, let your face shine on us.

When I call, answer me, O God of justice;
from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear me! **(R.)**

It is the Lord who grants favours to those whom he loves;
the Lord hears me whenever I call him. **(R.)**

'What can bring us happiness?' many say.
Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord. **(R.)**

I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once,
for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 John 2:1-5

A reading from the first letter of St John

I am writing this, my children, to stop you sinning; but if anyone should sin, we have our advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, who is just; he is the sacrifice that takes our sins away, and not only ours, but the whole world's.

We can be sure that we know God only by keeping his commandments. Anyone who says, 'I know him', and does not keep his commandments, is a liar, refusing to admit the truth. But when anyone does obey what he has said, God's love comes to perfection in him.

The word of the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:
make our hearts burn with love when you speak.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread.

They were still talking about this when Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you!' In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. But he said, 'Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have.'



And as he said this he showed them his hands and feet. Their joy was so great that they could not believe it, and they stood dumbfounded; so he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes.

Then he told them, 'This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms, has to be fulfilled.' He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The first sentence of the gospel reading sets the context for the themes of today: 'Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.' Who is the Jesus that they recognised? And what does this recognition require?

Jesus is the servant of the God of the early ancestors, the long awaited messiah, and the innocent sufferer portrayed in the prophetic tradition. He is the fulfilment of our deepest aspirations. When we gather around the table for the sacramental meal, we encounter the Risen Lord. There the sacred traditions of our religious heritage are opened for us and we are enabled to recognise him in the traditions and in the breaking of the bread. In order to encounter the Risen Lord in the breaking of the bread and in the breaking open of the word, we need docile hearts ready to embrace the deepest meaning of our religious heritage. We need hearts that have been purified in the love of God; hearts that have been totally transformed. The commandment of love requires nothing less.

Having recognised the Risen Lord, we, like the people described in the first reading, must live reformed lives. Having recognised the Risen Lord, we, like the people addressed in the second reading, must be obedient to God's commandment of love. Having recognised the Risen Lord, we, like the disciples portrayed in the gospel, must preach the good news of God's forgiveness to all nations. Easter faith assures us that all of this is possible.



**Have you
thought?
Is 'Literal' wrong?**

Is there really something intrinsically wrong about a literal interpretation of scripture? Not at all! It is indeed an essential tool of any scriptural interpretation. It is of course important that we first and foremost understand the text as it is written – we have to have a literal understanding of the words that are used and what they mean. The problem arises when this is as far as we go. If we stop at this stage then we are shutting ourselves off from the richness of the scriptures. If we fail to dig below the surface then we are denying ourselves the opportunity of scrutinising our lives in the light of the scripture.

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, 15 April—21 April

MONDAY No Service

TUESDAY 9.30am Mass at Somerville

WEDNESDAY 9.00am Mass at Shoreham

THURSDAY 9.30am Mass at Hastings

FRIDAY 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**

PRAYERS AND PETITIONS

Please pray for those who are sick, especially Mary Sloan, Paula Murphy, Pat Tagliabue, Frank Tagliabue, Michael Pound, John Kelly, Janice Danaher, Vicky Mathis, Edna Walsh, Jane Maria, Oliver Munoz, Kathy Burke, Frank Howard, Paul Creed, Geoff Hardingham, Mike Mason, Leo Gilfedder, 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 Emelia Doncovio and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

May they rest in peace.

Caritas Australia's Sudan Crisis Appeal

Following the outbreak of conflict in Sudan a year ago, 25 million people - including 14 million children - now need humanitarian assistance and support, according to the [United Nations](https://www.un.org/). 9 million have been displaced from their homes making Sudan the largest displacement crisis in the world! Damage to infrastructure has impacted access to food, water, healthcare services... Sudan now teeters on the edge of a famine. **Please donate to Caritas Australia's Sudan Crisis Appeal.** You can donate online www.caritas.org.au/sudan or phone 1800 024 413



SUDAN CRISIS APPEAL
25 million people including 14 million children are in dire need of humanitarian assistance.

DONATE NOW www.caritas.org.au/sudan
1800 024 413

NAMES ON ROSTERS BELOW FOR SERVICES NEXT HOLY WEEK, 20/4 & 21/4/2024

-MINISTRY	Somerville	Shoreham	Hastings		
Lector	Christine Coleman	John Patterson	Lioba Robinson	Mass Welcomer Hastings	Virginia Carey
Eucharistic Ministers	Louise Street	Joan Power	Paula Stokes Maggie Parsons	Counters This Week	Helga Crinis Judy Deefholts
Commentator	Sandy Adolphus	Sylvia Falzon	Michael Binney	Counters Next Week	Kees & Genevieve Meyer
Altar Linen		APRIL—Catherine Russ		Statue of Our Lady	
Mass Prep	Val Baxter	APRIL—Catherine Russ		Communion to the Sick This Week	Group 1 - Group 2—Fr Shymon
Flowers	Sandy Adolphus	Somerville Maintenance—		Hastings Maintenance Team	
Cleaning	APRIL—Louise Street	Bill & Anne-Marie Lawson			

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Next Sunday we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday - the **World Day of Prayer for Vocations**. During this coming week, perhaps you may like to make a prayer each day for more vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Perhaps there is a young person you may know to pray for by name this week.

SAVE THE DATE

Friday 17th of May 2024
Casserole Fundraiser Dinner

Parish Community Room in Hastings
Proceeds to help with Memorial Garden at St Brendan's Church. Tickets \$30.00 per head on sale from 13th April at all Mass Centres

ANZAC DAY BADGES

This Sunday, on **14 April** in St Peter's Shoreham, and next Sunday, **21 April** in Hastings church, you would be able to buy Anzac Day badges from our Richard Mucha after the Sunday Masses in both churches.



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Our **Sacramental Program** for children who do not attend our Parish Primary Schools will be commencing the first week of Term 2 for **Reconciliation and First Eucharist** and then late June for **Confirmation**.

You can find and download Application forms on our **Western Port Parish website**, under **Sacramental Program**, or, alternatively, you can contact the Parish Office.

NEW VATICAN DOCUMENT OUTLINES ATTACKS ON HUMAN DIGNITY

Being a Christian means defending human dignity, the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith says in a new declaration, 'Dignitas infinita' ('Infinite Dignity'). Continue reading: [New Vatican document outlines attacks on human dignity](#)

THANK YOU!

A sincere thanks to all of our Parishioners of three Mass centres who participated and helped with our Holy Week ceremonies, it was greatly appreciated. Special thanks to all the volunteers who have helped in any way during these very important week. Also, congratulations to our Parishioners—Linda, Charlotte and Jared - who have entered into Catholic church on Easter Vigil. Thank you and may God bless you!

Fr Shymon



PARISH MINISTRIES

For everyone who's able and willing to volunteer in the Parish activities, Volunteer Forms are available to take at all Mass Centres, on the welcoming table. The commitments are for the year, commencing Pentecost Sunday for the following 12 months. If unavailable to fulfil any ministry for which you sign up, you would need to find a replacement by phoning one of the numbers on the particular roster.

Many parishioners already assist by doing various tasks in our Parish and we are thankful for that. **If you are already on a Roster this year, you still need to place your name on the new Volunteer List.**

Please return forms by Sunday, 12th of May.

INFORMATION SESSION FOR THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and 60 years, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. COME & SEE! An Information Session about the Permanent Diaconate will be held on **4 May 2024 Saturday, 10:00 - 11.45 am at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), 278 Victorian Parade, East Melbourne**. For more information: The Vocations website for the Archdiocese is available.

Contact: Office of the Permanent Diaconate (Phone) 03 9412 3357 (Email) diaconate@cam.org.au

Total givings from the week, 5/4-11/4/24

Thanksgiving 1 st Collection – Presbytery	- \$856.95
2nd Collection – Church Account (<i>Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards, cheques and envelopes, including annual givings</i>)	- \$1790.50
Loose	- \$436.15

Thank you for your ongoing support!