



Westernport Catholic Parish Newsletter

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

5th Sunday of Easter- Year B, 28 April 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:

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POSTAL ADDRESS:

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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 9:26-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus. The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 21:26-28. 30-32

R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

My vows I will pay before those who fear him.

The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.
May their hearts live for ever and ever! **(R.)**

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families of the nations worship before him.
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. **(R.)**

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:
'These things the Lord has done.' **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 John 3:18-24

A reading from the first letter of St John

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything.

My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

John 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit. **Alleluia!**

John 15:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John



Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me.

I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away - he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today we reflect on the way salvation brings an ecclesial community into being. This community is joined to Jesus as branches are part of the vine. It is a multi-faceted community, devoted to good works and to prayer.

The image of the vine and the branches is an intimate characterisation of the community of believers who share the same divine life. This community thrives on Christ's resurrected life that surges through all of its members. The early church was a multi-ethnic community. It included inhabitants from Jerusalem, Judea, Galilee, Samaria and even Damascus. Some of these people were firmly rooted in Jewish customs, others were more Greek in their culture. It was the fulfilment of the promises made so often in the past, that the saving power of God would reach the whole world.

Our own ecclesial community of believers is also multi-ethnic. Where formerly parishes or liturgical assemblies might be made up of people of only one ethnic identity or economic status, today there is much greater diversity and rapid change of character. Like the early Christians, we too are often suspicious of newcomers. In the face of all of this variety, we are called to open our hearts to the various manifestations of God's power and to fashion a community that gives glory to God. Today's readings remind us that we demonstrate our love for God and for each other in the way we live. Joined to Christ as branches are part of the vine, we too are enlivened and thereby bear fruit in abundance.



Catholic Theological College

Sign up for one of 9 short, online sessions.

Engaging Your Faith: May 2024

CATHOLIC
THEOLOGICAL
COLLEGE

*Theology, Scripture, Meditation,
Spirituality, Science & Faith.*



UNIVERSITY
OF DIVINITY

Choose what interests you from \$25 per session.

For more information and to register: ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith/

ONLINE ROSARY PRAYER

As the month of May approaches, Catholic Mission would like to invite our parish to join them in online prayer to mark the traditional time for Marian devotions. Catholic Mission will host the recitation of the **Rosary every day (from Monday to Friday) in May.**

Time: Mon-Fri 2pm

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://tinyurl.com/cmprayer>

Meeting ID: 893 8798 2280

Password: 876574

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 April—5 May

MONDAY No Service

TUESDAY 9.30am Mass at Somerville

WEDNESDAY 9.00am Mass at Shoreham

THURSDAY 9.30am Mass at Hastings

FIRST FRIDAY 9.00am Eucharistic Adoration

9.30am Mass at Hastings

SATURDAY

10.00am-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

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, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

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 toiletries. Please **do not** donate Sugar, Powdered Milk or Cheese Spreads.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

NAMES ON ROSTERS BELOW FOR SERVICES NEXT WEEK, 4/5 & 5/5/2024

-MINISTRY	Somerville	Shoreham	Hastings		
Lector	Judy Deefholts	Tim Dyer	Jesela Baxter	Mass Welcomer Hastings	Millie Payten
Eucharistic Ministers	Sandy Adolphus	Ann Lorkin	Lioba Robinson Isobel Wilson	Counters This Week	Barbara & Gerald O'Brien
Commentator	Tracey Clark	Pauline D'Astoli	Sarah Ernestine	Counters Next Week	Stephen Stewart Ian Marshall
Altar Linen		MAY—Anne Marie Dyer		Statue of Our Lady	
Mass Prep	Mary Marshall	MAY—Margaret Grant		Communion to the Sick This Week	Group 1 - Group 2—Mary Marshall
Flowers	Maree Chapman	Somerville Maintenance— Tony & Kath Rolfe			
Cleaning	MAY—Christine Coleman				

CatholicCare Victoria Appeal—Next

Sunday

Next weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. CatholicCare Victoria delivers programs and services to support families, children, young people and individuals to help everyone reach their full potential. The services include counselling and mental health services, specialised support for children and teens, refugee and asylum seeker help, pastoral care, support for separating families, social housing, homelessness...

Please donate to the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. Your support and generosity will help provide caring and compassionate support for struggling individuals and families in our community. **You can donate using the appeal envelopes which will be available in our parish, donate online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9287 5513.**



LADIES LUNCH

Friday 3rd May 12 pm at the Westernport Hotel.

Please call Val 0409 774 919 if you would like to attend.

ST BRENDAN'S NEWS

Thank you to all of the parishioners who are keeping in their prayers the children from St Brendan's who are preparing to receive the sacrament of First Reconciliation in May.

Thank you, particularly to the St Brendan's parishioners who have so warmly welcomed the students and their families at the commitment Masses in March and April. We hope to see you at our school Masses this Term, especially for **The Feast of St Brendan on May 16th at 11:30 am.**

SAUSAGE SIZZLE

There will be Sausage Sizzle this **Sunday the 28th of April** at **Hastings Church** after the 10.00am Mass. All are welcome!

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Our **Sacramental Program** for children who do not attend our Parish Primary Schools will be run in 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.

SAVE THE DATE

Friday 17th of May 2024

Casserole Fundraiser Dinner

Parish Community Room in Hastings

Come along for a buffet style Casserole Dinner with dessert, tea and coffee provided -BYO alcohol and soft drinks.

Looking forward to having some fundraising fun to help with the cost of the proposed Memorial Garden at St Brendan's Church.

Tickets are \$30.00 each and will be on sale at each Mass centre after Mass.

PARISH MINISTRIES

More volunteers needed! 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.

Working With Children Check

It is a **requirement** of the Archdiocese of Melbourne that all Parishes keep a Register of all those who volunteer within the Parish so you will need to have a current Working With Children Check. To apply for one as a volunteer is free, just go to <http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/> and click on Applications - Apply for Check and follow the instructions.

If you have any queries, please contact the - Parish Office 5979 4374.

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

For all those Parishioners who opted for donating through the **weekly envelopes**, please note your sets of envelopes are going to be ready to be picked up in the foyers of our churches at the end of June.

Total givings from the week, 19/4-25/4/24

Thanksgiving 1 st Collection – Presbytery	-	\$817.70
2nd Collection – Church Account (<i>Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards, cheques and envelopes</i>)		\$476.50
Loose		\$367.30
Tap donations		\$176.99

Thank you for your ongoing support!