



## Westernport Catholic Parish Newsletter

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

**6th Sunday of Easter- Year B, 5 May 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

Acts 10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48

#### A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up', he said 'I am only a man after all!'

Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

**The word of the Lord.**

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 97:1-4

**R. The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.**

Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders.  
His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. **(R.)**

The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations.  
He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. **(R.)**

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.  
Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. **(R.)**

### Second Reading

1 John 4:7-10

#### A reading from the first letter of St John

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love.

God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

**The word of the Lord.**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them and we will come to them. **Alleluia!**

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



Jesus said to his disciples: 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you.

I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to

you everything I have learnt from my Father. You did not choose me, no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask in my name. What I command you is to love one another.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA**

The boundlessness of God's love is seen in the fact that God loved us even before we were deserving of God's love. In fact, it was God's love that made us able both to receive and to give love in return. Love is of God; love is God. Divine love is constant and trustworthy. How easily we can think this thought or speak these words, yet how difficult, even impossible, it is to comprehend what it means. We can only really recognise love in its many concrete manifestations. Love is patient, kind and forbearing; it believes, it hopes, it endures. The love of God breaks down the barriers between Gentile and Jew, between slave and free, between the poor and the prosperous, between women and men, between the healthy and the ailing, between young and old.

Embraced by such love we are gradually transformed. We begin to recognise God's love in places we never suspected it would be found. We discover that what we once judged unclean may merely be an unfamiliar openness to God's truth. We discover that our own insistence on legitimate religious practice may really be spiritual elitism. Our eyes are opened to ways we have tried to confine God's love to the conventional boundaries we ourselves have set. As we are drawn into God's love, we eagerly embrace the commandments that help us to live righteous lives. To the extent that we love as universally as God does, we will know that we live in God and that God lives in us.

**PARISH VOLUNTEERS**

**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.

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

**REFLECTION FOR YOUTH**

**Living the gospel**

**Love One Another**

*Have you ever thought what it really means when Jesus commands us to love one another? At first, it seems like a simple commandment: I can love my family; my friends; I can even feel love for some people I've never met. But there was a condition that Jesus placed on the command: love one another as I have loved you. How did Jesus love? Without restriction and without seeking something in return. He loved those that no one loved and he even loved those who hated him and sought his downfall. Can I love those who hate me? Those that others ridicule and despise? Can I love without counting the cost?*

**LITURGIES THIS WEEK, 6 May—12 May**

**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**

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

**6.00pm Family Mass at St Brendan's Church, Somerville**

**SUNDAY**

**8.00am Family Mass at St Peter's Church, Shoreham**

**10.00am Family Mass at Immaculate Conception Church  
Hastings**

**PRAYERS AND PETITIONS**

*Please pray for those who are sick, especially Tommy Judge, 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 Cathrina (Tina) De Groot and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially Alberto Panggapalan Jr.*

*May they rest in peace.*

**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.

**JESUS YOUTH CELEBRATED 20 YEARS IN AUSTRALIA**

From 25 to 28 April 2024, more than 700 people gathered each day at Belgrave Heights Convention Centre to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Jesus Youth in Australia. Archbishop **Peter A Comensoli** celebrated Mass in a packed-out auditorium for the feast of St Mark the Evangelist. Continue reading: [‘Christ walks with you’: Jesus Youth celebrates 20 years in Australia](#)

**NAMES ON ROSTERS BELOW FOR SERVICES NEXT WEEK, 11/5 & 12/5/2024**

<b>-MINISTRY</b>	<b>Somerville</b>	<b>Shoreham</b>	<b>Hastings</b>		
<b>Lector</b>	Maree Chapman	Anthony Grimes	Marie Ernestine	<b>Mass Welcomer Hastings</b>	Barbara Farley
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Val Baxter	Margaret Grant	Paula Stokes Maggie Parsons	<b>Counters This Week</b>	Stephen Stewart Ian Marshall
<b>Commentator</b>	Sandy Adolphus	Joan White	Brian Stahl	<b>Counters Next Week</b>	Heiman Sissing Hijacinta Svabelj
<b>Altar Linen</b>		MAY—Anne Marie Dyer		<b>Statue of Our Lady</b>	
<b>Mass Prep</b>	Val Baxter	MAY—Margaret Grant		<b>Communion to the Sick This Week</b>	Group 1 - Group 2—Judy Deefholts
<b>Flowers</b>	Val Baxter	<b>Somerville Maintenance—</b>			
<b>Cleaning</b>	MAY—Christine Coleman		Sandy Adolphus		

## CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal

This weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. CatholicCare Victoria works with individuals, families and communities to build strength, resilience, and empowerment to reach their full potential. Your generous donation will help the most vulnerable members of our community – those facing unemployment and homelessness, those experiencing mental health challenges, families struggling with relationship problems, people in hospitals and prisons, newly arrived refugees, and those experiencing grief and trauma. Please donate to CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. You can **donate using the appeal envelopes which are available in our parish, donate online at [www.catholiccarevic.org.au](http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au) or call (03) 9287 5513.** All gifts of \$2 and above are tax deductible.



### 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.

### MAY, THE MONTH OF MARY

May is traditionally dedicated in a special way to honoring and seeking the intercession of Mary as the Mother of God and Mother of the Church.



**"She is that woman who rejoiced in the presence of God, who treasured everything in her heart, and who let herself be pierced by the sword. Mary is the saint among the saints, blessed above all others. She teaches us the way of holiness and she walks ever at our side. She does not let us remain fallen and at times she takes us into her arms without judging us." —Pope Francis**

### MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATION

You are invited to attend our Mother's Day Celebrations

**at St Mary's and St Joseph's on Friday 10th May**

St Mary's Mass at 9.30am followed by Morning Tea at 10.30am

St Joseph's Lunch 12pm followed by Mass 2pm Please RSVP if you plan on attending Morning Tea or Lunch.

## FAMILY MASS INVITATION

We would like to warmly invite you to join us with your family for a special **Family Mass at Western Port Parish on Pentecost Sunday**, when we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and Blessed Mary, marking the birth of the new Christian community.

The Family Mass is organized together with our three parish schools. Following the Mass, there will be coffee and tea provided.

### DATES AND LOCATIONS:

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 6.00pm St Brendan's Church Somerville I

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 8.00am St Peter's Church Shoreham I

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 10.00am Immaculate Conception Church Hastings I

## PARISH MINISTRIES

Pentecost Sunday 19th May is a time of renewal of our volunteering to participate in our Community. Many parishioners already assist by doing various public and not so public tasks in our Parish. The more volunteers we have, the lighter the load for everyone.

**More volunteers are needed, these were the numbers for Hastings and Somerville as at Friday 2nd May**

Commentator – Hastings 2, Somerville 4

Lector – Hastings 7, Somerville – 6

Eucharistic Minister – Hastings 6, Somerville 6

Flowers – Hastings 1, Somerville 3

Hastings Mass Welcomer – 5 | Hastings Piety Stall – 1

Hastings Audio Visual - 1

Somerville Altar Linen -2 | Somerville Mass Preparation - 3

Somerville Cleaners - 2 | Somerville Maintenance Term – 4

Communion to the Sick – 3 | Counters – total 5

**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.

### A THANK YOU NOTE

Thank you for your involvement and kind donations for the Anzac Day Appeal! During the last two weekends in the Mass Centres at Shoreham and Hastings \$607.10 was raised.

*Richard Mucha*

### CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to the children from our three schools and parish sacramental program who have received the sacrament of reconciliation for the first time in the last week.

Special thanks to their parents and teachers who have put in effort to assist the children in receiving the sacrament in a meaningful way. *Fr Shymon*

### Total givings from the week, 26/4-2/5/24

Thanksgiving 1 <sup>st</sup> Collection – Presbytery	\$751.80
2nd Collection – Church Account ( <i>Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards, cheques and envelopes</i> )	\$1222.50
Loose	\$369.50
Tap donations	\$137.49

Thank you for your ongoing support!