



Westernport Catholic Parish Newsletter

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

The Ascension of the Lord- Year B, 12 May 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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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 1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles



In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to

leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 46:2-3. 6-9

R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. (R.)

God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise. (R.)

God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne. (R.)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world. **Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven, and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world, proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised will be saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'



And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

The Gospel of the Lord.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The Feast of the Ascension is really a kind of liminal moment in the Easter season. It is a time between times; a moment when we have left one place in our journey, but have not yet arrived at a second. While the narratives that describe the Ascension fit well into the unfolding story of redemption, the feast itself celebrates one aspect of the resurrection itself, namely, the exaltation of Jesus. The readings help us through this paradox. They allow us to focus on this theological point while we commemorate a turning point in the life of the church. We do this by considering both the enthronement of Christ in the heavens and the new body of Christ on earth.

Today we stand awestruck, watching Jesus ascend into the clouds of heaven, there to be enthroned at God's right hand. Today we are overwhelmed by the divinity of the one whom we have known in his humanity. Amidst shouts of joy and exaltation, Christ is enthroned in heaven in both his divinity and his glorified humanity. Now he is present with us in a new way, in a new body, in the church. He teaches through its apostles and evangelists; he ministers through its prophets and pastors. Through us he continues to heal and to comfort; to forgive and to include. We have his power, the same power with which he performed marvels when he walked the earth. We have each other; together we make up the new body of Christ.

REFLECTION FOR YOUTH

Living the gospel

Proclaim Good News

Francis of Assisi is credited with saying, 'Preach the gospel at all times and when necessary, use words!' In every interaction we have we say so much about who we are, what we think of the other person and what we believe - even without opening our mouth. Our actions and attitudes proclaim our beliefs more powerfully than our words ever do. If we claim to be concerned about justice and yet behave unjustly then it is our actions, not our words, that will be heard! When we are called to 'proclaim the Good News' we are called to do this first and foremost in action.

LITURGIES THIS WEEK, 13 May—19 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, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

May they rest in peace.

Caritas Australia's 60th Anniversary Online Photo Exhibition – Vote for your chance to win!

To mark the 60th anniversary of Caritas Australia, we have compiled a selection of our favourite 60 photos. Vote for your favourite photo to go into the draw to win a beautiful Indigenous Australian artwork from Djilpin Arts, our First Australian partner in the Northern Territory. The artwork is a painting by Harry Malibirr which depicts five dreaming stories.

Simply visit our website caritas.org.au/faces-of-caritas-australia-60th-anniversary, choose a photo from the gallery and vote via the online form. Entries close 30 June 2024

NAMES ON ROSTERS BELOW FOR SERVICES NEXT WEEK, 18/5 & 19/5/2024

MINISTRY	Somerville	Shoreham	Hastings		
Lector	Sandy Adolphus	Michael Callaghan	Ted Fennessy	Mass Welcomer Hastings	Virginia Carey
Eucharistic Ministers	Maree Chapman	Sylvia Falzon	Marie Ernestine Barbara Farley	Counters This Week	Helga Crinis Judy Deefholts
Commentator	Sarah Ernestine	Joan Power	Tom Leyden	Counters Next Week	Heiman Sissing Hijacinta Svabelj
Altar Linen		MAY—Anne Marie Dyer		Statue of Our Lady	
Mass Prep	Christine Coleman	MAY—Margaret Grant		Communion to the Sick This Week	Group 1 - Group 2—Fr Shymon
Flowers	Sandy Adolphus	Somerville Maintenance— Louise Street			
Cleaning	MAY—Christine Coleman				

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.

MOTHER'S DAY PRAYER

Happy
mother's
day

Dear God, This Mother's Day we lift up all mothers in prayer, celebrating the joy they bring to our lives.

Bless them with moments of laughter and precious memories with their children.

May their hearts be filled with happiness, their spirits lifted with love and their days brightened by hope.

Lord, let us remember the mothers we have lost, may their love continue to shine brightly in our hearts. Amen.

ST BRENDAN'S NEWS



Whole School Mass- Celebrating the Feast Day of our Patron, St Brendan the Navigator—
Thursday, May 16th- St Brendan's Church at 11:30 am

Leaders: Year Five & Six staff and students.
All are welcome.

Please also pray for the St Brendan's children preparing to receive the sacrament of First Eucharist in June.

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 18th May, 6.00pm St Brendan's Church Somerville I

Sunday 19th May 8.00am St Peter's Church Shoreham I

Sunday 19th May 10.00am Immaculate Conception Church Hastings I

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.

Thank you from CatholicCare Victoria

CatholicCare Victoria is deeply grateful for the support of our parish during last week's CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. Because of the generosity of our parish community, CatholicCare Victoria can continue the mission; to create transformational personal impact, and empower every individual to reach their full potential and live life to the full. Thank you for helping those in need! For more information about CatholicCare Victoria, please visit: www.catholiccarevic.org.au

A PRAYER OF PRAISE AND PETITION: THE HAIL MARY

As we continue to journey through this Year of Prayer, **Archbishop Peter A Comensoli** invites us to reflect on the great prayer of our Blessed Mother, the Hail Mary. It's especially timely in this month of May, traditionally known as the month of Mary. Continue reading: [A prayer of praise and petition: the Hail Mary](#)

PARISH MINISTRIES

PENTECOST SUNDAY 19h June is a time of renewal of our volunteering to participate in our Community. Many parishioners already assist by doing various tasks in our Parish. The more volunteers we have, the lighter the load for everyone.

PARISH MINISTRIES – Thanks to everyone who already applied for any type of ministry for the next 12 months, we appreciate your time, your good will and the commitment. **More volunteers are needed, especially for Commentators in Hastings and Counters.** If anyone else is able and willing to participate, volunteer forms are still available at the churches on the welcoming tables, or you can contact the Parish Centre. **If you are already on a Roster this year and would like to continue, you still need to place your name on the new Volunteer List.**

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.

Total givings from the week, 3/5-9/5/24

Thanksgiving 1 st Collection – Presbytery	\$893.60
2nd Collection – Church Account (<i>Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards, cheques and envelopes</i>)	\$1268
Loose	\$357.50

Thank you for your ongoing support!