



## Westernport Catholic Parish Newsletter

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

### The Holy Body and Blood of Christ Sunday- Year B, 2 June 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

Exodus 24:3-8

#### A reading from the book of Exodus

Moses went and told the people all the commands of the Lord and all the ordinances. In answer, all the people said with one voice, 'We will observe all the commands that the Lord has decreed.' Moses put all the commands of the Lord into writing, and early next morning he built an altar at the foot of the mountain, with twelve standing-stones for the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he directed certain young Israelites to offer holocausts and to immolate bullocks to the Lord as communion sacrifices. Half of the blood Moses took up and put into basins, the other half he cast on the altar. And taking the Book of the Covenant he read it to the listening people, and they said, 'We will observe all that the Lord has decreed; we will obey.' then Moses took the blood and cast it towards the people. 'This' he said 'is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you, containing all these rules.'

**The word of the Lord.**

#### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 115:12-13. 15-18

**R. I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord.**

How can I repay the Lord for his goodness to me?  
The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the Lord's name. **(R.)**

O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful.  
Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; you have loosened my bonds. **(R.)**

A thanksgiving sacrifice I make: I will call on the Lord's name.  
My vows to the Lord I will fulfil before all his people. **(R.)**

#### Second Reading

Hebrews 9:11-15

#### A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Now Christ has come, as the high priest of all the blessings which were to come. He has passed through the greater, the more perfect tent, which is better than one made by men's hands because it is not of this created order; and he has entered the sanctuary once and for all, taking with him not the blood of goats and bull calves, but his own blood, having won an eternal redemption for us. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer are sprinkled on those who have incurred defilement and they restore the holiness of their outward lives; how much more effectively the blood of Christ, who offered himself as the perfect sacrifice to God through the eternal Spirit, can purify our inner self from dead actions so that we do our service to the living God.

He brings a new covenant, as the mediator, only so that the people who were called to an eternal inheritance may actually receive what was promised: his death took place to cancel the sins that infringed the earlier covenant.

**The word of the Lord.**

## Gospel Acclamation

John 6:51-52

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord;  
whoever eats this bread will live for ever. **Alleluia!**

Mark 14:12-16. 22-26

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

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to Jesus, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the passover?' So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and say to the owner of the house which he enters, "The Master says: Where is my dining room in which I can eat the passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations for us there.' The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and prepared the Passover.

And as they were eating he took some bread, and when he said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them. 'Take it,' he said 'this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them, 'This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many. I tell



you solemnly, I shall not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.' After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives.

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

## REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The readings, which reflect some aspect of the feast, feature three prominent themes: the importance of blood in the ratification of the covenant; the atoning actions of Christ; the attitude of thanksgiving. Most people today would probably be repelled by the ritual use of blood. Yet birth blood is not subject to the same revulsion, nor is blood transfusion frowned upon. Blood is recognised as a life force, and blood relationships are cherished. In a sense this ritual makes us blood sisters and brothers of God and of each other. It seals our fate and it entitles us to the family inheritance. This feast celebrates the incomparable love of Christ. He offered himself for the expiation of our sins; he spread a banquet table for us at which we are able to eat the bread of companionship and share the blood of the new covenant. How shall we make a return to the Lord for all the good that we have received? The only appropriate response to God's graciousness is thanksgiving (*eucharistia*). We have been chosen; we have been delivered; we have a witness in heaven; and now we have been given the bread of eternal life and the blood of salvation. What return can we give? A life of gratitude lived in the presence of God; a life of union with all those who eat the same bread and drink from the same cup; a life of faithful expectation, waiting for the coming of the reign of God in all its fullness.

## CHILDREN'S WORKSHEET

During Mass we share in a sacred meal called the Eucharist, which means 'to give thanks'. In the chalice, write down some things which we can be thankful for. In the bread, draw a picture of your family sharing a special meal.



## REFLECTION FOR YOUTH

### HISTORICAL CONTEXT

#### Covenant

Covenant is a recurring element throughout the Old Testament writings. A covenant is a formal agreement between two or more parties. In the Biblical context, covenants were made between God and God's people. The first covenant, although not described as such, is the covenant between God and Adam - each promising certain things. After the failure of this covenant, God renewed the covenant promise to Noah and symbolised it with the rainbow. Later covenants were again struck with Abraham, Moses and David - each time initiated by God to give the people another chance to be faithful to their relationship.

**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, 3 June—9 June**

**MONDAY** No Service

**TUESDAY 9.30am** Mass at Somerville

**WEDNESDAY 9.00am** Mass at Shoreham

**THURSDAY 9.30am** Mass at Hastings

**1st 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 Hastings

**PRAYERS AND PETITIONS**

*Please pray for those who are sick, especially Melva Patterson, Monica Smith, 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 Papua New Guinea Landslide Disaster**

Thousands are feared dead and many more are displaced after a devastating landslide struck a remote village in Papua New Guinea.

Your urgent support is needed now. **Please act now.**

You can donate online at [www.caritas.org.au/png](http://www.caritas.org.au/png) or phone 1800 024 413



**NAMES ON ROSTERS BELOW FOR SERVICES NEXT WEEK, 8/6 & 9/6/2024**

<b>MINISTRY</b>	<b>Somerville</b>	<b>Shoreham</b>	<b>Hastings</b>		
<b>Lector</b>	Maree Chapman	Tim Dyer	Deirdre Fennessy	<b>Mass Welcomer Hastings</b>	Val Coventry
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Mary Marshall	Anne Marie Dyer	Lioba Robinson Isobel Wilson	<b>Counters This Week</b>	Barbara & Gerald O'Brien
<b>Commentator</b>	Tracey Clark	Ann Lorkin		<b>Counters Next Week</b>	Steven Stewart Ian Marshall
<b>Mass Prep</b>	Christine Coleman	JUNE—Sylvia Falzon		<b>Sacristan</b>	Leah Marsh
<b>Altar Linen</b>		JUNE—Ann Lorkin		<b>Audio/Visual</b>	Jesele Baxter
<b>Flowers</b>	Val Baxter	<b>Somerville Maintenance—</b>		<b>Communion to the Sick This Week</b>	Group 1 - Group 2—Judy Deefholts
<b>Cleaning</b>	JUNE—Tracey Clark	Sandy Adolphus & Garry McDonell			

## 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.

## **PARISH & PARISH SCHOOLS**

Catholic schools exist because they are Catholic in their mission and identity. The vitality of the mission of the Catholic school is enlivened when the school is embedded in the life of the local parish through the fostering of close and life-giving relationships with families and parishes. Catholic education is a key ministry of the parish, and the parish priest is the key messenger in the evangelisation and education in faith within the parish. Therefore his leadership and support are necessary to ensure the school is faithful to its distinctive Catholic identity and spirituality.

Source: *Working Together in Mission*, P. 17  
MACS

## **LADIES LUNCHEON**

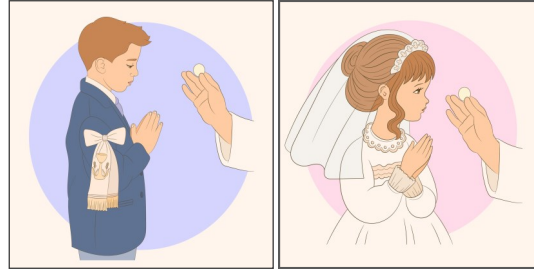
**On Friday 7th June at Harbourside Cafe**  
at 12 noon. Please call **Val 0409 774 919** if  
you would like to attend.

## **ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY WINTER APPEAL IN 2 WEEKS**

Each year the Winter Appeal plays a vital role in enabling the Society to deliver good works and with your support today we hope to continue serving the community. The Society in Victoria has provided over \$5 million in material assistance in the past 6 months to families in need. With the current homelessness crisis, the assistance we provide to those experiencing hardship will be needed more than ever.

Please donate generously to enable the Society to continue its work of helping those in need. An envelope will be on your seat. Alternatively, return your envelope and enclosed donation by post, donate online at [www.vinnies.org.au](http://www.vinnies.org.au) or by phone at **13 18 12**. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

## **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PRAYER**



Lord Jesus,

Bless the Children coming forward to receive Holy Communion for the First time.

May this day be an initial step into life-long love of the Eucharist. Give them a hunger for this sacred food so that they turn to you for comfort, guidance and wisdom As they grow, into full discipleship.

Thank you for their innocence and goodness.

May their hands, extended in anticipation of your Body and Blood, Inspire all of us to cherish this sacred sacrament.

**Congratulation to all the First Holy Communicants from all three schools and non-Catholic schools on their sacrament of First Holy Communion!**

## **ST BRENDAN'S NEWS**

The staff and families of St Brendan's wish to extend their **The First communicants** who were presented at the last two Parish Masses at St Brendan's', ask and thank the Western Port Parishioners for their continued prayers and thoughts as they approach their First Eucharist at St Brendan's Church on Saturday, June 1st.

In the coming weeks, we also think of the Confirmation Candidates from St Brendan's as they prepare to receive the Holy Spirit through this sacrament of initiation into the church. Please keep the candidates in your prayers too.

## **POPE TO CHILDREN: "ALWAYS PRAY"**

Always pray, and pray especially for an end to all wars, **Pope Francis** told children during Mass concluding the Church's first ever World Children's Day on 26 May. About 50,000 children and adults gathered in St Peter's Square for the Mass, but the celebrations began the day before at Rome's Olympic Stadium. 'Dear children, let us press ahead and be joyful,' the Pope said. 'Joy is healthy for the soul.' Continue reading: ['Always pray': Pope gives kids life lessons at World Children's Day](#)

## **Total givings from the week, 24/5-30/5/24**

Thanksgiving 1 <sup>st</sup> Collection – Presbytery	\$682.70
2nd Collection – Church Account ( <i>Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards, cheques and envelopes</i> )	\$851.50
Loose	\$343

## **PARISH VOLUNTEERS**

### **AMENDED ROSTERS**

Amended rosters for Lectors in Hastings and correct rosters for Maintenance in Somerville are now available.

### **WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK AND ONLINE TRAINING**

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](#)