



## Western Port Catholic Parish

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

**23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time- Year B, 8 September 2024**

### PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

**Parish Priest:** Fr Shymon  
Thekkekalathungal IVDei

**Parish Secretary:**  
Hijacinta Svabelj

**Pastoral Worker:**  
Deirdre Fennessy

**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

Isaiah 35:4-7

#### A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. 'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water.

**The word of the Lord.**

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145:7-10

#### **R. Praise the Lord, my soul!**

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **(R.)**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down,  
the Lord who loves the just,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger. **(R.)**

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan,  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. **(R.)**

### Second Reading

James 2:1-5

#### A reading from the letter of St James

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats;' then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

**The word of the Lord.**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. **Alleluia!**

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

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him.



He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate**

As we began to welcome the Gospel, we made the sign of the Cross on our foreheads, on our lips and over our hearts. It is meant to be accompanied by the thought: 'May the Gospel be in my mind, on my lips, and in my heart.' It wouldn't be enough to mentally recite that little prayer. We have to do something physical. Jesus could not have been more physical than in the story of today's Gospel. He stuck his fingers in the man's ears and touched the man's tongue with spittle, saying the Aramaic word 'Ephphatha', 'Be opened'.

Our Lord could have healed this man with a simple prayer. But he acknowledged the sheer physicality of the person to be cured. We are not angels, but ensouled bodies and that is how our Lord particularly related to this man in need of healing.

It is in the sacrament of Baptism that we imitate the Ephphatha incident in today's Gospel. At one stage, the priest lightly touches the ears and then lightly touches the mouth of the person being baptised. This brings the baptised person into a community formed by hearing and speaking the Word in faith.

We could take a moment to recall the Ephphatha dimension of our baptism. Take your thumb and lightly touch your ears (a parent could do this for an infant) making a prayer along the lines of our baptism: 'The Lord Jesus made the deaf hear and the mute speak. May He again touch my ears to receive His Word and my mouth to proclaim His faith to the glory and praise of God the Father. Amen.'

**PARISH VOLUNTEERS: WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK AND ONLINE TRAINING**

Is your **Working With Children Check** registered with our Parish Secretary? 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. [Safeguarding Children Training | Westernport Church](#).

Many thanks to all those who already provided their WWCC details!

**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****GOSPEL FOCUS****Ephphatha**

*The healing that Jesus works in this passage is perhaps one of the most 'physical' of his healing actions. He puts his fingers in the man's ears and places spittle on his tongue. It is an incredibly intimate contact with a complete stranger and someone regarded as outcast and unclean because of his disabilities. When Jesus speaks the word of healing, Ephphatha ('Be opened'), he appears to be speaking not only to the man but to all those listening. Be open to the possibility of embracing those you have cast out; be open to a different understanding of Messiah.*

**LITURGIES THIS WEEK, 9 September—15 September**

**MONDAY** No Service

**TUESDAY 9.30am** Mass at Somerville

**WEDNESDAY** No service

**THURSDAY 9.30** Communion Service at Hastings

**FRIDAY 9.30am** Communion Service at Hastings

**SATURDAY**

**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 Peter Rogan, Bernadette Sexton, Peter Munyan, Melva Patterson, 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, Mike Mason, Elaine Duyvestyn, James Smythe, Lucy Triffett, Helena Jaskolski, Oscar Dixon-Rotherham, Margaret Sherlock and all those who need our prayers. Special intention prayers for Finian and Kathleen. May they receive the Lord's comfort and strength.*

*Please pray for those who have died recently, especially Ivan Deveson, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially Mary Meyer.*

*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, 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 toilet-tries. Please **do not** donate Sugar, Powdered Milk, Cheese Spreads or Baked Beans.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

**NAMES ON ROSTERS BELOW FOR SERVICES NEXT WEEK, 14/9 & 15/9/2024**

<b>MINISTRY</b>	<b>Somerville</b>	<b>Shoreham</b>	<b>Hastings</b>		
<b>Lector</b>	Maree Chapman	Clare Shearman	Geraldine Prescott	<b>Mass Welcomer Hastings</b>	Steve Weir
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Mary Marshall	Kees Meyer	Barbara Farley Deirdre Fennessy	<b>Counters This Week</b>	Genevieve & Kees Meyer
<b>Commentator</b>	Judy Deefholts	Peter Schreiner	Tom Leyden	<b>Counters Next Week</b>	Barbara & Gerald O'Brien
<b>Mass Prep</b>	Val Baxter	SEPTEMBER— Marg Grant		<b>Sacristan</b>	Maggie Parsons
<b>Altar Linen</b>		SEPTEMBER— Anne Maree Dyer		<b>Audio/Visual</b>	Linda & Steve Weir
<b>Flowers</b>	Paula Street	<b>Somerville Maintenance—</b>		<b>Communion to the Sick This Week</b>	Group 1 - Group 2— Anne-Marie Lawson
<b>Cleaning</b>	SEPTEMBER: Tracey Clark	Bill & Anne-Marie Lawson			

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY • 8 SEP 2024  
"Every conversation matters"



[catholic.au/s/article/safeguarding-sunday-2024](https://www.catholic.au/s/article/safeguarding-sunday-2024)

## SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY - 8 SEPTEMBER 2024 —"EVERY CONVERSATION MATTERS"

The Parish of Western Port and the Diocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community. Mindful of the theme for National Child Protection Week, "Every Conversation Matters", may we work to create safe spaces where we can have meaningful conversations with children and adults at risk about their safety.

You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: <https://www.catholic.au/s/article/Safeguarding-Sunday-2024>

### St Brendan's School News - Thank You!

Thank you to the parishioners who joined us at St Brendan's Church for our *Mass for Fathers and Special Men in the Lives of the Children* last Thursday, August 29th. We hope you enjoyed celebrating with us as we honoured the fathers and special men in our community. Special thanks to the Year One and Two staff and students for preparing the Mass, the parish sacristans for their work in preparing the church and Fr Shymon for celebrating this Mass for us all.

### JOEY'S CAFÉ—

**ST JOSEPH'S  
CRIB POINT**

Open to public every second Friday, next time on September 13th, 12.30pm

### PARISH AND SCHOOL

Advertising for the new principal appointment for St Mary's School will commence this week. Interviews will take place at the start of Term 4.

The panel met last week with MACS General Manager **Deb Egan** and welcomed **Erin Nagel**, current principal of St Anthony's school Glen Huntly to the panel. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide the work of the panel in the coming weeks.

### A THANK YOU NOTE

Sincere thanks to all those who contributed in any way to the Archbishop's Campaign during three weekends in August and to Priests Retirement Foundation through Father's Day Appeal envelopes the previous weekend.

On these occasions we collected overall \$869.80 in cash and \$250 in cheque donations.

Archbishop's Campaign envelopes are still available at the churches. You can also make a gift online at [melbourne-catholic.org/archbishopscampaign](https://melbourne-catholic.org/archbishopscampaign) or via the QR codes on the campaign materials.

"Australasian Catholic Coalition for Church Reform,  
Spirit Unbounded and Garratt Publishing present  
**SYNODALITY IN OCEANIA**

**What does 'becoming a synodal church' mean in our region of Oceania?**

#### EVENT DETAILS

**When:** Wednesday 18 September 2024

**Time:** 5:30 pm (AEST)\*

**Where:** Via Zoom

**Cost:** FREE

**Registration:**

[To register, please click here, or on the button below.](#)

### FR GEOFF MCILROY: JOINING FORCES IN SUPPORT OF VICTORIAN POLICE

**Fr Geoff McIlroy**, Parish Priest of St McCartan's Catholic Church in Mornington and a police chaplain, will be fuelling up his Harley Davidson motorbike to take part in the upcoming national Wall-to-Wall Ride For Remembrance. The annual motorbike ride is an opportunity for police members and their supporters to honour their fallen colleagues, and to raise funds and awareness of the work of policing legacy organisations and charities across Australia. Continue reading: [Fr Geoff McIlroy: joining forces in support of Victorian police](#)

### AMENDEND ROSTERS FOR SOMERVILLE NOW AVAILABLE

Dear Parish Volunteers of St Brendan's community, amended rosters for **Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers** in Somerville are now available in the church foyer.

### Total givings from the week, 29/8-5/9/24

Thanksgiving 1 <sup>st</sup> Collection – Presbytery	\$651.60
2nd Collection – Church Account ( <i>Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards, cheques and envelopes</i> )	\$1182.50
Loose	\$166.65

Thank you for your ongoing support!