



Western Port Catholic Parish

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

2nd Sunday Of Advent -Year C, 8 December 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

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

Baruch 5:1-9

A reading from the first book of the prophet Baruch

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress,
put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever,
wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you,
put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head:
since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven,
since the name God gives you for ever will be,
'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'.
Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights
and turn your eyes to the east:
see your sons reassembled from west and east
at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them.
Though they left you on foot,
with enemies for an escort,
now God brings them back to you
like royal princes carried back in glory.
For God has decreed the flattening
of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills,
the filling of the valleys to make the ground level
so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God.
And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade
for Israel at the command of God;
for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory
with his mercy and integrity for escort.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 125

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. **(R.)**

The heathens themselves said:
'What marvels the Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. **(R.)**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. **(R.)**

They go out, they go out, full of tears
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves. **(R.)**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you.

My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 3:4. 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God. **Alleluia!**

Luke 3:1-6

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness:
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.
Every valley will be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
winding ways will be straightened
and rough roads made smooth.
And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.



The Gospel of the Lord.

REFLECTION FOR YOUTH

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA



**Have you
thought?
Baptism**

We may think that Baptism is an invention of the Christian community but today's gospel makes it clear that baptism was used within the Jewish community and was put to a particular purpose by John the Baptist. Baptism was part of the Jewish tradition well before the time of Jesus. Ritual cleansing by full immersion was an important element of worship and converts to Judaism were required to walk through a deep bath known as a mikveh. John's use of baptism as a washing away of sin was a different interpretation of the well established practice.

The advent of God's coming with its promise of fulfilment happens within world history. The first reading locates God's act of restoration in the city of Jerusalem. The gospel situates the ministry of John within a particular period of world history. They point us to historical experience as the place and the time of restoration, of incarnation, of redemption. They show us that God works within everyday life, in conventional places, during regular time. In fact, from a human point of view, the extraordinary events of salvation took place within what was quite ordinary. John proclaims the kind of transformation that results in a change of heart. Reversals characterise such transformation: the robe of mourning is replaced by the splendour of glory; tears are turned into rejoicing; those led away by enemies are brought back by God; valleys are filled, mountains are levelled, winding roads are made straight; even nature offers itself as shelter for the people of God. Those who are shamed and discarded are made glorious; those who suffer are comforted; the oppressed are freed; all of life's obstacles are removed; the way to God is made straight; the natural world enjoys peace and harmony.

The transformation or repentance of heart takes place within human life, within relationships of justice between people and with the earth, in right living, in genuine unselfish love. It produces the fruits of righteousness of which Paul speaks.

Advent is the time to prepare ourselves for this.

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, 9 December—15 December

MONDAY No service

TUESDAY 9.30am Mass at Somerville

11.00am SomerCare Nursing Home Mass at Somerville

WEDNESDAY 9.00am Mass at Shoreham

THURSDAY 9.30am Mass at Hastings

FRIDAY 9.30am Padua Teachers and Staff Mass at Hastings

1.00pm End of Year School 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 Paula, Maureen Bleighly, Aldo, Sandra, Marissa, Amber, Peter Rogan, Bernadette Sexton, Peter Munyan, 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, especially Finian and Kathleen. May they receive the Lord's comfort and strength.

Please pray for those who have died recently, especially Paul Bouker and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially Diane Mentiplay, Derrick Wilson and Fr John Williams.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL APPEAL:

We are in desperate need of your support. Our cupboard is depleted, and we need some more perishable items. If you can help with cans of Soup, Meat & Vegetables, Diced Tomatoes, Spaghetti, Baked Beans, Tuna or Salmon, Vegetables, tinned fruit. Pasta and Sauces, Vegemite, Peanut Butter, Jam. Packets of sweet and dry biscuits, two-minute noodles and cup of soup, long life milk. Tea and Coffee and toiletries. Please do not donate sugar or powdered milk. Thank you for your ongoing support.

NAMES ON ROSTERS BELOW FOR SERVICES NEXT WEEK, 14/12 & 15/12/2024

MINISTRY	Somerville	Shoreham	Hastings		
Lector	Sandy Adolphus	Catherine Clancy	Val Coventry	Mass Welcomer Hastings	Agnes Smith
Eucharistic Ministers	Louise Street	Anne Maree Dyer	Lioba Robinson Isobel Wilson	Counters This Week	Heimann Sissing Hijacinta Svabelj
Commentator	Tracey Clark	Pauline D'Astoli	Brian Stahl	Counters Next Week	Derick Deefholts Judy Deefholts
Mass Prep	Christine Coleman	DECEMBER: Catherine Russ		Sacristan	Marie Ernestine
Altar Linen		DECEMBER: Catherine Russ		Audio/Visual	Jesele Baxter
Flowers	Maree Chapman	Somerville Maintenance—		Communion to the Sick This Week	Group 2— n/a
Cleaning	DECEMBER: Tracey Clark	Fred Arena			

**Christmas Eve Family Mass at 5.00PM,
Hastings**

To celebrate the joyous occasion of the birth of Jesus, all families are warmly invited to share together with the children participating in singing Christmas carols during the Mass, so come dressed in a nativity theme. **Deirdre Fennessy**, our Parish Pastoral Worker, will be available to assist the children. If you have any questions, please contact her at 0412 366 203 or the Parish office at 5979 4374.



Santa will be visiting with gifts for the children immediately after the Mass.

**2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT PRAYER:
PEACE**

God of peace, as we light the second Advent candle of peace, may your peace fill our hearts and our world. Help us to be peacemakers in our relationships and communities. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.



**ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS
APPEAL**

St. Vincent De Paul 2024 Christmas Appeal will be conducted in all three Mass centres over this weekend of **7 & 8 December**. The Westernport Conference is calling on parishioners to continue to support us in our work helping the disadvantaged people in our community. To date we have spent \$74,600 in assistance to members of our community during this calendar year.

**ST MARY'S HASTINGS OPENING OF OUR
NEW BUILDING**

You are warmly invited to the official opening of our new learning spaces!

2pm Wednesday 11th December

RSVP—by Monday

office@smhastings.catholic.edu.au

**PARISH MINISTRIES DURING CHRISTMAS
TIME (HASTINGS AND SOMERVILLE)**

For Parish volunteers who are able and willing to volunteer in the Parish activities during Masses on December 24th and 25th, Forms will be available to fill in your details at Mass Centres in Hastings and Somerville on the welcoming table. Please return forms **by Sunday, 15 December**.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES - 2024

Tuesday, 24th December, 2024– CHRISTMAS EVE

5.00pm – FAMILY MASS at Immaculate Conception Church, HASTINGS

6.00pm – FAMILY MASS at St Brendan's Church, SOMERVILLE preceded by Christmas Carols at 5.45pm

8.00pm – Mass at St Peter's Church, SHOREHAM, preceded by Christmas Carols at 7.30pm

Wednesday, 25th December, 2024– CHRISTMAS DAY

10.00am – Immaculate Conception Church, HASTINGS

10.00am – St Peter's Church, SHOREHAM

COMMUNITY RECONCILIATION SERVICE (With Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament) 7.00pm Wednesday, 18th December at Immaculate Conception Church, HASTINGS

**ARCHBISHOP COMENSOLI:
ADVENT, A TIME OF PREP-
ARATION AND EXPECTA-
TION**

As we enter into the season of Advent once again, **Archbishop Peter A Comensoli** in his video reflects on Advent as a time of joyful preparation and expectation. 'Advent pushes us forward, asks us to be awake and attentive,' he says, and to come 'with real joy' to the time of Jesus' incarnation.

Continue reading: [Archbishop Comensoli: Advent, a time of preparation and expectation](#)

JUBILEE YEAR 2025



For Jubilee 2025, the conditions of receiving the Jubilee Plenary Indulgence have been greatly expanded to include a number of different prayer, formation, and charitable initiatives. These include:

Formation activities based upon the Catechism and documents of the Second Vatican Council.

Pilgrimages to Rome or other sacred Jubilee sites.

Corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

Various penitential practices, such as almsgiving, fasting and abstinence, and volunteering in the community.

GOD'S WORD 2025 - DAILY REFLECTIONS

God's Word 2025 Daily Reflections is now available to purchase in the church foyers of all our three churches at price: \$22.00.

2025 COLUMBAN ART CALENDARS - You can now find 2025 Columban Art Calendars at all our three churches for \$10 each.

Total givings from the week 22/11-28/11/24

Thanksgiving 1 st Collection – Presbytery	\$643.95
2nd Collection – Church (<i>Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards, cheques and envelopes</i>)	\$923.50
Loose	\$244
Tap Machine Donations	\$137.62

Thank you for your ongoing support!