



## Westernport Catholic Parish Newsletter

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

#### *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - Year C, 29 December 2024*

##### PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

**Parish Priest:** Fr Shymon  
Thekkekalathungal IVDei

**Parish Secretary:**  
Hijacinta Svabelj

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**Office Hours: 9.30am-  
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##### PARISH CENTRE:

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##### 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

1 Samuel 1:20-22. 24-28

##### A reading from the first book of Samuel

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel 'since' she said 'I asked the Lord for him.'

When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, 'Not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there for ever.'

When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'If you please, my lord. As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.'

There she left him, for the Lord.

##### The word of the Lord.

##### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 83:2-3. 5-6. 9-10

##### **R. How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.**

How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, God of hosts.  
My soul is longing and yearning, is yearning for the courts of the Lord.  
My heart and my soul ring out their joy to God, the living God. **(R.)**

They are happy, who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.  
They are happy, whose strength is in you; they walk with ever growing strength. **(R.)**

O Lord, God of hosts, hear my prayer, give ear, O God of Jacob.  
Turn your eyes, O God, our shield, look on the face of your anointed. **(R.)**

##### Second Reading

1 John 3:1-2. 21-24

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

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed, all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants.

His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

##### The word of the Lord.

## Gospel Acclamation

cf Acts 16:14

### Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our heart, O Lord,  
to listen to the words of your Son. **Alleluia!**

Luke 2:41-52

## A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere.



Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant.

He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

### REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The optional readings for the feast of the Holy Family provide us an opportunity to reflect on 'family values' in a slightly different way. Here the pivotal theme is the union that we enjoy with God, a union of love that makes us children of God, members of the family of God. All other families find meaning and inspiration in this fundamental gathering. The stories of Hannah, Elkanah, and Samuel as well as Mary, Joseph and Jesus are examples of how the plan of God unfolds within the everyday occurrences of family life.

It is out of love that we are called to be children of God. As children of God, we are also joined to God's own Son, who has commanded us to love one another as God has loved all. If we are faithful to that commandment, Christ remains in us. We are bound to Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The human family plays a significant role in the fashioning of the broader family of God. The larger family that God initiates is specified in unique historical families, as strange and as complex as those family relationships may be, with their joys and sorrows, their barrenness and their fruitfulness. There is no way of separating this human family and the broader people of God. The plan of God does not unfold in a vacuum, but in the everyday family situations that include separation and misunderstanding as well as joy and celebration.

### REFLECTION FOR YOUTH



## Have you thought? Mary

We're told in today's gospel that Mary 'stored up all these things in her heart'. Mary is a model of the reflective life. When extraordinary, life-altering events occur to her, she is portrayed as pondering these events in her heart. She responds to these events by allowing them to speak to her and speak to her heart rather than simply 'reacting' as so many of us do. The ability to reflect on events, rather than react to them, can lead to a much better considered response and less chance of making the same mistakes over and over again.

### 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.

### 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.

**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, 30 December 2024 —5 January 2025**

**MONDAY**

No Service

**TUESDAY 9.00am** —Eucharistic Adoration followed by  
**9.30am** End of Year's Mass at Somerville

**WEDNESDAY 9.00am** Eucharistic Adoration followed by  
**9.30am** New Year's and Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Mass  
at Shoreham

**THURSDAY 9.30am** Mass at Hastings

**1st FRIDAY 9.00am** Eucharistic Adoration at Hastings  
**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 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, 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 and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially Giselle Napiorkowski and Kevin Davies. May they rest in peace.*

**NAMES ON ROSTERS BELOW FOR SERVICES NEXT WEEK, 28/12 & 29/12/2024**

<b>MINISTRY</b>	<b>Somerville</b>	<b>Shoreham</b>	<b>Hastings</b>		
<b>Lector</b>	Judy Deefholts	Zena Liston	Jesela Baxter	<b>Mass Welcomer Hastings</b>	Steve Weir
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Sandy Adolphus	Marg Grant	Barbara Farley Deirdre Fennessy	<b>Counters This Week</b>	Barbara & Gerald O'Brien, Genevieve & Kees Meyer
<b>Commentator</b>	Tracey Clark	Peter Schreiner	Brian Stahl	<b>Counters Next Week</b>	Stephen Stewart Ian Marshall
<b>Mass Prep</b>	Mary Marshall	JANUARY: Marg Grant		<b>Sacristan</b>	
<b>Altar Linen</b>		JANUARY: Anne Maree Dyer		<b>Audio/Visual</b>	Jesela Baxter
<b>Flowers</b>	Paula Street	<b>Somerville Maintenance—</b>		<b>Communion to the Sick This Week</b>	Group 2— Mary Marshall
<b>Cleaning</b>	JANUARY: Louise Street	Fred Arena			

# HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Western Port Parish wishes you and your loved ones a Happy and Prosperous New Year, we hope your plans will be fulfilled as you desired with the blessing of God and the protection of the Blessed Mother Mary.



MAY YOU SHINE  
THE LIGHT OF  
CHRIST IN THE  
NEW YEAR!

## END OF YEAR'S AND NEW YEAR'S MASS AND SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

We celebrate the End of Year with Eucharistic Adoration at 9.00am and Holy Mass at 9.30am on Tuesday 31 December at Somerville.

Let's welcome New Year and celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, by asking

God's grace with 9.00am Adoration and 9.30am Holy Mass on Wednesday 1 January at St Peter's Church at Shoreham .



## Vanuatu Earthquake Appeal

Vanuatu has experienced two earthquakes within 24 hours impacting over 116,000 people and causing significant damage to buildings and infrastructure. The main hospital in Port Vila has sustained extensive damage and is overwhelmed by the mass casualties.

This appeal will provide support to our on the ground partners who are ready to respond to the humanitarian requirements by providing emergency shelter, food and other essentials, psychosocial support, and recovery efforts. **Please donate today:** <http://www.caritas.org.au/vanuatu>

## The Jubilee Prayer



Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen

## JUBILEE YEAR 2025

- ◇ Jubilee is a special year of grace and conversion, involving prayer, pilgrimage and sacramental repentance, held every 25 years or during other years as called for by the Pope
- ◇ The most recent (ordinary) jubilee was the Great Jubilee of 2000
- ◇ Key elements of a jubilee include walking through Holy Door-while on a pilgrimage and the granting of plenary indulgences.

## Plenary indulgences

- ◇ Indulgences are a way to reduce the time a person spends suffering for sins, even after they have been forgiven.
- ◇ To receive a Jubilee plenary indulgence within the Archdiocese of Melbourne, people can visit any Pilgrim Place, remain there for a suitable period of time, engage in Eucharistic adoration and meditation, then conclude their time of prayer with the Our Father, the Profession of Faith and the Hail Mary (or any other invocation to Mary the Mother of God).

Total givings from the last couple of weeks are going to be announced in the next Newsletter. Thank you for your ongoing support!