



Western Port Catholic Parish

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

Australia Day & 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time -Year C, 26 January 2025

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:

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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

Nehemiah 8:2-6. 8-10

A reading from the book of Nehemiah

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people - since he stood higher than all the people - Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered, 'Amen! Amen!'; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah - His Excellency - and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep.' For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law. He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 18:8-10. 15

R. Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple. (R.)

The precepts of the Lord are right, they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear, it gives light to the eyes. (R.)

The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just. (R.)

May the spoken words of my mouth, the thoughts of my heart,
win favour in your sight, O Lord, my rescuer, my rock! (R.)

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:12-30

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink. Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts. Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

cf Luke 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners. **Alleluia!**

Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,
for he has anointed me.
He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor,
to proclaim liberty to captives
and to the blind new sight,
to set the down trodden free,
to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'



The Gospel of the Lord.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

In both the reading from Nehemiah and the Gospel passage, we see the dynamic power of the word of God. Paul's teaching originated as oral proclamation, and like the texts read by Ezra the priest and the one interpreted by Jesus himself, it was first proclaimed aloud. Only later were these proclamations written and handed down from one community to another, from one generation to the next.

The word of God elicits various responses. In the first reading, the people cried out in response: 'Amen, amen! So be it! We hear and we will obey!' From the verses contained in today's gospel, we do not know how those who heard Jesus' interpretation reacted to it. We do know that both audiences listened intently to the sacred words of Scripture. Can we do less? Are we eager to obey? Do we view the law as a treasure, as life-giving? Have we learned to live with each other as members of one body, each member being important and contributing to the total health of the entire body?

Both Ezra and Jesus proclaimed the word of God within the context of a liturgical celebration, a setting similar to the ones wherein most people today hear God's word proclaimed. According to the teaching of Vatican II, the liturgy is described as the source and summit of our lives, and the liturgy of the word is an essential part of that celebration.

With the people of Ezra, we are invited to respond: 'Amen, amen! Thanks be to God!'

REFLECTION FOR YOUTH

SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT Framing

On either side of the quote from Isaiah in today's gospel there are very symmetrical actions. Before reading, Jesus stands, is handed the scroll and then unrolls the scroll. On completion he rolls up the scroll, hands it back and then sits down. There is a balance to every action. This framing or bracketing technique is used throughout the gospel of Luke as a cue to the audience. Whenever this framing occurs, it means that there is a very important teaching or action that occurs within the frame. On this occasion, the frame surrounds Jesus declaring his intentions for his ministry.

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, 27 January —2 February 2025

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

11.00am Funeral Mass for dr. Paul Clarke at Shoreham

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, 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, Antonina Pellicano and Mary Marx. May they rest in peace.

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, 1/2 & 2/2/2025

MINISTRY	Somerville	Shoreham	Hastings		
Lector	Maree Chapman	Clare Shearman	Deirdre Fennessy	Mass Welcomer Hastings	Maggie Parsons
Eucharistic Ministers	Mary Marshall	Ann Lorkin	Lioba Robinson Isobel Wilson	Counters This Week	Kees & Genevieve Meyer
Commentator	Tracey Clark	Sr. Joan Power	Brian Stahl	Counters Next Week	Barbara & Gerald O'Brien
Mass Prep	Val Baxter	FEBRUARY: Sylvia Falzon		Sacristan	Leah Marsh
Altar Linen		FEBRUARY: Ann Lorkin		Audio/Visual	Jesele Baxter
Flowers	Paula Street	Somerville Maintenance— Fred Arena		Communion to the Sick This Week	Group2— n/a
Cleaning	FEBRUARY: Christine Coleman				

AUSTRALIA DAY PRAYER

We bless you, God of the universe,
for this land,
for its contrasts of landscape and climate,
for its abundance of wealth and opportunity.

We bless you for our history,
with all its struggle in adversity,
its courage and hope,
Give us in our diversity
tolerance and respect for each other
and a passionate commitment to justice for all.
Bless us so that we might be a blessing to others.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



JUBILEE YEAR 2025

Sharing our hope through outreach, service, and evangelisation In the Old Testament, jubilee years are strongly linked with the ongoing works of mercy, charity, forgiveness, and justice. They remain so today, and parishes can make use of this 'favoured time' to renew the ways we answer 'the cry of the poor' and 'the cry of the earth'.

MERCY NIGHT Throughout jubilee years there is an increased focus on the sacrament of Reconciliation, because it is only God's mercy that can make a fallen world new again. In this beautiful sacrament, the grace of Calvary and Easter touches us anew and sets us on the pilgrimage to heaven once more. Invite people to take part in a 'Mercy Night'. During a Mercy Night, there are often readings from Scripture, music, prayerful reflections, and opportunities to visit the sacrament of Reconciliation and experience the joy of God's mercy.

EPISCOPAL CONSECRATION

Join us on Saturday 1 February at St Patrick's Cathedral for the Episcopal Consecration of Most Rev Rene Ramirez and Most Rev Think Nguyen as auxiliary bishops in the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

Event Date
Saturday 1 February 2025
10.00am-12.30pm

Venue
St Patrick's Cathedral
1 Cathedral Place
East Melbourne

Those unable to be at the Cathedral in person can watch online at the [Archdiocesan YouTube channel](#) and or on free-to-air TV via C31 (channel 44 on digital TV).

Welcome Back and Best Wishes



We warmly welcome **Nicole Black**, the new principal of St. Mary's School, as she begins her journey with us this year. May God bless her with wisdom and strength in her new role.

To all students returning after the summer break, welcome back! May this school year be filled with learning, friendships, and wonderful opportunities to grow in faith and knowledge.

Let us keep all our principals, the teachers, staff, and students in our prayers for a blessed and fruitful year. May God guide and protect us all as we work together in His light.

Total giving's from the week 19/1/25-24/1/25

1st Collection – Presbytery (Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards)
\$956.85

2nd Collection – Church Account (Including Direct Debits,
Credit Cards and cheques) \$1921.60

Tap Machine \$ 127.89

Thank you for your ongoing support!

2025 COLUMBAN ART CALENDARS AND GOD'S WORD

You can now find 2025 Columban Art Calendars for \$10 each and God's Word 2024 Daily Reflections at price: \$22 each.