



Western Port Catholic Parish

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

4th Sunday of Lent - Year C, 30 March 2025

PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Priest: Fr Shymon
Thekkekalathungal IVDei

Parish Secretary:
Hijacinta Svabelj

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Deirdre Fennessy

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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

[Joshua 5:9-12](#)

A reading from the book of Joshua

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.'

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 33:2-7](#)

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips;

In the Lord my soul shall make its boast.

The humble shall hear and be glad. **(R.)**

Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us praise his name.

I sought the Lord and he answered me;

from all my terrors he set me free. **(R.)**

Look towards him and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.

This poor man called; the Lord heard him

and rescued him from all his distress. **(R.)**

Second Reading

[2 Corinthians 5:17-21](#)

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

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on this reconciliation.

In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 15:18

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:

Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man,' they said, 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate. 'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about, "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property - he and his women - you kill the calf we had been fattening."

'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

The Gospel of the Lord.



REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

In the midst of Lent we are given a moment for rejoicing, Laetare Sunday. All of the readings provide us with reasons for rejoicing. The overarching theme is the prodigal goodness of God. The responsorial psalm sets the context for the reflections. The other readings show how needy people were showered with divine favour. Even in the midst of this rejoicing, we find a challenge.

We must undergo a change of heart if we are to rejoice in God.

The goodness of God is strikingly portrayed in the radically new image of father. This is a God who allows us to follow our own dreams, who is partial to no one, who faithfully and patiently waits for us to return, who gently corrects our misperceptions. God longs to be reconciled with us even more than we long to be reconciled with God.

The challenges placed before us set out some of the conditions required if we are to be a new creation. We are called to a profound and total reconciliation, first with God and then with each other. Christ was identified with sin so that we might be identified with God's righteousness. Reconciliation requires that we be open to giving and receiving forgiveness. It requires that we both remember and forget. We must always remember the causes of alienation, so that we not succumb to them again. However, we must forget the resentment that we felt so that we not allow it to influence our lives.

LITURGIES THIS WEEK, 31 March —6 April 2025

MONDAY No Service

TUESDAY 9.30am Mass at Somerville followed by Stations of the Cross

WEDNESDAY 9.00am Mass at Shoreham

THURSDAY 9.30am Mass at Hastings

FRIDAY

1st FRIDAY 9.00am Eucharistic Adoration at Hastings

9.30am Mass at Hastings followed by Stations of the Cross

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 Eddie and Marcie Merezko, Stephen Charles, Halima, Sala, Agnes, Malia, Janelle Farley, Mary McCluskey, 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, Kathy Burke, Frank Howard, Mike Mason, Elaine Duvestyn, 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, especially Neville Jose, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially Gerard Meyer. May they rest in peace.



CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE



Catholic Theological College

Invites you to our

Engaging Your Faith online presentations

From \$25 per session.

For more information and to register:

ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith/

PARISH VOLUNTEERS

Dear Parish volunteers, in the foyers of our churches you will find the sheets for the liturgies of the Holy Week.

If you are available, please add you name to the ministry that you would like to volunteer for. Thank you!

NAMES ON ROSTERS BELOW FOR SERVICES NEXT WEEK, 5/4 & 6/5/2025

MINISTRY	Somerville	Shoreham	Hastings		
Lector	Tracey Clark	Joan White	Agnes Smith	Mass Welcomer Hastings	Maggie Parsons
Eucharistic Ministers	Maree Chapman	Ann Lorkin	Lioba Robinson Isobel Wilson	Counters This Week	Heimann Sissing Hijacinta Svabelj
Commentator	Sandy Adolphus	John Patterson		Counters Next Week	Kees & Genevieve-Meyer
Mass Prep	Val Baxter	APRIL: Catherine Russ		Sacristan	Virginia Carey
Altar Linen		APRIL: Catherine Russ		Audio/Visual	Jesele Baxter
Flowers		Somerville Maintenance—		Communion to the Sick This Week	Group 2—Mary Marshall
Cleaning	APRIL: Louise Street	Sandy Adolphus & Sharon Judd			

LADIES LUNCH

Friday 4th March 12.00 pm at
Somerville Hotel.

Please call Val 0409 774 919 if you would
like to attend.

PROJECT COMPASSION APPEAL

Irene lives in the Kongolo Region in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and faced immense challenges after losing her father to war and raising her children in poverty. With support from Caritas Australia, Irene received vocational training in sewing and farming and can now support her whole family.



Photo credit: Caritas Australia

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the **donation boxes available at our churches**, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above. .

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS NEXT SUNDAY

On the next Sunday, 6 April, at **3:00 am** clocks are turned backward 1 hour to **2:00am** local standard time instead.

Please adjust your clocks.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays after the 9.30am Mass in Hastings and **Tuesdays** after the 9.30am Mass in Somerville during Lenten season

Lenten Reflection Group

You are invited to gather for a time of **quiet Reflection and Prayer** on the Lenten Sunday Scriptures.

When: THURSDAYS of Lent :
April 3 and 10.

Time: 4.00pm – 5.00 pm

Where: St. Peter's Church Shoreham

If you are unable to attend but would like a copy of the Reflection booklet, contact Sister Joan Power on 0491 011 127 and she will arrange a copy for you.

ALL WELCOME

Lenten Reconciliation Service—

Mercy Night

As part of the Jubilee Year, there will be Community Reconciliation Mass and individual reconciliation on Wednesday, **April 9th**, at Immaculate Conception Church Hastings, starting at **6.00 pm**.

As the Catholic Church celebrates the Jubilee Year, Western Port Parish invites you to a Lantern Reconciliation Service in preparation for Holy Week on Wednesday, April 9th, at 6:00 PM at Hastings Church. Let us come together as a family to seek God's mercy for our past iniquities, reconcile our hearts, and renew our faith in Him.

The evening will include a Reconciliation Mass, followed by a short penitential service. Two priests will be available for individual confessions. Take this opportunity for spiritual cleansing and renewal.

JUBILEE YEAR 2025

A Year of Jubilee provides a beautiful opportunity for families to grow closer together and deepen their faith. Here are some meaningful ways households can celebrate at home:



1. HOUSEHOLD PRAYER TIME - Dedicate a special time each day or week for household prayer, thanking God for the blessings received, and the challenges faced, and praying for renewal in your family life. Pray the Jubilee Prayer together as a household.

2. FORGIVENESS AND MERCY - Set aside a moment to ask for and offer forgiveness within the household. Go together as a family to the sacrament of Reconciliation

(to be continued next week)

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to the children who received the sacrament of First Reconciliation in the past two weeks!

Special thanks to their parents and REL teachers from our three schools who have put in effort to assist the children in receiving the sacrament in a meaningful way. *Fr Shymon*

JUBILEE YEAR PILGRIMAGES

Magi Pilgrimages would like to invite you for the Jubilee Pilgrimages led by Fr. Sebastian, **Streams of Mercy tour** (20th May- 4th June'25) and the **Marian Shrines tour** (4th June- 18 June). Few more seats are available. The tour includes Return Economy Airfares + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + All Breakfasts & Dinners + English speaking professional guides. For itineraries & bookings, call 03 8839 6615 or 1300 721 561 or email us pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au.

Total givings from the week 17/3/25-23/3/25

1st Collection – Presbytery (Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards and cheques) \$736.90

2nd Collection – Church Account (Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards and cheques) \$1,168.70
Tap Machine \$147.73

Thank you for your ongoing support!