



Westernport Catholic Parish Newsletter

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

Divine Mercy Sunday - Year C, 27 April 2025

PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Priest: Fr Shymon
Thekkekalathungal IVDei

Parish Secretary:
Hijacinta Svabelj

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Deirdre Fennessy

**Office Hours: 9.30am-
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[www.melbcatholic.org/s/
westernport](https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/westernport)

**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

Acts 5:12-16

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117:2-4. 22-27

R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.'

Let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end.'

Let those who fear the Lord say: 'His love has no end. (R.)

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

O Lord, grant us salvation; O Lord, grant success.

Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes.

We bless you from the house of the Lord; the Lord God is our light. (R.)

Second Reading

Apocalypse 1:9-13. 17-19

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

The word of the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;
happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

Gospel:

John 20:19–31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

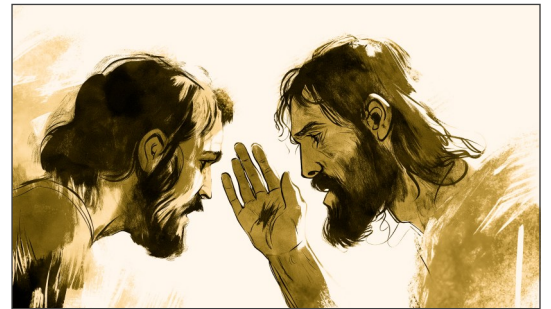
'As the Father sent me so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.



The Gospel of the Lord.

2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER—DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Jesus, I trust in you!

Prayer of Entrustment to Divine Mercy

O Lord, our God.

We place our trust in You,
Because you are mercy itself. We repent of our sins
and turn to You for mercy.

We trust You to provide for our every need, according to Your will.

Help us to forgive others as You forgive us.

We promise to be merciful by our deeds, words and prayers.

Though we have fears because of human weakness, we rely on Your infinite goodness and mercy.

We entrust to You the future of our planet, our Church, our nations, our families and all our needs.

With loud cries we implore your mercy on us and on the whole world.

Look upon us, created in your image and likeness.

Form us in the Heart of Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit into the living images of mercy.

May all come to know the depth of Your mercy and sing the praises of Your mercy forever.

Amen!



REFLECTION FOR YOUTH

Historical
Context

My Lord and my God

By the time the Gospel of John was written – in the last decade of the 1st Century – there were already diverse beliefs about Jesus. As is recorded in the gospels, there were those who regarded Jesus as one of the prophets of Israel; others recognised him as the promised Messiah; others still had come to believe in Jesus the Christ as the incarnation of God. That is certainly the theology expressed in the Gospel of John. Perhaps as a means to further his community's theology and correct other ideas, the gospel writer has Thomas declare, "My Lord and my God!"

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, 28 April—4 May**MONDAY** No Service**TUESDAY 9.30am** Communion Service at Somerville**WEDNESDAY 9.00am** No Mass at Shoreham**THURSDAY 9.30am** Communion Service at Hastings**FRIDAY 9.30am** Communion Service at Hastings (No Eucharistic Adoration this week)**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 Bob Smith, Rebecca, Eddie and Marie 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 Duyvestyn, James Smythe, Lucy Triffett, Helena Jaskolski, Oscar Dixon-Rotherham, Margaret Sherlock, Kathleen 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 Pope Francis, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal—Next Weekend

Next weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. As the Catholic Church's mission in action, CatholicCare Victoria delivers programs and services to support families, children, young people and individuals to help everyone reach their full potential. The services include counselling and mental health services, specialised support for children and teens, refugee and asylum seeker help, pastoral care, support for separating families, social housing, homelessness... Please donate to the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. Your support and generosity will help provide caring and compassionate support for struggling individuals and families in our community. **You can donate using the appeal envelope available in our parish, donate online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9967 2515.**

NAMES ON ROSTERS BELOW FOR SERVICES NEXT WEEK, 3/5 & 4/5/2025

MINISTRY	Somerville	Shoreham	Hastings		
Lector	Maree Chapman	Sr Joan Power	Ted Fennessy	Mass Welcomer Hastings	Maggie Parsons
Eucharistic Ministers	Louise Street	Marg Grant	Paula Stokes Maggie Parsons	Counters This Week	Heimann Sissing. Hijacinta Svabelj
Commentator	Sandy Adolphus	Peter Schreiner		Counters Next Week	Judy & Derrick Deefholts
Altar Linen		MAY—Anne Maree Dyer		Sacristan	Marie Ernestine
Mass Prep	Christine Coleman	MAY—Margaret Grant		Audio/Visual	Geoff Robinson
Flowers	Paula Street	Somerville Maintenance— Sandy Adolphus & Sharon Judd		Communion to the Sick This Week	Group 2— Mary Marshall
Cleaning	MAY—Christine Coleman				

IN MEMORY OF POPE FRANCIS



With deep sorrow and profound gratitude, we at Western Port Parish mourn the passing of our Holy Father, **Pope Francis** - a humble shepherd who truly knew the smell of his sheep. He walked with the poor, lifted the broken, and opened the arms of the Church to the world. His life was a testament to Christ's mercy, and his words and witness brought hope to countless hearts.

Pope Francis was born as Jorge Mario Bergoglio in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 17 December 1936. He served as a Pope for 12 years, since March 2013. Before departing from this life, on Easter Monday 2025, in his last Urbi & Orbi Message he wrote: "In the Lord's Paschal Mystery, death and life contended in a stupendous struggle, but the Lord now lives forever (cf. *Easter Sequence*). He fills us with the certainty that we too are called to share in the life that knows no end, when the clash of arms and the rumble of death will be heard no more. Let us entrust ourselves to him, for he alone can make all things new (cf. Rev. 21:5)!"

The copies of this Urbi & Orbi Message of His Holiness Pope Francis are available at foyers in our 3 churches for Parishioners to read and reflect upon them. The message is also available on our Parish Website <https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/westernport> (please go to Documents and Forms).

Now, may this good and faithful servant rest in the embrace of the Good Shepherd he so beautifully followed. **On behalf of our parish, Fr. Shymon already celebrated a Mass for the soul of our late Pope last Tuesday at Somerville and has remembered and prayed for his soul in all other Masses.** We continue to pray for his soul in all our prayers. Moreover, we pray for the election of a new Pope, that God may continue to shower His grace upon His faithful.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

MASS FOR POPE FRANCIS AT ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

A Solemn Pontifical Mass for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis will be celebrated by **Archbishop Peter A Comensoli** at St Patrick's Cathedral on **Monday 28 April at 1pm**. For those unable to attend, the Mass will be livestreamed and broadcast on Community Channel C31.

THANK YOU!

A sincere thanks to all of our Parishioners of three Mass centres who participated and helped with our Holy Week ceremonies, it was greatly appreciated. Special thanks to all the volunteers who have helped in any way during these very important week.

Also, congratulations to our Kayla who have entered into Catholic church on Easter Vigil and thanks to RCIA team. Thank you and may God bless you! *Fr Shymon*

PARISH MASS COUNT

This year's Parish Mass Count will be conducted during four weekends in May, starting from the next weekend.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Our **Sacramental Program** for children who do not attend our Parish Primary Schools will be commencing on 14th May for Reconciliation and First Eucharist and 2nd July for Confirmation. Enrolment forms and more details are on the Parish Website or contact the Parish Office. Please get any interested families to contact the Parish.

NEW WESTERN PORT PARISH WEBSITE

Dear Parishioners, our Parish has a new Parish Website, due to our old website being often hacked and unavailable. New website is in initial stage. However, you will find information about history of our three churches, our schools, Sacramental Programs, Mass Schedule and services, documents and links... To access the new website, please follow the link: <https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/westernport>



ANZAC DAY
LEST WE FORGET
25 APRIL

LADIES LUNCHEON

On Friday 2nd May at Baxter Tavern at 12 noon. Please call **Val 0409 774 919** if you would like to attend.

PARISH MINISTRIES

For everyone who's able and willing to volunteer in the Parish activities, Volunteer Forms will be available to take at all Mass Centres, on the welcoming table. The commitments are for the year, commencing Pentecost Sunday for the following 12 months. If unavailable to fulfil any ministry for which you sign up, you would need to find a replacement by phoning one of the numbers on the particular roster. Many parishioners already assist by doing various tasks in our Parish and we are thankful for that. **If you are already on a Roster this year, you still need to place your name on the new Volunteer List.**

Please return forms by Sunday, 18th of May.

Total givings from the week 14/4-20/4/25

Thanksgiving 1 st Collection – Presbytery	\$2063.70
2nd Collection – Church Account (<i>Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards, cheques and envelopes, annual givings</i>)	\$2517.70
Tap Machine	\$42.87
Holy Thursday Collection	\$455.15
Good Friday Collection	\$447.30