



Westernport Catholic Parish Newsletter

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

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A - 4th/5th July 2026

PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Priest: Fr Shymon
Thekkekalathungal IVDei

Parish Secretary:
Judy Deefholts

**Office Hours: 9.30am-
3.00pm (Tuesday-Friday)**
Phone - 5979 4374

PARISH CENTRE:
71 Marine Parade Hastings

POSTAL ADDRESS:
PO Box 76 Hastings 3915

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Parish Web Site: <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
Primary 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

Zechariah 9:9-10

A reading from the prophet Zechariah

The Lord says this:

'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion!

Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!

See now, your king comes to you; he is victorious, he is triumphant,
humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

He will banish chariots from Ephraim and horses from Jerusalem;
the bow of war will be banished.

He will proclaim peace for the nations. His empire shall stretch from sea
to sea, from the river to the ends of the earth.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalms 144:1-2, 8-11, 13-14 R. v.1

(R.) I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

1. I will give you glory, O God my King,
I will bless your name for ever.
I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever. **(R.)**
2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. **(R.)**
3. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God. **(R.)**
4. The Lord is faithful in all his words
and loving in all his deeds.
The Lord supports all who fall

Second Reading

Romans 8:9,11-13

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the
Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed
the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him
who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised
Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his
Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual
selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are
doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the
body you will live.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

See Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 11:25-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CS.

The readings for today engage us in a reflection on the nature of the Trinity, as well as the ways that we are enriched by each of the divine Persons. The gospel acknowledges the sovereignty of God. This is followed immediately by mention of the handing over of all things to Jesus, making him a kind of vice-regent of God. Paul speaks of the Spirit, clearly a divine reality, but different from Jesus and the one called God. According to Paul, this Spirit is the Spirit of Jesus and the Spirit of God, implying that somehow both Jesus and God claim the Spirit. It is this Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead, and it is this same Spirit who dwells in Christians.

The grace of this Triune God touches our lives in some ways that are tangible and other ways that demand faith. The most tangible manifestation of God is Jesus himself. God has been revealed to us through this Jesus. While Jesus was a tangible person, our accepting of him as the manifestation of God requires faith, and this faith is no easier today than it was at the time of Jesus himself.

The overriding disposition of these readings is humility. Jesus, the human manifestation of the divine, is meek and humble, and the true disciple is called to be humble. A second disposition is placed before us – grateful praise. In the psalm we praise and bless God; we extol God's holy name. In Jesus we have known the tender touch of God, and we are grateful.



Synodality is about mission

The purpose of synodality is not internal reform for its own sake. Its goal is evangelisation—helping the Church become more faithful, more welcoming, and more effective in proclaiming the Gospel to today's world.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CUPBOARD

Thanks to the generosity of Saint Brendan's and Padua College students and families as well as parishioners, St VdeP does not require any donations of non-perishable food to provide to our clients.

Our cupboard is currently full, and we are using space in the Parish House to store food. We have never been in this position before and we thank everyone for their generous 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,: 6th - 12th July**MONDAY:** No Service**TUESDAY:****9.30am** Mass at Somerville**WEDNESDAY:****9.00am** Mass at Shoreham**THURSDAY:****9.30am** No Mass at Hastings**11.00a.m.** Mass at The Bays, Hastings.**FRIDAY:****9.30am** Mass at Hastings**SATURDAY:****10.00am–10.30am.** Reconciliation at Hastings**6.00pm** Mass at Somerville**SUNDAY:****8.00am** Mass at Shoreham**10.00am** Mass at Hastings**PRAYERS AND PETITIONS**

Please pray for those who are sick, especially Priscilla Pascual, Marcelina Pascual, Jacqueline Sharpley, Charles, Mary Marshall, Ian Marshall, Bob Fels, David Wirth, Brian Stahl, Michael Smith, Ray Weir, Rebecca, Marie Mereszko, Halima, Maureen Bleighly, Sandra, Marissa, Amber, Peter Rogan, Bernadette Sexton, Peter Munyan, Mary Sloan, Paula Murphy, Frank Tagliabue, Michael Pound, Janice Danaher, Jane, Maria, Kathy Burke, Frank Howard, Mike Mason, Elaine Duyvestyn, 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, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEK—11th/12th July

MINISTRY	<i>Somerville</i>	<i>Shoreham</i>	<i>Hastings</i>		
Lector	Garry McDonell	Peter Schreiner	Tom Leyden	Mass Welcomer Hastings	Barbara Farley
Eucharistic Ministers	Mary Marshall	Val Fakhry	Barbara Farley Deirdre Fennessy	Counters This Week	Kees & Genevieve Meyer
Commentator	Tracey Clarke	Ann Lorkin	Michael Smith	Counters Next Week	Stephen Stewart Ian Marshall
Altar Linen	JULY—Christine Coleman	JULY—Val Fakhry		Sacristan	Virginia Carey
Mass Prep	Mary Marshall	JULY—Val Fakhry		Audio/Visual	Princes Jellyanne Manocan
Flowers	Maree Chapman			Communion to the Sick This Week	Anne-Marie Lawson

NAIDOC WEEK 5July –12July 2026



On the first Sunday of July each year, the Catholic Church in Australia observes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday, when we gather as one to honour and celebrate the rich cultural heritage, spirituality and contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in our Church. This year's theme, is **"50 Years of Deadly,"** which marks a milestone celebrating five decades of Indigenous voices, cultures, and community-led movements.

NAIDOC Week is an opportunity for all Australians to learn about First Nations cultures and histories and participate in celebrations of the oldest, continuous living cultures on earth. You can support and get to know your local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities through activities and events held across the country: <https://www.naidoc.org.au/about/naidoc-week>

Here are some of the community events that are happening locally:

Monday 6th July, Flag Raising Ceremony: 4 pm – 5 pm, Willum Warrain, Pound Road, Hastings.
Wednesday, 8th July, Maloga Art and Culture Workshop - Hastings Library: 11a.m. to 12noon
Saturday, 11 July - Community BBQ: 11 am – 1 pm, Willum Warrain, Pound Road, Hastings.

For more community events , please also see **Shire's website:** <https://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/About-Us/News-Media-Publications/News-and-Media-Releases/Join-us-for-NAIDOC-Week>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE COUNTRY: In the spirit of reconciliation the Western Port Parish acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

MORNING TEA after Mass in Hastings on Sunday, 5th July. All welcome.

SABBATICAL BREAK.

I would like to let our parish community know that I will be taking a three month sabbatical break beginning in August. A sabbatical is a canonical period of rest and renewal that the Church provides for priests. It allows time for prayer, study, reflection, and personal rejuvenation so that I can return refreshed for ministry.

All parish responsibilities and sacramental needs have been carefully organised. Two visiting priests will celebrate the weekday and weekend Masses during this time, and the parish secretary will remain in regular communication with me throughout the break.

Thank you for your understanding and support. Please keep me in your prayers as I prepare for this important time of rest and spiritual growth.

Fr. Shymon.

PETER'S PENCE is a gesture of communion and participation in the Pope's mission to proclaim the Gospel, promote peace, and spread Christian charity. This is a concrete way to support the Holy Father in his mission of service to the universal Church. There will be a leaving collection at all Mass Centres today to support this worthy cause.

CONGRATULATIONS to Archbishop Peter Comensoli who has been appointed by Pope Leo to the Dicastery for Evangelisation, Section for Fundamental Questions regarding Evangelisation in the World. The appointment was announced on Saturday 27 June. According to its constitution, the dicastery 'serves the work of evangelisation, so that Christ, the light of the nations, may be known and witnessed to by word and deed, and the Church, his mystical Body, may be built up.'
[Continue Reading: melbournecatholic.com.au](https://melbournecatholic.com.au)

MESSAGE FROM HIJACINTA.

Dear Fr Shymon and Parishioners,
I'm deeply grateful to have served as Parish Secretary for the past four years. Getting my duties done was so much easier knowing that I had such a supportive and caring group of people to work with.

There is a sadness in leaving this position but also many happy memories to be cherished. May God bless you!

With thanks, Hijacinta.

Total giving from 27th & 28th June.

1st Collection – Presbytery - \$771.00

2nd Collection – Church Account - \$729.60

Thank you for your ongoing support!