



Western Port Catholic Parish

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

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time- Year C, 7th September 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:

71 Marine Parade Hastings

POSTAL ADDRESS:

PO Box 76 Hastings 3915

Email:

westernport@cam.org.au

Parish Web Site:

[https://
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

Wisdom 9:13-18

A reading from the book of Wisdom

What man can know the intentions of God? Who can divine the will of the Lord?
The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable;
for a perishable body presses down the soul,
and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind.
It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth,
laborious to know what lies within our reach;
who, then, can discover what is in the heavens?
As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom
and sent your holy spirit from above?
Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened
and men been taught what pleases you,
and saved, by Wisdom.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 89:3-6, 12-14, 17, R. v.1

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'
To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone,
no more than a watch in the night. **(R.)**

You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning.
In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades. **(R.)**

Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Philemon 12-17: Phlm 9-10, 12-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Philemon

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him – I could say – a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 118:135

Alleluia, alleluia!
Let your face shine on your servant,
and teach me your laws.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 14:25-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

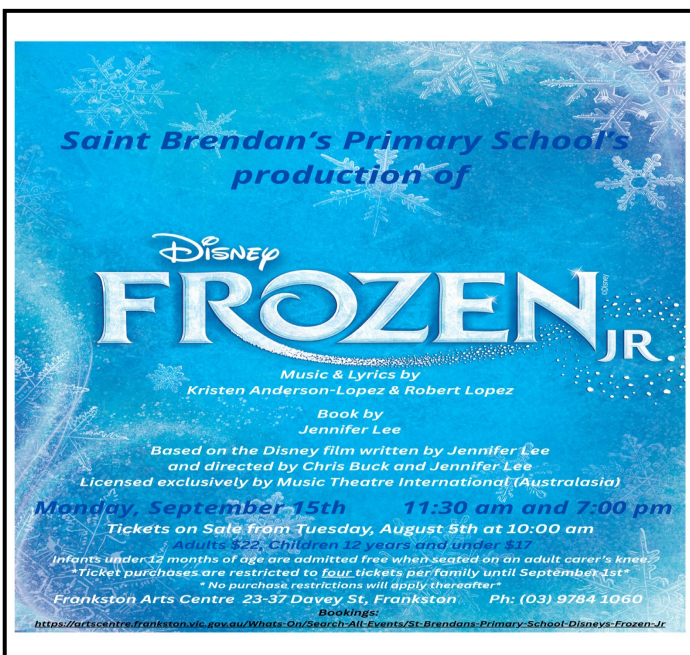
The Gospel of the Lord.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The wisdom tradition from which the first reading is taken is rooted in the fact that life is a series of choices. The epistle and the gospel reading provide us with examples of the way Christians should choose. Finally, the psalm's description of the fleeting nature of life sets the context and tone of our decision-making.

Discipleship demands that, in the face of all the choices available to us, we keep our priorities straight. In the gospel, Jesus insists that we must be single minded. We must cling to the one thing necessary, and that one thing is authentic discipleship. In choosing Jesus, we choose other things as well. We choose new relationships with the very people to whom we have already been committed. Those who were slaves, or lower class, or employees, or providers of service are now regarded as sisters and brothers in Christ. In choosing Jesus, we also choose the cross. We choose to live in a way that calls us to travel the high road: to forgive offences committed against us; to live simply so that others can simply live; to take responsibility for the moral character of society.

The fleeting nature of life as characterised in the psalm forces us to look at the meaning of life. When the day dawns for us to return to dust, what will we have gained from life? The realisation of our finiteness and the transitory nature of life should help us to set our priorities right and should give us the courage to remain faithful to



ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL NEWS!

This term, St Joseph's Primary School in Crib Point is excited to be holding a **STEM Expo - Little Scientists, Big Ideas.**

Sponsored by Bendigo Bank, this competition is open for local primary school students to participate. It is a celebration of student learning designed to acknowledge and promote STEM learning initiatives that address real-world problems. The Expo will run from 9am-1:30pm on Tuesday 16th September.

We warmly invite you to come and experience this wonderful learning experience. Hope to see you there!

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, 8th to 14th September.**MONDAY** No Mass**TUESDAY 9.30am** Mass at Somerville**WEDNESDAY 9.00** Mass at Shoreham**THURSDAY 9.30am** Mass at Hastings**FRIDAY 9.30** Mass at Hastings**SATURDAY****No 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,**RCIA. Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults".**

Our RCIA team is ready to welcome any participants who would like to inquire about becoming a Catholic. The first session will be on **Thursday 9th October at 7:00pm** in the Parish Centre. Please encourage any of your family or friends to consider the inquiry stage. There is no obligation to commit to continuing if the decision is made to not proceed. Please contact the Parish Office with names and details.

PRAYERS AND PETITIONS

Please pray for those who are sick, especially Pat Pope, David Wirth, Brian Stahl, Kees Meyer, Michael Smith, Danny McGeough, Ray Weir, Rebecca, Marie Mereszko, Halima, Sala, Agnes, Malia, Janelle Farley, Maureen Bleighly, Sandra, Marissa, Amber, Peter Rogan, Bernadette Sexton, Peter Munyan, 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 Mary McCluskey, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEK, 8th—14th September

MINISTRY	Somerville	Shoreham	Hastings		
Lector	Gary McDonell	Michael Callaghan	Geraldine Prescott	Mass Welcomer Hastings	Kayla Miller
Eucharistic Ministers	Maree Chapman	Marg Grant	Barbara Farley Deirdre Fennessy	Counters This Week	Ian Marshall Steven Stewart
Commentator	Judy Deefholts	Anne-Marie Wilkinson	Jared McCartin	Counters Next Week	Heimann Sissing Steven Stewart
Altar Linen		SEPT. Anne Maree Dyer		Sacristan	Paula Stokes
Mass Prep	Val Baxter	SEPT. Marg Grant		Audio/Visual	Jesele Baxter
Flowers	Louise Street	Somerville Maintenance— Fred Arena		Communion to the Sick This Week	Mary Marshall
Cleaning	SEPT. Tracey Clark				

EPISCOPAL VICAR – SOUTHERN REGION

The Archbishop has appointed Rev Andrzej Madry CR as the Episcopal Vicar for the Southern Region. This is in addition to his role as Parish Priest of Mulgrave and Wheelers Hill Parishes. Please pray for him as he takes up his new appointment as the Episcopal Vicar for the Southern Region.

ONLINE PERMANENT DIACONATE INFORMATION SESSION – TUESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2025

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and 60 years, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. The online information session is open to everyone interested in knowing more about the Permanent Diaconate.

Attendance will be by invitation. Express your interest by emailing Deacon Kevin Pattison (Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au). In the week before the session the ZOOM link will be sent to those who have expressed interest. For more information please find here a letter to Parish Priests and Bulletin Notices.

Canonisation of Blessed Carlo Acutis. : and Pier Giorgio Frassati

7th September 2025

Pope Leo will canonize Blessed Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati on Sept. 7 – the first such ceremony of his tenure.

Carlo Acutis died in 2006 after being diagnosed with leukemia and is known to many as “God’s influencer.” and the first Catholic saint of the millennial generation.

Pier Giorgio Frassati was a young layman of the Dominican Third Order. He was devoted to the Eucharist and Mary and time spent in adoration and praying the rosary For more information:

[Making saints: how does the canonisation process... | Melbourne Catholic](#)



VATICAN II SYMPOSIUM – WEDNESDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2025

You are invited to the joint Catholic Theological College & Yarra Theological Union symposium to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the close of Vatican II on Wednesday 24 September 2025 held at the Catholic Theological College, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne. This symposium gathers experts from around Australia to reflect on the key themes of Vatican II that continue to shape the Church today.

Please find here all the program details for the day and how to register. Bookings close 17 September 2025.

A Prayer for our Fathers.

Heavenly Father,
you entrusted your Son Jesus, the child of Mary, to the care of Joseph, an earthly father.

Bless all fathers and father figures as they care for their families.
Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness and patience.

Support them in the work they have to do, protecting those who look to them, as we look to you for love and salvation, through Jesus Christ our rock and defender. **Amen.**



Australian Catholic Youth Festival Sunday, 30th November – Tuesday, 2nd December 2025 Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre

As the event draws near, organisers are putting out a call for volunteers to join the festival. Volunteers will play a vital role in creating a welcoming and enriching experience for attendees. Roles include welcoming pilgrims, supporting liturgies, assisting with logistics and venue setup, and more.

Log in to [CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE MELBOURNE](#) to register your interest

National Child Protection Week : 7-13 September, 2025

The Catholic Church in Australia will observe Safeguarding Sunday on the 14 September, coinciding with the conclusion of National Child Protection Week. This day is dedicated to recognising the deep and lasting impact of sexual abuse experienced by children, young people and adults at risk, including abuse that occurred within Catholic settings by clergy, religious figures, and laypeople. It is a time to renew the Church’s commitment to building and sustaining environments where safety and respect are paramount. The day also calls on the faithful to offer prayers for all those who have been affected by abuse, both personally and through their connection to others who have suffered.

RECIA REGIONAL NETWORK GATHERING – SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2025

Clergy, RCIA team members and all interested in beginning an RCIA team are invited to an RCIA Regional Network Gathering. This evening offering is the perfect opportunity to connect with other RCIA teams in their region, share resources and formation opportunities, and accompany each other in encouragement in the vital missionary work ahead. Across September and October, each region and those in the Geelong area will have an opportunity to gather. The first gathering will be in the Southern Region on Thursday 18 September 2025, 6.30-8.30pm, Resurrection Parish, Keysborough

Total givings from the week 25th—31st August

1st Collection – Presbytery (Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards and cheques) \$757.50

2nd Collection – Church (Including Direct Debits, Cards and cheques) \$1135.80

Tap Machine Donations \$73.62

Thank you for your ongoing support!