



Westernport Catholic Parish Newsletter

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

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A – 11th/12th 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

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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

Isaiah 55:10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 64:10-14 R. Lk 8:8

(R.) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

1. You care for the earth, give it water,
you fill it with riches.
Your river in heaven brims over
to provide its grain. **(R.)**
2. And thus you provide for the earth;
you drench its furrows,
you level it, soften it with showers,
you bless its growth. **(R.)**
3. You crown the year with your goodness.
Abundance flows in your steps,
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows **(R.)**
4. The hills are girded with joy,
the meadows covered with flocks,
the valleys are decked with wheat.
They shout for joy, yes, they sing. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Romans 8:18-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!

Matthew 13:1-23

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'



The Gospel of the Lord.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CS.

The readings for this Sunday call us to self-examination. The gospel describes various levels of receptivity, the willingness to allow ourselves to receive from another, to be influenced by another, perhaps even to be transformed. The more independent we are, the less likely we will be open to others and, consequently, less receptive to their ideas. By definition disciples are receptive to the one they follow. To be a disciple of Jesus requires receptivity, so it is important that we scrutinise ourselves to discover the extent to which we are open. To what should we be receptive? To the words of Scripture, the words of the liturgy, the words of the sacraments, the living tradition of the community. God's word is sown in many forms and under many guises. It makes little difference who sows the seed. How will we receive it?

Besides the word of God, the readings speak of the world of God. The people of biblical times were aware of the revelation of God in and through the natural world. Isaiah teaches about the effectiveness of the word of God through the metaphor of rain. The psalmist uses the natural world to describe God's work of salvation. Paul claims that eschatological fulfilment will include all of creation. Finally, Jesus' parables are rooted in stories about nature. We cannot afford to close our eyes to the needs of the natural world, or stop our ears to the cries of the earth, or harden our hearts to the world of which we are a part, for the word of God will accomplish the end for which God sent it.

MELBOURNE SYNOD 2026 – Theme Paper Release

The Synod theme papers are an important step in our journey of listening and discernment as we prepare for the Melbourne Synod. The papers aim to foster a spirit of hope and imagination—trusting that, as we walk together, God is calling us into a future marked by faithfulness, renewal, and deeper communion. The suggested reflection process is a 'Conversation in the Spirit' or a Spiritual Conversation. This method is based in prayer and allows people to come together to both speak and to listen.

Different from a discussion, it is an attentive listening process that aims to discern where the Holy Spirit is leading us. At the conclusion of each theme paper, there are prompt questions for reflection. Responses to these prompt questions can be provided via the QR code which is at the end of each paper.

The website: [Melbourne Synod 2026](#) | [Melbourne Catholic](#) is regularly updated with new information, so do please keep checking for updates.

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,: 13th - 19th July**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**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, 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, especially Paula Meyer and Alan James Crombie Snr. May they rest in peace.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEK—18th/19th July

MINISTRY	<i>Somerville</i>	<i>Shoreham</i>	<i>Hastings</i>		
Lector	Lauren Hall	Marie Hall	Princes Jellyanne Manocan	Mass Welcomer Hastings	Imelda Harrip
Eucharistic Ministers	Maree Chapman	Anne Maree Dyer	Paula Stokes Maggie Parsons	Counters This Week	Stephen Stewart Ian Marshall
Commentator	Sandy Adolphus	Anthony Grimes	Tom Leyden	Counters Next Week	Heimann Sissing Brian McAnallen
Altar Linen	JULY—Christine Coleman	JULY—Val Fakhry		Sacristan	Leah Marsh
Mass Prep	Christine Coleman	JULY—Val Fakhry		Audio/Visual	Jessele Baxter
Flowers	Louise Street			Communion to the Sick This Week	Mary Marshall

SABBATICAL BREAK.

Thank you to everyone who has wished me well for my time away from the parish.

Please note that during this time the Parish Office will not be open on Tuesdays. Office Hours are: 9.30a.m. to 3p.m. Wednesday to Friday.

Fr. Shymon.

The Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne warmly welcomes the appointment by Pope Leo XIV of Mgr Stuart Hall, Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne, as Bishop of the Military Ordinariate of Australia.

Archbishop Peter A Comensoli said the appointment was a source of great joy for the Archdiocese, while acknowledging that Bishop-elect Hall would be greatly missed by the Cathedral community and the many people he has served across Melbourne.

Pope Leo has urged Catholics across the globe to join him this July in praying for respect for human life. In his monthly prayer intention, the Pope is praying 'for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognising it as a gift from God'.

"We ask for the grace to recognise and protect the unique and unrepeatable value of every human being."

Continue reading: melbournecatholic.com.au

"IS THERE DIVERSITY IN CHAPLAINCY?" DISCOVER MORE ...

A webinar in two parts 23 July & 30 July 7.00-8.30pm. During these two webinars, experienced Chaplains will explore their varied roles and discuss the broad scope of their ministry. Organised by The Association of Pastoral Ministry Leaders Melbourne (APMLM) and Garratt's Publishing. Registration details available at www.garrattpublishing.com.au/event/is-there-diversity-in-chaplaincy-webinar-series/

"Harbours of Hope: The Church Alongside Seafarers." Our theme inspired by *Matthew 25*. This theme celebrates the local church as a place of welcome, refuge, and hope — a community offering both spiritual and practical safety to those who work at sea. It invites congregations to reflect on how they can stand alongside seafarers.

Sea Sunday is a moment each year when churches around the world come together to pray for seafarers, give thanks for their vital work, and support The Mission to Seafarers' life changing frontline ministry through prayer, hospitality, generosity, and justice.

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.

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES. If you did not receive your envelopes for 2026/2027, please contact the Parish office.

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC DIGEST. Copies in the foyer.

Total giving from 4th/5th July

1st Collection – Presbytery - \$847.80

2nd Collection – Church Account - \$687.70

Tap Machine—\$53.90

Peter's Pence—\$500.60

Thank you for your ongoing support!

ENRICHMENT DAY FOR COUPLES.

The 5 Love Languages- The Secret to Love that Lasts: Enrichment Day for Couples is based on the international best-seller by Dr Gary Chapman (more than 10 million copies sold).

Your presenters, Deb & Paul Cochran, have been married for 37 years and involved with Marriage Encounter for 27 years. They have presented the 5 Love Languages Enrichment to Couples in Adelaide, Melbourne and Brisbane. Deb & Paul bring the concepts of the book alive in a humorous and relatable way as they share their own experiences

9 am-5 pm, Sat, 15 August 2026 @ St Eugene's Retreat & Conference Centre, 45 John Field Drive, Newborough (Gippsland) VIC 3825

Cost: \$60 per couple (includes course materials, lunch and morning & afternoon tea)

More information and booking: <https://www.trybooking.com/DMSUR>

Enquiries: Maria & Andre Rasquinha E: andrerasquinha@yahoo.com.au T: 0411 225 992