



Westernport Catholic Parish Newsletter

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

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A – 5th/6th September 2026

PARISH CONTACT

DETAILS

Parish Priest: Fr Shymon
Thekkekalathungal IVDei

Parish Secretary:
Judy Deefholts

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

PARISH CENTRE:
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POSTAL ADDRESS:
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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

Ezekiel 33:7-9

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 94:1-2.6-9. R. v.8

**(R.) O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.**

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. **(R.)**
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. **(R.)**
3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **(R.)**

Second Reading

Romans 13:8-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

2 Corinthians 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;
and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

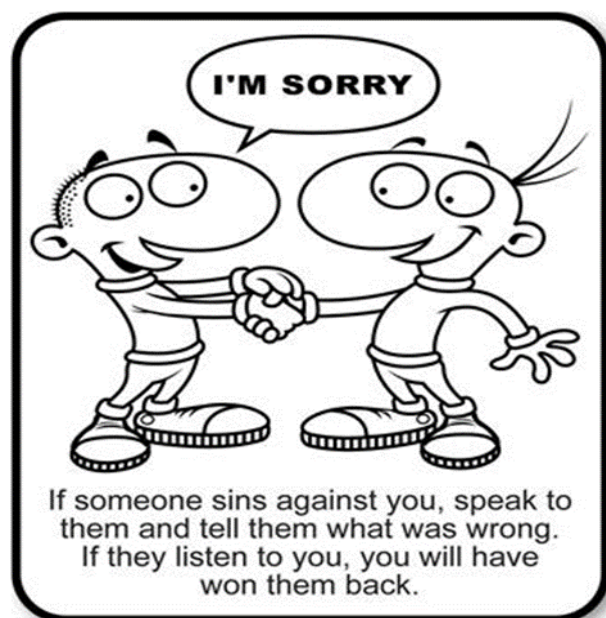
'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

It is difficult for leaders to call people to accountability. Such is the unenviable responsibility of pastors in the parish, coordinators of religious education, members of the parish council, principals in the school, directors of liturgical ministry, to name but a few. Disciples must also engage in the very difficult process of reconciliation. Differences of opinion, misunderstandings, and actual offences tend to alienate people. We see this happen in families, neighbourhoods, parish communities, workplaces. It is not enough to say that we must try to forgive from our hearts. The process of reconciliation requires significant movement toward the admission of guilt as well. Both the one offended and the offender must be willing to be transformed.

Gathering two or three together in prayerful collaboration is not as easy as it sounds. If collaboration is to be effective, we have to be open and honest about our opinions and our biases, and respectful of the opinions and biases of others. We must work for the common good and not merely for what we personally think is best. We must be willing to accept and implement decisions with which we may not totally agree, and we must live with them gracefully. All of this calls for unselfish love. Love fulfils the entire law only: when we honour our personal commitments and the personal commitments of others; when we value the life, dignity and reputation of others; and when we respect their possessions. It is only because love is so demanding that it covers all of our responsibilities.



Jesus wants us to be peacemakers

When someone does wrong things against me, I can be a peacemaker by....

When I do wrong things against someone, I can be a peacemaker by....

LITURGIES THIS WEEK: 7/9 - 13/9**MONDAY:** No Service**TUESDAY:****9.30am** Communion Service at
Somerville**FRIDAY:****9.30am** Mass at Hastings**SATURDAY:****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 Jemima Middleton (McKillop), Kylie Wilman, Ann Wilson, Priscilla Pascual, Marcelina Pascual, Jacqueline Sharpley, Charles, Mary Marshall, Ian Marshall, Bob Fels, David Wirth, 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 Mary Meyer. May they rest in peace.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEK—12th/13th September

MINISTRY	<i>Somerville</i>	<i>Shoreham</i>	<i>Hastings</i>		
Lector	Lauren Hall	Marie Hall	Deirdre Fennessy	Mass Welcomer Hastings	Imelda Harrip
Eucharistic Ministers	Garry McDonell	Sue Ireland	Lioba Robinson Isobel Wilson	Counters This Week	Judy & Derek Deefholts
Commentator	Sandy Adolphus	Peter Schreiner	Tom Leyden	Counters Next Week	Kees & Genevieve Meyer
Altar Linen	SEPT.—Christine Coleman	SEPT. Marg Grant		Sacristan	Virginia Carey
Mass Prep	Mary Marshall			Audio/Visual	Princes Jellyanne Manocan
Flowers	Maree Chapman			Communion to the Sick This Week	Mary Marshall

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.**

Pope Leo XIV's September prayer intention is 'for the care of water' as Christians celebrate the 'Season of Creation.'
In his prayer for the month of September,. Pope Leo asked the Holy Spirit to guide Christians to denounce waste and pollution and to defend 'the right of every brother and sister to drink without fear and without inequality.'
UN agencies reported in 2025 that around 2.1 billion people still lack access to safely managed drinking water, while 106 million rely exclusively on rivers, lakes, or other untreated surface water.



GREETINGS FROM FR. SHYMON....

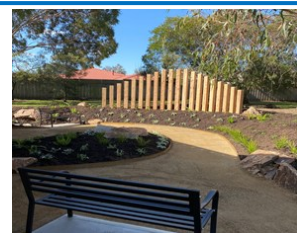
He is doing well on his sabbatical journey and at present is in Quebec Canada at the Institute Voluntas Dei (IVDei) of which he is a member.

This is a secular institute founded in 1958 by Fr Louis-Marie Parent OMI in Quebec. It began in the Canadian province with 10 men and quickly spread to Laos, Sri Lanka and India, as well as throughout North and South America. Fr. Shymon says it has been a wonderful experience to visit their Central Council, Director General, other IVDei priests and members of the Institute.

This week the Melbourne Catholic has published an article about these priests working in the Archdiocese of Melbourne (Fr. Shymon gets a mention!)

[Continue reading:melbournecatholic.org.au](http://melbournecatholic.org.au)

All Souls Day Memorial Service 2026 - St Brendan's Memorial Garden.



For All Souls Day in November this year there will be a short Memorial Service in the St Brendan's Memorial Garden before the Saturday evening Mass at a date to be confirmed.

In the meantime, we would like to invite applications for memorial plaques throughout September so that we may have time to order them and affix them prior to the service. Application forms are available at the Parish Office and at St Brendan's Church.

The cost for a plaque is \$200.00, (\$60.00 for the plaque and a one-time maintenance fee of \$140.00 for the upkeep and future requirements of the garden). There is also the opportunity to reserve an adjoining space for a future family memorial for an additional cost of \$30.00, (which is deducted from the cost of that future plaque). If you have any queries, please see Tracey Clark or leave your details with the Parish Office.

Synodality is a long journey

A Synod is not a one-time event. Synodality is a way of life that unfolds over time.

Synodality and mercy

Listening with compassion reflects the mercy of Christ, who always began with encounter.

Catholic Theological College

Invites you to our

Engaging Your Faith online presentations in October 2026

From \$25 per session.

For more information:ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith

Total giving: 29th/30th August

1st Collection – Presbytery: \$569.35
(Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards and cheques)

2nd Collection – Church: \$1130.55
(Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards and cheques)

Tap Machine Donations: \$171.79

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Western Port Parish is committed to making our Church a safe place for children and young people and protect them from harm.