



Westernport Catholic Parish Newsletter

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

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A - 26th/27th September 2026

PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Priest: Fr Shymon
Thekkekalathungal IVDei

Parish Secretary:
Judy Deefholts

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(Wednesday -Friday)
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**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 18:25-28

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-9. R. v.6

(R.) Remember your mercies, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. (R.)
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. (R.)
3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;

Second Reading.

Philippians 2:1-5

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation.

John 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 21:28-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

In every life there is a struggle between obedience and disobedience, and this struggle takes various twists and turns. At times we are willing to conform to regulations set from the outside, and at times we are not. We are invited to choose in favour of the reign of God, or we are free to ignore the invitation. Those who are fundamentally righteous sometimes fall from grace, and people considered evil to the core sometimes reform their lives. What ultimately counts are not the promises made, but the actions taken.

We are called to discipleship, and there may well be urgency in this call, but it is an invitation that is to be accepted freely. As is the case with life itself, options are placed before us all the way along the road. We are invited to choose in favour of the reign of God, or we are free to ignore the invitation. However, the invitation always remains open to us, because God's desire for our acceptance is persistent and enduring.

The real choice set before us today is the imitation of Christ. The specific characteristic of Christ today is his humility. Since demanding one's rights can undermine the loving quality of community, Jesus' humility is offered for our imitation. It is very clear that whichever aspect of discipleship we examine, some aspect of community is also present. To be a disciple of Jesus is to follow him humbly as a member of a believing community.



Jesus says it is better to have a change of heart than pretend to do what is right. Draw a picture of yourself doing something that you know is the right thing to do.





Make Good Choices

Jesus asks us to make good choices. Circle the good choices and cross out the poor choices.

When my bedroom needs tidying, I should...



- ... go outside and play
- ... put some of my things away
- ... play with my computer
- ... sort out my rubbish

When I accidentally bump into someone, I should...



- ... tell them it was their fault
- ... say "I'm sorry"
- ... ask them if they are okay
- ... run away quickly

When someone new joins our class, I should...



- ... invite them to come and play
- ... look at them, but not talk to them
- ... ignore them completely
- ... welcome them to our class

LITURGIES THIS WEEK: 28/9 - 4/10**MONDAY:** No Service**TUESDAY:****9.30am** Mass at Somerville**FRIDAY:****9.00am** Eucharistic Adoration
followed by 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, especially Stephen Schwarz and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEK—3rd/4th October

MINISTRY	<i>Somerville</i>	<i>Shoreham</i>	<i>Hastings</i>		
Lector	Christine Coleman	Tim Dyer	Tom Leyden	Mass Welcomer Hastings	Maggie Parsons
Eucharistic Ministers	Maree Chapman	Anne Marie Dyer	Lioba Robinson Isobel Wilson	Counters This Week	Stephen Stewart Ian Marshall
Commentator	Tracey Clark	Sylvia Falzon	Michael Smith	Counters Next Week	Heimann Sissing Brian McAnallen
Altar Linen	OCT: Mary Marshall	OCT: Catherine Russ		Sacristan	Virginia Carey
Mass Prep	Mary Marshall			Audio/Visual	Geoff Robinson
Flowers	Sandy Adolphus			Communion to the Sick This Week	Anne-Marie Lawson



WORLD DAY FOR MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES.

The World Day for Migrants and Refugees was first established in 1914 by Pope Pius X to pray for Italian migrants, and later institutionalized by Pope Benedict XV to support pastoral work for emigrants In 1952. The observance expanded internationally, recognizing the experiences of migrants, refugees, asylum seekers, and displaced people worldwide. Today, it serves as a platform for awareness,

advocacy, prayer, and humanitarian action, promoting understanding, compassion, and protection of human rights.

Message of Pope Leo XIV: "Even Just One of These Children" (cf. Mt 18:10)

"... The Gospel invites us not to calculate: even one. Every child, every human being, possesses an infinite dignity. Each is created in the image and likeness of God (cf. Gen 1:26); each is a presence of the Lord. Before every migrant child, we are called to make an act of humanity and faith, for we are able to welcome and encounter the Lord. This call becomes even more pressing in the light of another of the Lord's affirmations in the Gospel of Matthew: "I was a stranger and you welcomed me" (Mt 25:35). ..."

OCTOBER

MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY



The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary and this is a reminder of the promises for those who pray this contemplative prayer with Our Lady.

**Please come join us in prayer at:
Immaculate Conception Church Hastings: 25
minutes before Mass on Sundays.
Also at St Brendan's Church Somerville on
Tuesdays.**

Feast Days in October:

On October 1, we celebrate St. Therese of Lisieux, the Little Flower, who teaches us the "little way" of holiness. On October 4th—St. Francis of Assisi. On October 7, we honour Our Lady of the Rosary, reminding us of the strength and peace found in the Rosary. Later in the month, on October 15, we celebrate St. Teresa of Ávila, the great Doctor of the Church and reformer of the Carmelite order.

These feasts remind us to remain rooted in prayer, trusting that God works wonders in both the small and great moments of life. May the Rosary, prayed faithfully, lead us ever closer to Christ.

MORNING TEA - This Sunday.

There will be a Morning Tea after Mass at Hastings to 'bid farewell' to Fr. Geoff. All welcome!

LADIES LUNCH. Friday, 2nd October at 12 noon at Westernport Hotel. Ring Diane: 0419 633 044.



Synodality strengthens communion.

Communion grows when voices are respected and discernment is shared.

Synodality and trust in God

Ultimately, synodality is an act of trust that God is still guiding His Church.

Total giving: 19th/20th September

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

\$ 763.95

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

\$1290.75

Tap Machine : \$157.11

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.