



Westernport Catholic Parish Newsletter

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

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A - 3rd/4th October, 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:
71 Marine Parade Hastings

POSTAL ADDRESS:
PO Box 76 Hastings 3915

Email:

westernport@cam.org.au

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 5:1-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard.

My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too. He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me.

What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead?

Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant. He expected justice, but found bloodshed: integrity, but only a cry of distress.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 79:9. 12-16. 19-20. R. Is 5:7

(R.) The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

1. You brought a vine out of Egypt;
to plant it you drove out the nations.
It stretched out its branches to the sea,
to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. **(R.)**
2. Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field. **(R.)**
3. God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. **(R.)**
4. And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name.
God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Philippians 4:6-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything

that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation.

See John 15:15

Alleluia, alleluia!

I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 21:33-43

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone.

This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The metaphor of the vineyard, cherished by both ancient Israel and the early Christians, suggests that while vines might be hardy, they are also vulnerable. So is the reign of God. It must be tended and protected from what might endanger it, so that it may produce abundant and delectable fruit. In the gospel account, the vine does indeed produce an abundant crop. In fact, it is the very productivity of the vineyard that sets the stage for the treachery described. We can see ourselves in both uses of the vineyard metaphor. There are times when, regardless of what God seems to be doing for us, we simply rebel against God's plans. We stand in defiance. There are other times when we, who are disciples of Jesus, act as if the kingdom is ours. We might even marginalise or force out others with whom we do not agree, so that we have sole control.

When we consider the justice of God, it is important that we place it within the right context, lest we create a picture of God that is false and misleading. It is because of God's tender love for the vineyard that treachery cannot be tolerated. If we have produced unacceptable fruits, it is for our own good that God steps in and dismantles the structures that enabled us to produce bad fruit. It is appropriate that God would snatch the vineyard from our grasp and entrust it to one who will faithfully carry out God's plans.

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: 5/10 - 11/10**MONDAY:** No Service**TUESDAY:****9.30am** Mass 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 Mary Mitcham, 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, 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 Marie Mereszko, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially Vera Targett. May they rest in peace.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL APPEAL:

Once again our cupboards need refilling and we need some more non-perishable items. If you can help with cans of Soup, Meat & Vegetables, Diced Tomatoes, Spaghetti, Baked Beans, Tuna or Salmon, Vegetables, Tinned fruit. Pasta and Sauces, Vegemite, Peanut Butter, Jam, Packets of sweet and dry biscuits, Two-minute noodles, Cup-a-soup, Long life milk, Tea, Coffee and toiletries. Please do not donate sugar or powdered milk. Thank you for your support!

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEK—10th/11th October

MINISTRY	<i>Somerville</i>	<i>Shoreham</i>	<i>Hastings</i>		
Lector	Judy Deefholts	Damian Ireland	Princes Jellyanne Manocan	Mass Welcomer Hastings	Imelda Harrip
Eucharistic Ministers	Louise Street	Sue Ireland	Paula Stokes Maggie Parsons	Counters This Week	Heimann Sissing Brian McAnallen
Commentator	Sandy Adolphus	Anne Marie Wilkinson	Tom Leyden	Counters Next Week	Judy & Derrick Deefholts
Altar Linen	OCT: Mary Marshall	OCT: Catherine Russ		Sacristan	Leah Marsh
Mass Prep	Val Baxter			Audio/Visual	Jesele Baxter
Flowers	Paula Street			Communion to the Sick This Week	Mary Marshall

COMPULSORY VOLUNTEER TRAINING.

The Archdiocese requires all parish volunteers to participate in safety training (Child Safeguarding) every three years – either on line or in person. The Archdiocese will be providing training at our Parish Centre on **Saturday, 31st October, 2026 from 10a.m. to 12 noon.**



All volunteers who have not done training in the last three years will be required to attend (unless they update their training online before 24th October, 2026 and notify the Parish Office in writing with a copy of their Training Certificate).

The Archdiocese requires the parish to review the Volunteer Status of all volunteers to ensure that they are compliant with safety requirements. This includes safety training every three years, signing Code of Conduct and current Working With Children Check.

OCTOBER

MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

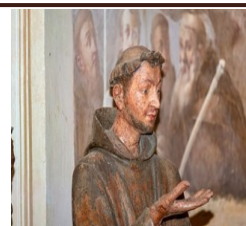


The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary and this is a reminder of the promises for those who pray this contemplative prayer with Our Lady.

**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 OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI: 4th October.

As we celebrate 800 years since the passing of St Francis of Assisi in 1226, Pope Francis'



words remind us that the legacy of the saints is not merely something to admire from a distance. It is something we are called to live ourselves, as St Francis did.

Inspired by the Gospel call to simplicity and trust in God, St Francis taught that our worth does not come from possessions, status or achievements. *'What a man is before God, that he is and no more,'* he said.

Voluntary simplicity, generosity and the sharing of our resources with others are practical ways of living this ideal.

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.

If you would like to order a memorial plaque, please see Tracey Clark or leave your details with the Parish Office by next Wednesday, 7th October as we need to allow time for getting the plaques made.



Synodality prevents isolation.

When leaders and communities walk together, no one carries the burden alone. Synodality builds shared responsibility.

Synodality and courage.

Listening honestly may reveal uncomfortable truths. Synodality requires courage to face them with faith.

Total giving: 26th/27th September

1st Collection – Presbytery: (Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards and cheques): \$799.45

2nd Collection – Church: (Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards and cheques) : \$1,183.85

Tap Machine : \$59.01.

ROSTERS are being prepared for January to June 2027. If you are not on the roster this year and would like to put your name down please ring the Parish Office.