



Westernport Catholic Parish Newsletter

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

4th Sunday of Easter/Good Shepherd Sunday—Year A—25th/26th April.

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: [http://
westernportchurch.com.au](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 Pri-
mary School 5979 1959

SOMERVILLE St Brendan's
Primary School 5977 7277

MORNINGTON Padua Col-
lege Vice Principal
Matthew Williams 5976 0100

VINNIES OP SHOP 83 High
St Hastings 5979 4373

St Vincent de Paul Help

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 2:14. 36-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.' Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 22:1-6. R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; here is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**
2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:20-25

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

John 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!

Gospel

John 10:1-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

This is 'Good Shepherd Sunday' and a particular focus taken today is leadership. Which voices do we follow? Why do we follow these voices and not others? Authentic leadership is rooted in authority, and authentic authority is the ability to author or bring life to birth. Genuine authority cherishes, guards and encourages the best in life; it provides rest and refreshment; it guides our steps; it nourishes us; it leads us to God. Peter is an example of authentic authority: he proclaims the truth, even if others find it hard to hear; he denounces error, even when this places him in jeopardy; he calls for a change of heart, even when it makes great demands.

Authentic leadership is patterned after the leadership of Jesus. It is gentle and familiar, like the true shepherd; it has won the confidence of those who follow, as did the true shepherd; it is committed to the enhancement of the lives of others, as was Jesus. Authentic leadership is willing to forgo its own needs and to deny its own interests in favour of the needs and interests of others. Heavy demands are placed on those who follow authentic leadership. Those who follow the Good Shepherd must follow him in the dark valleys as well as to the refreshing streams. They must be willing to relinquish some of their own plans and self-determination and entrust themselves to his leadership. They must never forget that they are following a shepherd who has paid the ultimate price on their behalf.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Our Parish Sacramental Program for the preparation to receive the **Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist** will run for 6 weeks on Wednesday 13th & 20th May, at 4pm until 5.30pm at the Immaculate Conception Church, Hastings with the Sacrament of First Reconciliation to be held on **Saturday 23rd May at 10am**. The program will then continue on Wednesday 27th May, 3rd, 10th, & 17th June at 4pm until 5.30pm. A Commitment Mass on **Sunday 17th May & 31st May at 10am** at Hastings is a required attendance. The First Eucharist Mass will be held on Sunday 21st June in Hastings at 10am.

Our Parish Sacramental Program for the preparation to receive the **Sacrament of Confirmation** will run for 4 weeks on Wednesday 24th June, 15th, 22nd & 29th July at 4pm until 5.30pm at the Immaculate Conception Church, Hastings. A Commitment Mass on **Sunday 19th July at 10am** at Hastings is a required attendance. The only Confirmation Mass for the parish will be held on **Saturday, 1st August** at St. Brendan's, Somerville.

LITURGIES THIS WEEK, 27th April—3rd May**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****10.00a.m.—10.30a.m. 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,
Hastings****ST VINCENT DE PAUL APPEAL:**

We are in desperate need of your support. Our cupboard is depleted, and we need some more 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 and cup of soup, long life milk. Tea and Coffee and toiletries. Please do not donate sugar or powdered milk.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

PRAYERS AND PETITIONS

Please pray for those who are sick, especially 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, Michael Pound, 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 Ignacio Quinsacara, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEK—2nd & 3rd May

MINISTRY	<i>Somerville</i>	<i>Shoreham</i>	<i>Hastings</i>		
Lector	Judy Deefholts	Sylvia Falzon	Ted Fennessy	Mass Welcomer Hastings	Michael Smith
Eucharistic Ministers	Sandy Adolphus	Ann Lorkin	Lioba Robinson Isobel Wilson	Counters This Week	Barbara & Gerald O'Brien
Commentator	Sandy Adolphus	Anne Marie Wilkinson	Agnes Smith	Counters Next Week	Kess & Genevieve Meyer
Altar Linen		MAY—Maria Patane		Sacristan	Paula Stokes
Mass Prep	Val Baxter	MAY—Maria Patane		Audio/Visual	Jesela Baxter
Flowers	Paula Street	<i>Somerville Maintenance—</i>		Communion to the Sick This Week	

A VOCATION VIEW.

On this World Day of Prayer for Vocations, Pope Leo tells us: *Listen to the voice of the Lord who invites you to a full and fruitful life, calling you to put your talents to use (cf. Mt. 25:14-30) and unite your limitations and weaknesses with the glorious cross of Christ.*

On this day pray for yourself. Pray to know if God is calling YOU to be a Priest, Sister or Brother. Pray!

A prayer request. You may know of a young person in the parish, in your family or an acquaintance whom you think would make a good priest or religious. Why not pray for them by name on a regular basis. Carry them with you 'spiritually' to Mass on Sunday and place them on the altar at the offertory. Sometimes the Lord uses us as his instruments to encourage vocations.

A PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS.

O God, who chose the apostles to make disciples of all nations, stir within the hearts of your children the courage to respond with joy and generosity to your invitation to follow you.

Raise up among us many priests, deacons and religious—witnesses of hope who will love you with their whole hearts and gladly spend their lives to make you better known and loved.

Form them in the image of Christ, the Good Shepherd, and help them live each day as faithful labourers in your harvest.

Help us, too, to recognize your voice in our own lives, and to support one another in discerning your will with openness and trust.

Through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



CATHOLICCARE VICTORIA SUNDAY APPEAL.

Next weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday appeal.

CatholicCare is the Church's mission in action—empowering communities and building strength and resilience, to enable everyone to reach their full potential and live life to the full.

Your kindness and generosity will help provide caring and compassionate support for struggling individuals and families in our community.

Please donate to the CatholicCare Appeal. You can donate using the appeal envelope available next week during our parish masses, donate online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9967 2515.

REMEMBERING POPE FRANCIS ON THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH.

The anniversary of the death of Pope Francis is a time to recall a pontificate that began with humility, and continued that way for 12 years. When he first stepped onto the balcony of St Peter's Basilica on 13 March 2013, the newly elected Pope invited the Church, and the world, to join together.

You can read the whole article on the Melbourne Archdiocese website: <https://melbournecatholic.org/news/>

PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES. Thank you to everyone for your generous donations to this very worthy cause.

If you still have your Project Compassion box or envelope at home, could please return them by 30th April, 2026.

PARISH MINISTRIES - MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

A reminder to please fill in the Volunteer forms which are at all Mass centres.

If you are already on a Roster this year, you still need to place your name on the new Volunteer List. Please return your form by the **Sunday, 10th May.**

Working With Children Check

It is a **requirement** of the Archdiocese of Melbourne that all Parishes keep a Register of all those who volunteer within the Parish so you will need to have a current Working With Children Check. To apply for one as a volunteer or renew your WWCC is free, just go to <http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/> and the instructions. If you have any queries, please contact the Parish Office on 5979 4374.

LADIES LUNCH—1st May at the Westernport Hotel at 12 noon.. Ring—Diane 0419 633 044 for details.

Total giving from 18/4 & 19/4/26

1st Collection – Presbytery -\$860.75

2nd Collection – Church Account - \$886.15

Project Compassion—\$855.05

Thank you for your ongoing support!