



Western Port Catholic Parish

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

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year A, 15 February 2026

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:

[https://
www.melbcatholic.org/s/
westernport](https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/westernport)

**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
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

Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him.

For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 118:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34

R. Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law!
They are happy those who do his will, seeking him with all their hearts. **(R.)**

You have laid down your precepts to be obeyed with care.
May my footsteps be firm to obey your statutes. **(R.)**

Bless your servant and I shall live and obey your word.
Open my eyes that I may consider the wonders of your law. **(R.)**

Teach me the demands of your statutes and I will keep them to the end.
Train me to observe your law, to keep it with my heart. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

The word of the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!**Gospel****Matthew 5:20-22. 27-28. 33-34. 37****A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

Jesus said to his disciples: I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.*****REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate***
Truth-Telling

We have just heard the least observed command of Our Lord in the Sermon on the Mount. Referring to oaths he taught, 'Do not swear at all ... instead let your "yes" mean yes and your "no" mean *no*. Whatever goes beyond these simple words is from the Evil One.'

This is strong language. Why does Our Lord say this?

In the same Sermon on the Mount, he teaches us the proper use of God's name: 'Our Father'. It is our privilege as adopted children of God to *use* God's name in that way. The use of God's name for oath-swearing is an *abuse*.

Our Lord was trying to establish a new sort of society (The Kingdom) within which truth-telling was of paramount importance, where there is no two-tiered way of speaking the truth.

Truth telling should issue simply from the character of the person – the truthful person *truthes*.

We know this at the very private level of intimate relationships. As a Church, we need to heed this passage and listen to the epistle of St James recalling this passage almost verbatim. (James 5:12-13)

We could pause for a moment to pray that the Church herself heeds the Great Commission: 'Teach them to keep *all* that I have commanded you.' (Matthew 28:20)

Journey to Catholic Eucharistic Congress 2028 begins

We're at the beginning of a journey of renewal, transformation and mission, centred on an encounter with Jesus Christ in the Eucharist, as the website for the International Eucharistic Congress 2028 is officially launched. Parishes are also receiving resources this week to help them take part in the national journey towards Eucharist28.

Continue reading: [Journey to Catholic Eucharistic Congress 2028 begins](#)

**Western Port Parish**

is committed to making
our Church a safe
place for children and
young people and pro-
tect them from harm.

LITURGIES THIS WEEK, 16th February –22nd February

MONDAY No Mass

TUESDAY 9.30am Mass at Somerville

ASH WEDNESDAY 9.30am Mass at Hastings

ASH WEDNESDAY 5.30am Mass at Shoreham

THURSDAY 9.30am Mass at Hastings

FRIDAY 9.30am Mass at Hastings followed by Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY

10.00am-10.30am 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

PRAYERS AND PETITIONS.

Please pray for those who are sick, especially Charles, Mary Marshall, Ian Marshall, Bob Fels, David Wirth, Brian Stahl, Michael Smith, Danny McGeough, 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, Edna Walsh, 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. May they rest in peace.

Mary Magdalene – The Musical

An uplifting Lenten production retelling the journey of **Mary Magdalene** through music and story. Presented by **COG Theatre Group** and directed by **Beth Mondragon Williams**, this moving work reflects on redemption, grace, and hope.



When:

Fri & Sat 13–14 March, 7:00 pm

Sat & Sun 14–15 March, 1:00 pm ♀ **Where:** [Renaissance Theatre, High Street, Kew](#)

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEK: 21st February & 22nd February

MINISTRY	Somerville	Shoreham	Hastings		
Lector	Sandy Adolphus	Catherine Clancy	Tom Leyden	Mass Welcomer Hastings	Maggie Parsons
Eucharistic Ministers	Maree Chapman	Joan White	Barbara Farley Deirdre Fennessy	Counters This Week	Kees & Genevieve Meyer
Commentator	Tracey Clark	John Patterson	Agnes Smith	Counters Next Week	Barbara & Gerald O'Brien
Altar Linen		FEB. - Ann Lorkin		Sacristan	Virginia Carey
Mass Prep	Val Baxter	FEB. - Sylvia Falzon		Audio/Visual	Princes Jellyanne Manocan
Flowers		Somerville Maintenance—		Communion to the Sick This Week	Anne-Marie Lawson
		Bill & Anne-Marie Lawson			



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

Project Compassion Sunday 14–15 of February 2026

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. Your generosity this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.



Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code. **Or online at:** www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate
Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent*.

HOLY HOUR IN OUR PARISH

As a part of preparation for Eucharistic Congress 2028, there will be Eucharistic Adoration before the beginning of every Mass on the weekend of 2nd Sunday of Lent.

St Brendan's—28 February, 5.45pm-6.15pm

St Peter's –1 March, 7.45am –8.15am

Immaculate Conception—1 March, 9.45am-10.15am

PADUA COLLEGE YEAR 7 2028 - Enrolments Now Open

If you're interested in learning more about Padua's comprehensive curriculum offering award winning VCE Vocational Major, exciting sports and performing arts programs, smaller class sizes, and vibrant learning spaces, we invite you to take a tour to see why one in four secondary school students on the Peninsula choose Padua College.

Enrolments for Year 7 2028 close on Friday 30 May 2025. Enrol Online: www.padua.vic.edu.au

Preparing for the Melbourne Synod 2026

In late December 2025, **Archbishop Peter A Comensoli** wrote to the faithful of Melbourne inviting them to journey towards a Synod for the Archdiocese of Melbourne. He called it 'an important moment in the life of our local Church in Melbourne'. A new webpage has been prepared that offers some background and further reading on the synod and its three key themes. Continue reading: [Preparing for the Melbourne Synod 2026](#) (*Melbourne Catholic*)

LENT 2025

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting and abstinence from meat. On all other Fridays, except solemnities, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of these:

A) Prayer – for example, Mass attendance, family prayer, a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the stations of the cross; praying the Rosary...

B) Self-Denial - for example, not eating meat; not eating sweets or dessert; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family...

C) Helping Others - for instance, special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lovely or overburdened...

All who have completed their 18th year and have not begun 60th year are bound to fast. All who have completed their 14th year are bound to abstain (Canon 1252)

PARISH ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES

Wednesday, March 18th

- Immaculate Conception Church at 9.30am—School and Parish Mass, and distribution of ashes. All Parishioners are welcome.

- St Peter's Church Shoreham at 5.30pm —

Parish Mass and distribution of ashes. All are welcome.

PARISH NOTICE

Dear Parishioners, if you have branches that were blessed on Palm Sunday, please bring those to church on this weekend's Mass or bring to Parish Office by this Tuesday 3.00pm and leave them in designated boxes. The branches are intended for making the Ash Wednesday ashes.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Western Port Parish organizes Stations of the Cross during the Lenten season

**Fridays after the 9.30am Mass
in Hastings and
Tuesdays after the 9.30am Mass
in Somerville
All are welcome!**

Bishops seek focus on cost-of-living crisis

Australia's Catholic bishops have urged courage and tenderness in addressing the nation's cost-of-living crisis in their most recent Social Justice Statement, *The Cost of our Living: Economic and Social Justice for the Common Good*, the first of two statements to be released this year. Continue reading: [Bishops seek focus on cost-of-living crisis](#) (*Melbourne Catholic*)

Total giving from the week 2nd Feb. 2026—8th Feb. 2026

1 st Collection – Presbytery (Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards and cheques)	\$700.20
2 nd Collection – Church (Including Direct Debits, Cards and cheques)	\$1786.75
Tap Machine Donations	\$217.08

Thank you for your ongoing support!