



Westernport Catholic Parish Newsletter

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

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A – 17th/18th 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 45:1.4-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more: It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me.

I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 95:1. 3-5. 7-10. R. v.7

(R.) Give the Lord glory and honour.

1. O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth.
Tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples. **(R.)**
2. The Lord is great and worthy of praise, to be feared above all gods;
the gods of the heathens are naught.
It was the Lord who made the heavens. **(R.)**
3. Give the Lord, you families of peoples, give the Lord glory and power,
give the Lord the glory of his name.
Bring an offering and enter his courts. **(R.)**
4. Worship the Lord in his temple. O earth, tremble before him.
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'
He will judge the peoples in fairness. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

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

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

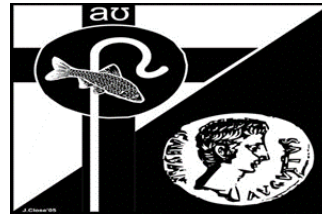
We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation.

Philippians 2:15. 16

Alleluia, alleluia!
Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.
Alleluia!



Gospel

Matthew 22:15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The frequency with which we consider the question of insider-outsider is an indication of how important universalism and the breaking down of boundaries is within our religious tradition. All peoples, all lands are called on to praise God. Furthermore, God cares about and cares for all people (see Is 19:25), and God works through all people to accomplish good in the world: Gandhi, a Hindu of Indian origin; Martin Luther King, Jr, a Baptist minister; Susan B. Anthony, a suffragist; Nelson Mandela, a Black South African, etc. Human beings have always realised that, in comparison with the grandeur and expansiveness of the universe within which they live, they are weak and vulnerable creatures. This has led them to believe in and offer homage to a divine being, or beings. Praise of God has always been an expression of awe and gratitude as well as humility.

If neither gender, nor race, nor age, nor class nor culture qualifies one for being an insider, what does? Today's readings suggest that it is service of others. In breaking down the walls of prejudice, the social activists of our own age liberate not only the oppressed groups to which they belong, but also those who oppress them. The lives of these dynamic people show us that service of others draws them into our circles and encircles us in theirs. With open arms God invites all into an embrace of divine love. As God has embraced us, so we are called to embrace all others.



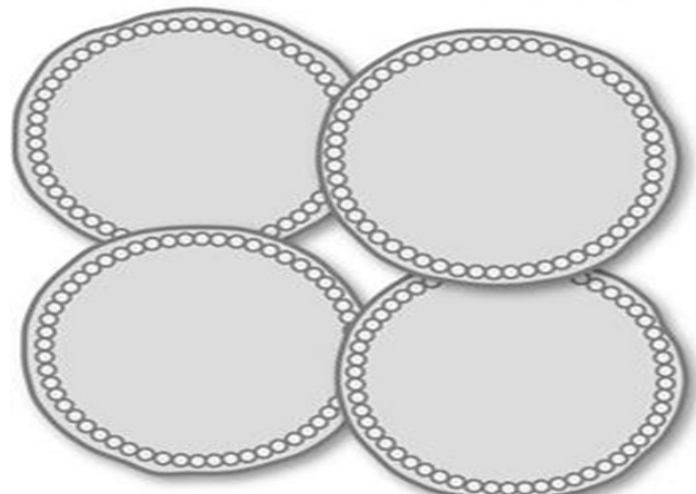
Give to God what belongs to God.

Jesus tells us that we belong to God.
We can give ourselves to God by following Jesus' teachings and loving others as he did.
Draw a picture of yourself doing something as Jesus would have done.



Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar...

Jesus believed that people should obey the law and pay their taxes to the Romans.
What are some laws or rules that we must obey?



LITURGIES THIS WEEK: 19/10-25/10**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, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. 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—24th/25th October

MINISTRY	<i>Somerville</i>	<i>Shoreham</i>	<i>Hastings</i>		
Lector	Mary Marshall	Sean Crozier	Michael Smith	Mass Welcomer Hastings	Barbara Farley
Eucharistic Ministers	Garry McDonell	Catherine Russ	Lioba Robinson Isobel Wilson	Counters This Week	Kees & Genevieve Meyer
Commentator	Judy Deefholts	John Patterson	Agnes Smith	Counters Next Week	Judy & Derrick Deefholts
Altar Linen	OCT: Mary Marshall	OCT: Catherine Russ		Sacristan	Paula Stokes
Mass Prep	Mary Marshall			Audio/Visual	Princes Jellyanne Manocan
Flowers	Val Baxter			Communion to the Sick This Week	Judy Deefholts

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).

An email was sent to volunteers on Wednesday regarding this matter. If you have any queries, please ring the office.

On 18 October 2026, the Catholic Church will mark the 100th World Mission Sunday. The annual celebration—traditionally the penultimate Sunday in October—invites Catholics to look beyond the boundaries of their own parish, diocese and country and remember something fundamental: we belong to a Church without borders. Pope Leo XIV has chosen the theme ‘One in Christ, United in Mission’ for this centenary year. More than a slogan, it is an invitation to rediscover what makes the Church missionary in the first place.

In his message for the 100th World Mission Day, Pope Leo calls the whole Church to continue its missionary journey with ‘joy and zeal in the Holy Spirit’, saying this requires hearts united in Christ, reconciled communities and a willingness to co operate with generosity and trust.

Across the Archdiocese of Melbourne, parish communities have already generously supported Catholic Mission through the 2026 Propagation of the Faith Appeal, World Mission Month.

OCTOBER MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY



**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.**

POPE LEO has been diagnosed with lung cancer following a 90-minute surgery on 13 October during which surgeons removed the lower lobe of the Pope’s right lung.

Message from Archbishop Comensoli...

“Please join me in praying for the Holy Father’s recovery and healing. May the Lord’s tender and merciful love provide every peace, comfort and consolation. And may our Blessed Mother be ever close to him, carrying him in her gentle care.”

All Souls Day Memorial Prayer Service

October 31st, 2026 - St Brendan’s Memorial Garden.

For the weekend of All Souls Day in November this year we would like to invite parishioners to join us as we hold a short Memorial Service in the St Brendan’s Memorial Garden at 5.30 pm before the Saturday evening mass.

All welcome.

ALL SOULS DAY - Monday, 2nd November.

There will be a 9.30a.m. Mass **at Hastings** on this day.

Total giving: 10th & 11th October

1st Collection – Presbytery: (Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards and cheques): \$738.25
2nd Collection – Church: (Including Direct Debits, Credit Cards and cheques) : \$1,179.20
Tap Machine : \$88.80

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.