

Reflection . . . (by Richard Leonard SJ)

I know very few people these days who work from 9.00am to 5.00pm. The eight-hour day seems to be a thing of the past. Where priests regularly encounter these new work patterns is when we see young people who are preparing for marriage in the Church. Sometimes to arrange a meeting we have to resort to a 6.30am or 10.00pm meeting. Some young people are working sixty hours a week. They take work home and work on the weekends. We know from surveys that they eat out most of the time, they party hard when they get the chance, and that Sunday is spent on the home front, going to the gym or sleeping. Then on Monday they start the process again.



Two things drive this obsessive work practice: competition in the job market, and the financial bonuses offered to the employees. The problem is that this practice cannot be a long-term strategy. At the other end of the scale we all know people, only in their 30s and 40s, who are burnt out and feel used by a ruthless commercial market-place.

This culture of exhaustion is not confined to the young corporate raiders. Most people in our country have never worked as hard, with so many claims on our time and energies. Excessive demands on one's time, no matter how great the needs and rewards, were issues for Jesus and the Apostles as well. The best translation of the Greek text for today's gospel says that after the apostles returned from their missionary journeys 'there were many coming and going and they had no leisure, even to eat'. Jesus' call to 'come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while' is not just about good work practises and ethical employment policy. It is about humanising our work, making sense of what we do and seeing our work as means to an end, not an end in itself.

The social teaching of the Church, especially in Pope John Paul's statements about labour and the rights of workers, repeatedly stresses three aspects to work: It gives us dignity. Governments and employers must not allow a work culture to develop where we lose our sense of personal importance, where we are treated like just another cog in the wheel; work enables us to improve the standard of living for us and our families; through working we develop our talents and gifts which builds up society as a whole. *(Cont'd P4)*

- 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year B - July 19, 2009.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

God himself is my help. The Lord upholds my life. I will offer you a willing sacrifice. I will praise your name, O Lord, for its goodness.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

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

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time 1st Reading: 2Kg 4:42-44 2nd Reading: Eph 4:1-6 Gospel: Jn 6:1-15



PARISH PRAYER:

God our Father, bless this parish so that we may love you more. Help the parents to be a good example to the children and our youth to grow in strength as good Christians.

Encircle our families with your loving care. To the sick grant health, to the aged bring serenity and to those in sorrow, joy. May we grow stronger in faith and may our love for one another become deeper in our daily living. Amen.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS:

Heavenly Father, help us to respond to and live out our mission in the Church, and in the world. Help all your people to know their vocation in life and assist them to live it well.

For your greater glory and for the service of your people, call many to be priests and religious. Give those whom you call the grace to respond generously and to persevere faithfully. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Pastoral Cluster at Prayer

WEEKEND MASSES:

Holy Family, Bell Park: English... 8am and 9.30am (Sunday) Holy Spirit, Manifold Hts: 6.00pm Sat 11am - 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays <u>Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West:</u> 5.00pm Sat 11am - 2nd and 4th Sundays 9.30am - Italian Mass at St Patrick's

Croatian... 11.30am (1,3,4,5th Sunday), 12.30pm (2nd Sunday) - Slovenian...11.30am (2nd Sunday)

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Holy Family: 9.15am Tues, 9.15am Thurs

Holy Spirit: 9.00am Wed, 11am Fri and 9am Sat. *Reconciliation after Saturday Mass*

Grace McKellar Centre:10.15am - 1st, 3rd, 5th Tues;Maryville Nursing Home:11.15am Wed;Multicultural Centre:1.30pm - 1st Fri3.00pm - Mon11.15am Wed;

COMMUNAL PRAYER:

Holy Family Women's Prayer Group Mon... Tues... Meditation Group Wed... Prayer of the Church Wed... Holy Family Women's Prayer Group Thurs... Italian Prayer Group Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Fri... Fri... Divine Mercv Sat... Rosary

5.30pm Before 9am Mass 10.00am 10.00am After 11am Mass 3.00pm After 9am Mass

10.00am

Holy Family Community Centre Holy Family Community Centre Holy Spirit Church Holy Family Community Centre St Patrick's Chapel Holy Spirit Church Holy Spirit Church Holy Spirit Church

OUR LADY'S STATUE:

If anyone would like to have our Lady's Statue or if you could spare an hour a month to help Tina Montalto, ph 5278 9314.

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS: Maria Mocibob, Gordon Shaw, Michael Stanislawski

- ANNIVERSARIES: Ivetac family, Critan family, Emerando & Maria Zanardo, Peter Javni, Felix Gravador
- BAPTISMS: Bailey Jardine, Jake & Allirah Bailey, Portia O'Reilly, Georgia Brajkovic (HF)

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Kathleen Lewis, Wendy Commons, Tom Cleary, Julie Wilby, Brian Shaw, Ted Glab, Leonie Critchley, Jim Travis, Patricia McGuinness, Margaret Donaghy, Rita Ambrose

When you have recovered from illness, please phone the Pastoral Cluster Office on 5278 1343.

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2009.

(4th Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators Lectors **Special Ministers** Welcomers Piety Stall Flowers (Group 3) HOLY SPIRIT: Commentators Lectors **Special Ministers** Welcomers Projectionist Ss PETER & PAUL'S: Commentators Readers **Special Ministers** Welcomers Sacristan Projectionist

L Sells, E Kelly, B McFarlane L&E Kelly V O'Malley P Walsh, V Carmody <u>6.00PM</u>

8.00AM

F O'Neill

L Kelly

M Lacy E Cotter C McShanag C Canny, M Brown, D McFarlane T McShanag 5.00PM D O'Brien G Tolan

D O'Brien G Tolan M Ackland, M Gifford, S Beamond R&K Maddalena N Neeld

<u>9.30AM</u>

M Lukesic M Lukesic, J Gdak, M Baird D Lunn, P McBride, R Zanardo, E Gdak, J McMahon E Glynn, A Flomo A Greco, Sr Nirmalie

<u>11.00AM</u>

<u>11.00AM</u> M Foley M McGeady H&M Broekman, D Dougherty, M Mirabile M Broekman, D Dougherty, D Lipinski P Pollard R Zarb

Recurring Activities in the Cluster:

- Holy Family Casserole lunch third Sunday of each month at the Community Centre from 12noon
- . Holy Family Women's Group first Monday evening of each month at the Community Centre 7.30pm
- .. St Vincent de Paul -Holy Family meet 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at the Community Centre, 7.30pm
 - Ss Peter & Paul's meet 2nd and 4th Thursdays 2pm in the Small Hall
 - Holy Spirit meets 1st and 3rdTuesdays 7.00pm in Holy Spirit Hall
- Baptism Preps 2nd and 4th Mondays 7.30pm in the Community Centre
 - 1st and 3rd Sunday at 9.30am Mass (during school term) Children's Liturgy - Holy Family -Holy Spirit -

- 1st and 3rd Sundays at 11am Mass (during school term)
- Ss Peter & Paul's-2nd and 4th Sunday at 11.00am Mass (during school term)
- Monday 9.30am-11.30am. 0-5 years Indoor/outdoor play. Ph 5278 3558 or mob 0400 722 726 Playgroup -Holy Spirit Hall -
- Manifold CWL -Holy Spirit Hall - First Tuesdays in the month
- Italian Mass at St Patrick's Chapel First Thursday of the month
- Geelong Stroke Support group for survivors, partners, carers & families meet in the Holy Spirit Hall.
- Catholic Deanery Solo Group: Dinner at Desma's every 1st Tuesday of the month at 6.30pm. Bookings phone 5278 2712.
- Ss Peter & Paul's Luncheon: Second Sunday of each month, 12noon in the small Hall.

Cluster News:

OFFICE CLOSURE: On This Tuesday, July 21, the Office will be closed for a Planning Day.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):

Several people have indicated interest in enquiring about becoming Catholics. Each enquirer should have someone (a sponsor) to walk with them on this journey to help them fit into the faith community. This is an ideal opportunity for Catholics to reflect on their own faith and deepen it. Weekly instruction will start in August. Would anyone interested in being a sponsor for an enquirer please contact Fr Mick.

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES:

Envelopes are ready to collect. If you use envelopes to contribute weekly, monthly, quarterly or annually there is a batch of envelopes to collect today. Envelopes are in street order. Please take any you can deliver to people close to you. Thankyou.

A CALL FOR NEW SPECIAL MINISTERS TO THE SICK:

Last week at all our Masses our focus was on the Healing Ministry of Jesus. It was an opportunity to acknowledge and applaud those who are involved in the various guises of this Ministry. An important group in the Pastoral Cluster is our Special Ministers. If you would like to be a Special Minister to either the house bound or those in the Nursing Homes in our region, please contact Frs Gerard or Mick.

RELAY FOR LIFE:

A note from the Deb Stringer, Director Community Relations and Fundraising...

"I would like to formally recognise the outstanding fundraising efforts in Relay for Life during 2009 of Fr Mick's Mates. Thankyou for your very generous donation of \$10,050.65 and continuing support of the Cancer Council Victoria. As per your request, your donations have been credited to the Fr Mick's Mates **Research Award** for 2009. This will continue to help fund the work of Dr Richard Pearson towards research into the causes and treatment of ovarian and other cancers in adults. Your award will be acknowledged in the 2009 Annual Review to be published in 2010."

In the coming weeks, Fr Mick and I will be inviting you to be part of the Relay for Life Team to organise our fund- and friend-raising events for 2009/10.

Prayer for Priests:

Lord our God, You guide Your people by the ministry of Priests.

Keep them faithful in obedient service to you, that by their life and ministry, they may bring you glory in Christ.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

THE YEAR OF THE PRIEST:

Pope Benedict has declared June 19 2009 through to June 19 2010 as the Year of the Priest. An important focus of the Pope's declaration is to pray for Priests. As part of the Pastoral Cluster's response, from next week onwards we will pray this short Prayer for Priests as part of our Prayers of the Faithful, similar to the way we pray our Parish Prayer and Prayer for Vocations. This prayer was printed on Fr Mick's Commemorative Card at his 25th Anniversary of Ordination.



Holy Spirit:

- MANIFOLD CWL: Communion Mass and Luncheon, Pumphouse Hotel Melbourne, \Rightarrow Tuesday July 28 at 11.30am. Cost \$25, booking and payment required now. General Conference at the Commercial Club, Albury, on August 19/20. Payment to be made by July 31. For information ph Jeanette Sheahan on 5278 2063.
- HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL MAJOR RAFFLE: Tickets will be available after the 11am Mass \Rightarrow with six fabulous prizes to be won. The major prize is a flat screen 106cm television. Tickets \$1 each, thankyou for your support.

Holy Family:

RENOVATIONS: Some maintenance work is being undertaken on the Garage at the back of ⇒

the Community Centre, as well as in the Church. Also one of the Confessionals has been removed; this will in the future provide a space for a Devotional Chapel. These are all small steps to ensure that the Church and its surrounds are more secure, well maintained and better suited for the spiritual needs of the community.

Community News:

- July 26... 'SOUL FRIENDS 2' BENEFIT CONCERT for Anam Cara House, 3pm at St Mary's Basilica. Featuring choirs from Geelong Youth Choir, Christian College, Geelong College, St Mary's Junior and St Joseph's College Vocal Ensemble. Peter Roberts harp, Tim McCallum vocal and John Stubbings MC. Tickets at the door - \$20/\$15 Concession.
- Aug 14-16... MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND: We all do things to enhance our lives. Fitness programs and diets to improve our health, inservice programs to improve our job skills. An opportunity for married couples to give a wonderful gift to your children by enriching your marriage through a Marriage Encounter weekend. It is based around Catholic values, but you don't need to be Catholic to attend. Anglesea 14-16 Aug and Lysterfield 18-20 Sept. Website www.wwme.org.au Bookings to Erika & Peter Smith 9899 0824 or email vicbookings@wwme.org.au

ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL:

We are in urgent need of warm clothing, good clean mattresses, blankets, doonas, bedding and pillows during these cold winter months. Our welfare calls in Geelong have doubled. Please leave at 162 Fyans St South Geelong or phone 5229 0911 for furniture pick-up. We are always looking for volunteers, both men and women, for our five shops and in particular to work in our sorting room at 162 Fyans St South Geelong. Please phone Simon on 5229 0911 if you can help.

PLEASE NOTE:

Sign-Chi-Do Classes have moved to the Wesley Centre in Ryrie St and is held on Wednesdays 1-2pm. Any enquiries ph 5247 0128 or 0408 217 375.

THREAT TO RELIGIONS FREEDOM:

The Victorian Bishops' Pastoral Letter on the threat to religious freedoms has been posted on the diocesan website at http://www.cam.org.au/ equal-opportunity. Printed copies will be distributed to parishes in time for next weekend's Masses. All parishioners are urged to read this letter and to make it known to others who share our concerns.

Diner's Club:

This Club has been operating in Geelong for over 50 years, meeting on the second Tuesday of each month 6pm at Dromoland House. Usually 60-80 people, mostly retired, enjoy a night out together with 3course meals and interesting guest speakers for under \$30. You might be interested in this Catholic activity, if so phone either President Terry on 5221 7339 or Secretary

SR JAN SLATTERY - 80TH BIRTHDAY, JULY 21...

Sr Jan Slattery's dedicated pastoral work at St John of God Hospital for many years has earned the affection and gratitude of countless patients and their families. Sr Jan will turn 80 on July 22.

A Mass of Thanksgiving for Sr Jan's ongoing service at the Hospital will be celebrated the night before at St Mary's Basilica on Tuesday July 21 at 7pm, followed by supper in the Hibernian Hall.

This will be a great opportunity to offer a prayerful and happy tribute to her wonderful work for the people of the Geelong region.

(/Cont'd from P1)

Rest from work is a key factor in the success of all three aspects being achieved in any community. A culture of exhaustion militates against them. The bottom line in all this is appropriate boundaries.

Mark tells us today that though Jesus was moved to compassion by the needs of the crowd, he also knew that their needs were not the only ones that had to be met. Jesus teaches his disciples and us that the balance between work and rest is an obligation of faith. This applies equally to work inside and outside the family home. So this Sunday's Gospel carries a critical message for the modern world. Rest, recreation and leisure are not indulgences about which we should feel guilty. They are rights defended by Christ and protect our human dignity.

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want." (Psalm 23:1) Modern advertising tempts us to

want so many things. Yet a faithful steward knows the difference between what he wants and what he needs. We can give generously when we trust that the Lord will provide for all of our true needs.

