



# Pastoral Cluster

Incorporating the Parishes of Holy Family Bell Park, Ss Peter & Paul's Geelong West & Holy Spirit Manifold Hts.

## PARISH PRIESTS:

Frs Gerard Keith & Mick Fitzpatrick - Phone 5278 1343

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## OFFICE HOURS:

Mon-Wed 9am-4.30pm (Closed 1-2pm for lunch), Thurs 9-12noon, Fri 9.30am-2.30pm

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## SCHOOL PRINCIPALS:

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St Patrick's -

Basil Flynn

Petrel St, Geelong West

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## Web Page Address:

[www.pastoralclustergeelong.org](http://www.pastoralclustergeelong.org)

## Reflection... (by Richard Leonard SJ)

The crowds and the disciples in John's Gospel are always getting their wires crossed when they listen to Jesus. They rarely understand his deeper message. They're like the couple who had been snowbound in Seattle for two weeks. Affectionately they used to call each other 'husband' and 'wife'. They planned to go down to Florida to get some sun. The husband got away from his work one day early and departed for Miami Beach, where he was to meet his wife the next day. They were looking forward to quality time together in the bright sunshine. Unfortunately, there was some sort of mix up at the boarding gate, and the husband was told he would have to wait for the overnight redeye special. He tried to appeal to a supervisor, but to no avail.

Upon arrival at the hotel the next day, he discovered that Miami Beach was having a heat wave, and its weather was almost as uncomfortably hot as Seattle's was cold. The desk clerk gave him a message that his wife would arrive as planned. He could hardly wait to get to the pool area to cool off, and quickly sent his wife an email, but in his haste he made an error in the email address. His message arrived at the home of an elderly preacher's wife whose even older husband had died only the day before. When the grieving widow opened her email, she took one look at the monitor, let out an anguished scream, and died on the spot. Her family rushed to her room where they saw this message on the screen:

'Dearest wife, departed yesterday as you know, but just now got checked in. Some confusion at the gate. Appeal was denied. Received confirmation of your arrival tomorrow. Your loving husband. P.S. Things are not as we thought. You're going to be surprised at how hot it is down here.'

Following the feeding of the five thousand, the crowd thinks that when Jesus says he is the Bread of Life he is simply referring to the source of their next meal. If this were true it could put a new spin on what some might mean when they use the term 'cafeteria Catholicism'. (Cont'd P4)



## - 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year B - August 2, 2009.)

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

God, come to my help. Lord, quickly give me assistance. You are the one who helps me and sets me free: Lord, do not be long in coming.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Alleluia!

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

#### 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: 1Kg 19:4-8

2nd Reading: Eph 4:30-5:2

Gospel: Jn 6:41-51



### 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.

### 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. Amen.

## The Pastoral Cluster at Prayer

### WEEKEND MASSES:

#### Holy Family, Bell Park:

English... 8am and 9.30am (Sunday)

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

#### Holy Spirit, Manifold Hts:

6.00pm Sat

11am - 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays

#### Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West:

5.00pm Sat

11am - 2nd and 4th Sundays

9.30am - Italian Mass at St Patrick's

### 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 Fri

**Vincentian Village:** 3.00pm - Mon

### COMMUNAL PRAYER:

**Mon...** Holy Family Women's Prayer Group

10.00am

Holy Family Community Centre

**Tues...** Meditation Group

5.30pm

Holy Family Community Centre

**Wed...** Prayer of the Church

Before 9am Mass

Holy Spirit Church

**Wed...** Holy Family Women's Prayer Group

10.00am

Holy Family Community Centre

**Thurs...** Italian Prayer Group

10.00am

St Patrick's Chapel

**Fri...** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

After 11am Mass

Holy Spirit Church

**Fri...** Divine Mercy

3.00pm

Holy Spirit Church

**Sat...** Rosary

After 9am Mass

Holy Spirit Church

**OUR LADY'S STATUE:** Aug 3 - Bourke family, Sycamore St, Aug 10 - Hoare family, Sycamore St.

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:**

#### **ANNIVERSARIES:**

#### **BAPTISMS:**

**PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Kathleen Lewis, Wendy Commons, Tom Cleary, Brian Shaw, Jim Travis, Patricia McGuinness, Margaret Donaghy, Rita Ambrose, Alan Mee

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

## **ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2009.**

(2nd Sunday of the Month)

#### **HOLY FAMILY**

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Piety Stall

Flowers (Group 5)

#### **HOLY SPIRIT:**

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

#### **Ss PETER & PAUL'S:**

Commentators

Readers

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Sacristan

Projectionist

#### **8.00AM**

A Vanjek

F O'Neill

E Di Domenico, I Vanjek, R Allum

C Marcantonio, P Walsh

H Thornton

N Juraga, M Spiranovic

#### **6.00PM**

M Lacy

M Willett

B Murphy

M Brown, D McFarlane, P Ryan

B Stocks

#### **5.00PM**

A Hubbard

P Power

P Hubbard, N Neeld, A Henderson

R&K Maddalena

N Neeld

#### **9.30AM**

J Mann

D Lunn, A Negro

H Verdnik, M Modica, E Glynn, P Carmody, M Baird

V Resciniti, G Cracco

J Markov

#### **11.00AM**

#### **11.00AM**

E Strzelecki

M Martin

E Strzelecki, A&L Fossey, P Pollard/M Burn, J Gailius

M&H Broekman, D Dougherty, L Fossey

P Pollard

T Martin

## **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 3rd Tuesdays 7.00pm in Holy Spirit Hall
- **Baptism Preps** - 2nd and 4th Mondays 7.30pm in the Community Centre
- **Children's Liturgy** - Holy Family - 1st and 3rd Sunday at 9.30am Mass (during school term)  
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)
- **Playgroup** - Holy Spirit Hall - Monday 9.30am-11.30am. 0-5 years Indoor/outdoor play. Ph 5278 3558 or mob 0400 722 726
- **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.
- **Catholic Diners' Club:** Second Tuesday of each month, 6pm at Dromoland. Dinner & Guest speaker. Ph Patti on 5229 9963

## **Cluster News:**

### **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.

### **A CALL FOR NEW SPECIAL MINISTERS TO THE SICK:**

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.

### **CENTACARE CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES:**

**The Annual Church Appeal** will take place in this parish this weekend. If you have forgotten to bring your donation with you, please take an envelope home and return it next Sunday, or post it direct to the Centacare Catholic Family Services.

### **CENSUS UPDATE:**

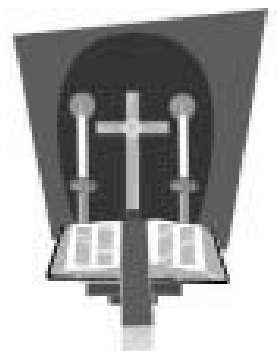
To better provide pastoral care and as a preamble to our Thanksgiving Campaign, we are seeking up-to-date information about our parishioners, primarily address and contact details. Throughout the month of August you will be asked to fill in a Census Card.

### **FAITH FORMATION IN OUR SCHOOLS:**

Frank Kearney and I recently met with the Religious Education Co-ordinators of our three schools. One area of discussion was the focus on the Primary Schools' introduction of Christian Meditation. To date it has been well received and is slowly becoming part of the prayer life and spirituality of the school.

## **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:

⇒ **HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL MAJOR RAFFLE:** Tickets will be available after the 11am Mass with six fabulous prizes to be won. The major prize is a flat screen 106cm television. Tickets \$1 each, thank you 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:

**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](http://www.wwme.org.au) Bookings to Erika & Peter Smith 9899 0824 or email [vicbookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:vicbookings@wwme.org.au)

### STEWARDSHIP CORNER

#### - Thoughts on Giving

*"Each day the people are to go out and gather their daily portion; thus will I test them, to see whether they follow my instructions or not."*  
(Exodus 16:4)

God frowns upon it when we take or keep more than we need. When the Israelites gathered more than their daily portion of manna, that which they hoarded away became wormy and rotten. In the same way, God calls us today to be content with a fair portion and to be willing to share the rest.

### 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.

### THREAT TO RELIGIONS FREEDOMS:

*The tolerant pluralism of the Australian society that values difference and diversity is under threat and religion is a major target. It is important therefore that people of goodwill defend their religious liberties.*

*The importance of service delivery, by religious people and religious agencies, as an essential element of religious belief and practice in service to neighbour is one our Parliamentarians need to hear. It is also important to defend our pluralist society, the diversity of service delivery, the right of people to receive services in the context of their own beliefs and practices, and the rights of parents to give their children an education in their own faith tradition.*

*(From Threat to Religious Freedoms)*



Copies of a Pastoral Letter from the Victorian Bishops on the Threat to Religious Freedoms are available in the Church today. The Letter has also been posted on the diocesan website at [www.cam.org.au/equal-opportunity](http://www.cam.org.au/equal-opportunity). All parishioners are urged to read this letter and to make it known to others who share our concerns.

*(/Cont'd from P1)*

Jesus, however, is referring to himself as the fulfilment of all appetites, where we will never be hungry or thirsty again. Appetites are important things. They demand regular attention. Physical appetites tell us that we need nourishment, hydration, exercise or sleep.

We have learnt to read our body's signs and if we ignore them we die. We also have emotional appetites, where we need affection, acceptance and a listening ear. If we ignore these signs our mental health deteriorates and our quality of life is compromised. Jesus, however, also alerts us to our spiritual appetites. These are the needs we have for Him, for meaning and purpose, for faith, hope and love. If we ignore these appetites we can lose sight of where we came from, why we are here, and where we are going.

As the sixth chapter of John's Gospel goes on, Jesus becomes clearer about the hunger and thirst he has come to fill. And as he does the crowd's wires get uncrossed and they're shocked. Jesus, the Bread of Life, is interested in us fulfilling our physical, emotional and spiritual appetites in this world as a way of glimpsing the life to come in Him, where all our hungers and thirsts will be fulfilled.

May this Eucharist prepare us for the day when our confirmed departure from this world comes. May there be no confusion at the gate, no need for any appeals and may we be reunited with those we love as we bask in the warmth of the Son's love, as he shows us to our place at the Eternal Banquet.