



Pastoral Cluster

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

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|---------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------|--|
| PARISH PRIESTS: | Frs Gerard Keith & Mick Fitzpatrick - Phone 5278 1343 | | | Web Page Address: www.pastoralclustergeelong.org |
| OFFICE: | 147 Separation St Bell Park 3215 Phone: 5278 1343 Fax: 5278 4618 Email: cluster@netspace.net.au | | | |
| OFFICE HOURS: | Mon-Wed 9am-4.30pm (Closed 1-2pm for lunch), Thurs 9-12noon, Fri 9.30am-2.30pm | | | |
| OFFICE MANAGER: | Trish Stickland - | Phone 5278 1343 (email: cluster@netspace.net.au) | | |
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| LITURGICAL CO-ORDINATOR: | Frank Kearney - | Phone 5278 1343 (email: frankkearney@netspace.net.au) | | |
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| SCHOOL PRINCIPALS: | Holy Family - | Brian Everett | Separation St, Bell Park | Phone 5278 4634 |
| | Holy Spirit - | Mary Abbott | Minerva Rd Manifold Hts | Phone 5229 8298 |
| | St Patrick's - | Basil Flynn | Petrel St, Geelong West | Phone 5229 4412 |

Reflection... (by Richard Leonard SJ)

I read a terrific book the other day entitled 'Shadows and the Dark'. It is by Australian Jesuit Fr John Cowburn who is Professor of Philosophy at Jesuit Theological College, Melbourne. This book explores how we can hold to a loving God in the face of evil.



The idea for the book came when Fr John fell from his bicycle, broke his collarbone and was awaiting surgery in hospital. While there, an old religious sister came to his room to give him Holy Communion before going to the operating theatre. Fr John told her about the accident. Sister said, 'Well Father, God must have known you needed a little holiday, so he arranged for your fall'. John replied, 'If that's true Sister I'm pleased God didn't want me to take a sabbatical!' From Jesus' day to ours, when bad things happen to good people it seems easier to blame God or Satan. By his own admission Fr John had an accident because he didn't take enough care on his bike. End of story. That God can bring something good out of such an accident is grace building on nature. What Jesus confronts in today's Gospel is 'The-devil-made-me-do-it' theology. And his response is as challenging now as it was in first century Palestine.

For as long as we blame our most destructive behaviour on evil acting upon us in all its guises, empty promises and powers, then we remain some way from taking the sort of responsibility for the condition of our hearts that might see them fully converted by Christ's saving love. This is not to say that evil does not exist or that it cannot have a powerful effect upon us, quite the opposite. Just as grace builds on love and goodness, evil grows out of estrangement and hatred. As Christians we hold that God has given us free will, and evil's hold on our hearts is often the result of the poor choices and smaller compromises we have made along the way.

(Cont'd P4)

- 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year B - August 30, 2009.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

I call to you all day long, have mercy on me, O Lord. You are good and forgiving, full of love for all who call to you.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation.

Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Is 35:4-7
2nd Reading: James 2:1-5
Gospel: Mk 7:31-37



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)

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

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 Fri

Vincentian Village: 3.00pm - Mon

COMMUNAL PRAYER:

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Mon... | <i>Holy Family Women's Prayer Group</i> | 10.00am | <i>Holy Family Community Centre</i> |
| Tues... | <i>Meditation Group</i> | 5.30pm | <i>Holy Family Community Centre</i> |
| Wed... | <i>Prayer of the Church</i> | <i>Before 9am Mass</i> | <i>Holy Spirit Church</i> |
| Wed... | <i>Holy Family Women's Prayer Group</i> | 10.00am | <i>Holy Family Community Centre</i> |
| Thurs... | <i>Italian Prayer Group</i> | 10.00am | <i>St Patrick's Chapel</i> |
| Fri... | <i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i> | <i>After 11am Mass</i> | <i>Holy Spirit Church</i> |
| Fri... | <i>Divine Mercy</i> | 3.00pm | <i>Holy Spirit Church</i> |
| Sat... | <i>Rosary</i> | <i>After 9am Mass</i> | <i>Holy Spirit Church</i> |

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:

ANNIVERSARIES:

BAPTISMS:

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Kathleen Lewis, Wendy Commons, Tom Cleary, Brian Shaw, Jim Travis, Patricia McGuinness, Margaret Donaghy, Rita Ambrose, Alan Mee, John Kennedy, Ray Brunger, Rita McDonald, Felix Capicchiano

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

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2009.

(1st Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Piety Stall

Flowers (Group 4)

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

Readers

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Sacristan

Projectionist

8.00AM

R Allum

F Chrimes, J Bartolo

U Guardiano, K McArthur

L Sells, K McArthur

N Ingles, M Law, V Seljak

6.00PM

Sr Scibberas

J O'Neill

J Hudson & D Boyle

C Horan, V Logan, P Ryan

B Stocks

5.00PM

C O'Brien

A Henderson

R Walker, N Neeld, Dean Dougherty

A Henderson

9.30AM

T McMahan

C&J Taylor, T McMahan

G&P Carmody, M Baird

M&E Hoffman, L d'Aprile

Sr Nirmalie, A Gstalter

11.00AM

M Shilling

M Gurrie

V Trinder

A Dickson, D King, I Cleary, C Kelynack

L Coles

11.00AM

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:

CENSUS UPDATE:

If you haven't had a chance to fill in a census card, please do so today.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN:

The Community Kitchen has now changed from being under the auspices of Bethany Community Services to the Pastoral Cluster. The Community Kitchen is a social group where people come together to cook a lunch and meals which they can take home. Ideally suited for single people. If you would like to know more, please phone Kath O'Reilly on 5243 3341. There are still a couple of places left. We thank Bethany for setting up the program and we thank Kath for her generosity in sharing her time and talents.

R.C.I.A.

We have nine people enquiring into the Catholic faith. We met for the first time on Wed Aug 12. Many thanks to those who volunteered to walk with these enquirers as sponsors. However, for RCIA to be really effective all parishioners need to work at making our Masses welcoming for all who come. Please greet one another, and please pray for our enquirers.

HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL:

In February this year the Federal government announced the Primary Schools for the 21st Century (P21) initiative with the focus on building a major new infrastructure for primary schools. Holy Spirit Parish School was fortunate to be part of this Government stimulus package. This money will enable us to build a multi-purpose room, three contemporary personal learning classrooms and fully refurbish the library. This is a major building project and is estimated to take twelve months. Under the timelines set by the government the school is required to begin building in September, 2009.

To limit disruption to students' learning and to provide adequate safety and space to play, the 3/4 learning unit will be relocated to the Holy Spirit Parish Hall. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Fr Gerard, the Parish office and the community groups for allowing the school to use the Parish Hall. This support is central to the parish's ongoing sense of community spirit and Holy Spirit Parish School hopes that the improvements made to the Parish Hall will not only assist the school, but will provide ongoing benefit for the parish community.

- *Mary Abbott, Principal*

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM:

In late October/early November, the parish will embark upon a Stewardship Program. Currently known as our Thanksgiving Program, the renewal will challenge us to accept Christian Stewardship as a way of living our lives - and not just as a fundraising program. More details later.

Holy Family:

⇒ **CONGRATULATIONS** to **Pat and Terry McMahon** who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on August 20. They were married in St Mary's Star of the Sea Church, West Melbourne, on August 20 1949 by Frs Ray Skehill and Fr Bill McMahon.

Community News:

- Aug 30...** **OLD COLLEGIANS REUNION** of Sacred Heart College/St Martin in the Pines, Ballarat, to be held at 20 Downie Cres Hamlyn Hts at 2pm. All welcome! Enquiries ph Val on 5278 4065.
- Sept 1...** **FATHER'S DAY MASS:** The Principal of Sacred Heart College together with the P&F Association invite you to celebrate this Mass at 7.30pm in St Bernard's Church, Fryers Rd Belmont.
- Sept 10...** **FREE TALKS ON MENTAL HEALTH:** Chris Mackey is offering free public lectures on **How to Worry Less** at the Geelong West Town Hall, Supper Room, 7.30-8.845pm. All welcome!
- Sept 11...** **INVITATION:** Bethany Community Support invites you to a morning tea to mark the culmination of our **Community Kitchens Program**. Join us to celebrate the achievements of the past three years at 11am, venue 1 Gibb St, North Geelong.
- Sept 11-13...** **LIFE IN CHRONIC ILLNESS:** Being chronically ill is an experience like no other. There is very little available for people who want to share their journey of chronic illness at the level of faith. This retreat offers prayer and spiritual conversation on healing, vulnerability, affirmation and our special relationship with God. If you have any special access requirements, please advise us. Bringing a support companion is often an excellent idea. Suggested donation: \$190 live-in, \$160 live-out (incl meals). To book ph 9854 8110 or www.cis.jesuit.org.au Address: Campion Centre of Ignatian Spirituality, 99 Studley Park Rd Kew 3101.
- Sept 13...** **MUSIC AND MELODIES FOR VIQUEQUE:** *All proceeds for the education of children in the District of Viqueque, Timor-Leste.* Special Guest Tony Wasley - 5pm for a 5.30pm start, at the Performing Arts Centre, St Joseph's College Newtown. Entry \$10 adult, \$5 concession/student, \$25 family. Tickets ph Zara Walker, St Joseph's College 5226 8111, or from Kristen Rowan, Wing and a Prayer Shop E5/6, Malop St Geelong, 5221 4451.
- Sept 13...** **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA: Clair de Lune** - Newman College Choir featuring an Anthology of Romantic French Music. Tickets at the door - \$18 full/seniors, \$15 concession/full-time students. Incl a'noon tea, enquiries to Jeanette 5223 3554.
- Oct 8...** **FREE TALKS ON MENTAL HEALTH:** Chris Mackey is offering free public lectures on **Dealing with Depression** at the Geelong West Town Hall, Supper Room, 7.30-8.845pm. All welcome!
- Oct 11...** **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA: Gospel Music** - Improvisations in Blues and Jazz Mode, 3pm at St Mary's Basilica. Tickets at the door - \$18 full/seniors, \$15 concession/full-time students. Incl a'noon tea, enquiries to Jeanette 5223 3554.
- Nov 12...** **FREE TALKS ON MENTAL HEALTH:** Chris Mackey is offering free public lectures on **Where is Positive Psychiatry?** (Limitations of prevailing mental health models) at the Geelong West Town Hall, Supper Room, 7.30-8.845pm. All welcome!

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

- Thoughts on Giving

"Be doers of the word and not hearers only..." (James 1:22)

What do you do to live God's word?

Do you share time and talent with your parish or those in need?

Do you support the work of the Church with the fruits from your



(/Cont'd from P1)

The way we look at the evil in our lives and the world also affects our compassion. For if we're not in touch with the greed that leads to theft, the anger that leads to murder, the desire for power that leads to rape, or the alienation that leads to terrorism, then it's hard for us to be compassionate toward the perpetrators of these evil acts. The degree to which we know what our hearts are capable of leads us to be grateful for the graces we receive and cultivate, and to be compassionate toward those who have missed out on this good news and who, by nurture or free will, have chosen evil as their fundamental option.

May this Eucharist enable us to take in the broken body of Christ because we know we are a broken people in need of its power, and as Christ's blood is poured for us, may we be poured out in love, so that, through us, others might hear His call to a conversion of heart.