



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

Web Page Address:

www.pastoralclustergeelong.org

OFFICE:

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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)

COMMUNITY WORKER:

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LITURGICAL CO-ORDINATOR:

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THANKSGIVING CO-ORD:

Helen Brislane - Phone 5278 1343 (email: helenbrislane@netspace.net.au)

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 the other day a true story about a baby girl who was seriously ill in a Neonatal ICU. The paediatric specialist said there was very little hope. The baby's five-year-old brother, Michael, kept begging his parents to let him see his sister. 'I want to sing to her', he kept saying. Children were not allowed in the ICU, but Michael's mother eventually insisted that he be able to see his sister.



When he got to the humidicrib he sang: 'You are my sunshine, my only sunshine, you make me happy when skies are grey'. The nurse reported that as Michael sang, the baby's pulse rate began to calm down and become steady. 'Keep on singing, Michael', encouraged his mother with tears in her eyes. 'You never know, dear, how much I love you. Please don't take my sunshine away.' The baby recovered and left the hospital three weeks later. I am not pretending for a moment that Michael's song healed his sister, but we should never underestimate the power of human support and love. It helps us to be healed.

The Gospel story of the healing of the deaf mute is striking because it is one of the few stories where the crowd makes the request of healing from Jesus. This is understandable given that the man cannot speak for himself, but the scene, as Mark writes it, is very touching. Mark tells us that the crowd brought the man to Jesus. 'They' beg Jesus to heal him, 'they' are ordered not to tell anyone about the miracle, but 'they' go straight out and tell everyone about it.

What happens there is what happens here every Sunday. Coming to Mass is not a private affair. It is not my Mass, my prayer, my Church. The pronouns we use reveal a lot about our attitudes. It's our Eucharist, our prayer and our Church.

Within the Mass there are opportunities for private prayer, but Eucharist is, essentially, an action of the assembled community. In our own way we bring the deaf and the mute to Jesus each time we gather. This is what the Prayers of the Faithful are all about. This is why they are so important.

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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.

- 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year B - September 6, 2009.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Lord, you are just, and the judgements you make are right.
Show mercy when you judge me, your servant.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Praise the Lord, my soul!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Is 50:5-9

2nd Reading: James 2:14-18

Gospel: Mk 8:27-35



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
11.30am (2nd Sunday)

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

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: Sept 7 - Bonjounior family, Calder St; **Sept 14** - Sheahan family, Sladen 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, 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 13, 2009.

(2nd Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators
Lectors
Special Ministers
Welcomers
Piety Stall
Flowers (Group 5)

8.00AM

A Vanjek
F O'Neill
E Di Domenico, I Vanjek, R Allum
C Marcantonio, P Walsh
H Thornton
N Juraga, M Spiranovic

9.30AM

J Mann
D Lunn, A Negro
R&R Zanardo, H Verdrik
V Resciniti, G Cracco
J Markov

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators
Lectors
Special Ministers
Welcomers
Projectionist

6.00PM

M Lacy
M Willett
B Murphy
M Brown, D McFarlane, P Ryan
B Stocks

11.00AM

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators
Readers
Special Ministers
Welcomers
Sacristan
Projectionist

5.00PM

A Hubbard
P Power
P Hubbard, N Neeld, A Henderson
R&K Maddalena
N Neeld

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:

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.

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.

YEAR OF THE PRIEST - JUNE '09 TO JUNE '10:

When I first came to Geelong in 1959, each of the parishes that constitute the Cluster today had two priests each. This meant that priests spent time knocking on doors to make home visits, enabling priests and families to get to know each other better. With two priests only today across the Cluster, this facet of priestly ministry is well nigh impossible. However, a suggestion has been made that some families might like to invite the priests for a meal during this Year of the Priest. The understanding would be that the meal time is from 6pm to no later than 8pm. In order to try out this suggestion, during the month of September parishioners of Holy Family, Bell Park will be given the opportunity to do the inviting; Holy Spirit in October and Ss Peter & Paul's in November. Lists of the dates when Fr Gerard and Fr Mick are free to be invited during September are on a clipboard in the narthex of the Church. (*Fr Mick*)

FATHER'S DAY APPEAL:

The Archbishop of Melbourne has asked that the parishioners support the retired and sick Priests through the Father's Day Appeal which will be held this weekend. All the proceeds from the second collection will go to this Appeal.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY:

This year's Social Justice Sunday Statement is titled: *And You Will be my Witnesses*. During World Youth Day 2008, Australia saw thousands of young Christians inspired by the Holy Spirit. Yet many young people are marginalised, excluded and deprived of dignity. The Bishops recall the challenge of Pope Benedict - *What will you leave to the next generation? What difference will you make?* - and present it again to all Australians, young and old. For further details about the Catholic Bishops' Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website (www.acsjc.org.au) or call (02) 8306 3499.

On the weekend of Sept 12/13, students from Clonard College and Sacred Heart College and the weekend of Sept 20 students from St Joseph's College, will make a short presentation on how they, as young people, actively support Social Justice in Australia and beyond.

Holy Family:

⇒ **FATHER'S DAY RAFFLE:** Holy Family Women's Group will be selling tickets for this raffle which will be drawn Sept 6 after the 9.30am Mass. 1st Prize - Dinner for Two at Usher's Restaurant and two Cinema Tickets; 2nd Prize - Two bottles of wine. \$1.00 per ticket.

Community News:

- 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.
- Sept 29-Oct 27: **A MESSAGE OF HOPE - Understanding the Acts of the Apostles in Today's Culture:** St Mary of the Angels Parish is hosting a Regional Formation Program on behalf of the Archbishop's Office for Evangelisation. Everyone welcome to attend; come along and be educated, entertained, encouraged and enlivened! 7.30-9.15pm in the Parish Centre. Cost \$250 parish group (unlimited number) or \$60 individual fee (\$40 concession). Information ph 5222 1977.

SACRED HEART COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS: In 2010 the College will fund the following Scholarships - *Equity Scholarships and Old Collegians' Association Scholarships*. Students accepted for enrolment at Sacred Heart College for 2010 wishing to apply, can collect an application form from Mrs Judy Smith, College Registrar, 5222 0490 or download from the website - www.shcgeelong.melb.catholic.edu.au Applications close Monday October 5.

FORMER ST ANTHONY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL 26-34 Glenfine Ave Hamlyn Hts

. Rare opportunity in established residential area

- . Develop/Occupy
- . 3 titles (to be sold as one)
- . Land area: 4,105m²
- . Building area: 849m²
- . Zoning: Residential 1

TERMS: 10% DEPOSIT,



I am delighted to announce publicly that the sale of St Anthony's has gone through and the contracts between the Archdiocese and the vendor have been signed. The vendor will take possession of the property at the end of January 2010. At this point I'm unaware of what they will do with the property, but I'm sure as developers they will do something very good for the local area.

A vote of thanks to a number of people - Tim Darcy of Gross Waddell who ran a successful sale campaign, Sue Walker, the Property Officer for the Archdiocese, Chris Colley who has maintained the property over recent times and Trish Stickland who has managed the property over recent times.

- Fr Gerard

(/Cont'd from P1)

When we visit another parish we can tell a lot about it by the care with which the intercessions are composed and compiled. If they only attend to the needs of the parish and never with the wider Church or the world, if they focus on the needs of the Catholic world and never with the plight of those in crisis, who may not share our faith or may hold to another or no faith, it says so much. The Church has always believed in the power of intercessory prayer. Not that God needs to be reminded what our world needs. God knows that better than we know it. But intercessory prayer sorts our priorities and establishes who has a claim on our affections and concerns. It also enables others to know that we stand in solidarity with them. And miracles still happen when we are one with those for whom we hope and pray. Sometimes the first miracle that occurs is that we notice the needs of some group beyond our immediate circle. Their suffering moves us and we choose to help them.

Let's pray in this Eucharist that Christ removes our blindness, opens our ears and loosens our tongues so that we speak up for those who are most in need of a healing word that brings them justice and peace.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

- Thoughts on Giving

"Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he promised to those who love him?" (James 2:5)

What is more important - being rich in faith or rich in possessions? Society teaches us that possessions are most important. God teaches a different lesson. When we are rich in faith we know that material things really do not matter and we are more willing to share