



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:

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)

COMMUNITY WORKER:

Len Monk - Phone 5278 2966 (email: lenmonk@netspace.net.au)

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)



During World War II, Mary was one of hundreds of Australian women who fell in love with an American soldier. She married her Episcopalian Army Major at the side altar in a Catholic Church in 1945. He was dashing and handsome and by the time it came for him to return to Philadelphia in 1946, they were expecting their first child.

Upon arrival at her new home Mary found that her brave soldier was not as fearless as she thought. He was completely dominated by his aristocratic, wealthy mother who made it clear from the beginning that she opposed the marriage. Mary's life in the family home was a nightmare. The tensions boiled over when Brendan was born. Regardless of the promises his father had made in Australia to have their children baptised Catholics, the soldier waged no war against his mother who declared that if any grandchild of hers was baptised a 'papist' she would disinherit the three of them. The Major buckled under the maternal pressure and demanded that Brendan be baptised an Episcopalian. Mary was devastated. She gathered her few possessions together, had her son baptised a Catholic and fled home.

In 1950, by now a divorcee, she met Maurice, a wonderful man who wanted to marry her and be a father to Brendan. When they went to see the local parish priest, he told them they could not be married in the Church and if they contracted a civil marriage they ran the risk of going to hell for eternity. They were tough days. Catholicism was one of the reasons Mary left the USA. In turn, the very Church she defended shut her out.

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks directly about marriage and divorce. In Jesus' day only a few women had rights before the law. These were wealthy women from the priestly families. They could divorce their husbands. The vast majority of women, however, were seen as possessions of their father, husband or son. A husband could draw up a divorce writ for any reason he wished and so force his wife out of their home into destitution or humiliate her by sending her back to her own family. No wonder Jesus lays down the law so strongly about fidelity and commitment. His new interpretation of the Law of Moses defended women's rights to dignity and security. (Cont'd P4)

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.

- 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year B - October 4, 2009.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

O Lord, you have given everything its place in the world, and no one can make it otherwise. For it is your creation, the heavens and the earth and the stars: you are the Lord of all.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

If we love one another,
God will live in us in perfect love.

Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**28th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading:	Wis 7:7-11
2nd Reading:	Heb 4:12-13
Gospel:	Mk 10:17-30



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: **Oct 5** - Baum family, Heytesbury St; **Oct 12** - McMahon family, Douglas St. **Oct 19** - Cleary family
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: Harold Crowe, Rosina Di Pasquale, Buntly Palmer

ANNIVERSARIES: Philip Leyden, Antonino & Isabella Bongiorno, Norma Moody, Margaret Donnellan, Manuel & Dinis Ramos, Vera McGrath, Jennifer McLaurin, Angela LaSpada, Mary Dacre, Jack Clarke

BAPTISMS: Isabella Cavallo, Mia Curuana (HS)

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Kathleen Lewis, Wendy Commons, Tom Cleary, Brian Shaw, Margaret Donaghy, Rita Ambrose, Alan Mee, John Kennedy, Rita McDonald, Felix Capicchiano, Toni Siketa, Jordan Willis, Fr Gavan Fitzpatrick (Fr Mick's brother), Elena Cattanach

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

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2009.

(2nd 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

A Vanjek

F O'Neill

E Di Domenico, I Vanjek, R Allum

C Marcantonio, P Walsh

H Thornton

N Ingles, M Law, V Seljak

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

R&R Zanardo, H Verdrik

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
- . Pastoral Cluster Community Kitchen: Each Monday at Ss Peter & Paul's small hall starting at 10am. Contact Cath O'Reilly 5243 3341

Cluster News:

FIRST EUCHARIST: We welcome and we congratulate the children from the non-Catholic schools who will make their First Eucharist at 9.30am Holy Family and 11am Ss Peter & Paul's on **October 11, 2009**.



STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM:

Christian Stewardship is the realisation that everything that we have and everything that we are is a gift from God, held in trust by us, to be used to praise God and serve our neighbour and to be returned with increase to the Lord. We will examine our stewardship of time, talent and treasure and of the earth's resources - stewardship is a big call! Please get involved in the program and please pray for its success.

CALENDAR OF DATES AND EVENTS:

- Oct 6... Tuesday - **Directions Meeting**
- Oct 17/18... Saturday and Sunday - **Stewardship Introduction Weekend; Parishioner Awareness**
- Oct 22... Thursday - **Formation Meeting; Stewardship Program Organization and Structure**
- Oct 24/25... Saturday and Sunday - **God's Call Weekend; (Parish Priest) Our Commissioning as Stewards**
- Oct 29... Thursday - **Parish Stewardship Information Meeting; Parish Finances/Achievements/Plans/Call for Support**
- Oct 31/Nov 1... Saturday and Sunday - **My Acceptance Weekend; Lay speaker on sharing time and talents**
- Nov 5... Thursday - **Arrangements Meeting; Explaining home visiting/response weekend procedures**
- Nov 7/8... Saturday and Sunday - **Our Response Weekend; (Visiting speaker) Our Practical Response**
- Nov 10... Tuesday - **Distribution Meeting; Home visiting begins**
- Nov 16... Monday - **First Card Report; Early report of Home Visits**
- Nov 18... Wednesday - **Program Social Night; Final return of cards**
- Nov 26... Thursday - **Wills Information**
- Nov 28/29... Saturday and Sunday - **New Commitment Begins**



RELAY FOR LIFE - "FR MICK'S MATES" - Sausage Sizzle Dates:

- Sunday Oct 4... Holy Family after the 9.30am Mass
- Sunday Oct 11... Ss Peter & Paul's after the 11am Mass
- Sunday Oct 18... Holy Spirit after the 11am Mass



COLUMBAN CALENDAR:

The 2010 Columban Calendar is now available at the Piety Stall. Buy one of the best religious calendars in the world and you will be helping our missionaries at the same time. This calendar also makes an excellent gift for family or friends.

WORLD MISSION DAY: October 17/18... The focus of this fundraising is 'Reach Out, Give Life'. There will be a leaving collection after each of the Masses this weekend.

CONFIRMATION DATES:

- Oct 17... Ss Peter & Paul's 5pm (Children from St Patrick's School)
- " Holy Family 7pm (Children from Holy Family School)
- Oct 18... Holy Family 9.30am (Children from non-Catholic schools)
- " Holy Spirit 3pm (Children from Holy Spirit School)

October 23...

Mark this date in your diary.
Let's see if you can break the code.
We are going to hold a:

F _ _ _ _ _ F _ _ _ _ _
To C _ _ _ _ _
F _ _ _ _ _ G _ _ _ _ _
50th B _ _ _ _ _

Mark this date in your diary. You will want to

Holy Spirit:

- ⇒ **YEAR OF THE PRIEST:** It's Holy Spirit's time to sign up to invite Fr Mick and Fr Gerard to a meal during this Year of the Priest. The understanding would be that the meal time is from 6pm to no later than 8pm. Lists of the dates when Fr Gerard and Fr Mick are free to be invited during October are on a clipboard in the back of the Church.
- ⇒ **MANIFOLD BRANCH OF CWL MONTHLY MEETING** will be held 1.30pm Tuesday Oct 6 in the meeting room Pastoral Cluster Office, Separation St. New members welcome. 2010 Membership \$20, Horizon subscription \$20 and orders for 2010 Scripture Diary \$10 can now be paid to Treasurer Tricia Joyce or Secretary Jeanette Sheahan. **Date for Diary: Blume's Fashion Show Oct 20**, 2pm at the Pastoral Cluster Office. For information contact Pat Bourke 5278 2422 or Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063.
- ⇒ **AD2000:** October edition on sale at the SVDP stall, price \$4. Topics: *Year of the Priest; Progressive Leadership; Why the Catholic Church cannot ordain women priests; The Mass - priest and people; plus Book Reviews, Letters.*

Holy Family:

- ⇒ **HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP** will hold a Dutch Auction at their meeting on Monday Night, Oct 5, at 7.30pm. This is a chance for you to have a spring clean and to bring unwanted items along for sale. Come along and enjoy the fun!



Community News:

- Oct 6... **RETIRED OFFICER'S KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Next meeting will be held at the White Eagle (Fellmongers Rd) at 12noon. Enquiries to S Brunt 5243 2481.
- Oct 7... **SENIORS FESTIVAL:** As part of the City of Greater Geelong's Seniors Festival, Kings Australia and Louise King Funerals proudly present Rebecca Hay, Geelong's 'Voice of an Angel' with Melodies by Gershwin. To be held at Lyndon Grove, 131 Surfcoast Hwy Grovedale, 3pm. Bookings preferred - contact Tricia 5222 3688 or email tricia@kingsaustralia.com.au
- " **A HELPING HAND FOR EAST TIMORESE CHILDREN:** *Fashion Parade for a Better World* - 7.30pm at Kirrewur Crt, 22 Prospect Rd Newtown, \$25 including light supper. Ticket sales from Tricia Blane 5261 5378, Blue Illusion 192 Pakington St, Salted Starfish 350 Pakington St, Maternal Instinct 235 Moorabool St. Geelong-Viqueque Friendship Schools is working to improve the education of children in the struggling Viqueque District and linking their schools with Geelong partner schools,
- Oct 18... **SENIORS FESTIVAL:** As part of the City of Greater Geelong's Seniors Festival, Kings Australia and Louise King Funerals proudly present Geelong's Tim McCallum and Rebecca Hay in Harmony-Peace-Spirit-Grace at St Mary's Basilica, 3pm. Tickets \$10 from Kings Administrative Office, 25 Myers St and will be available at the door. A donation from the event will be made to Anam Cara House.
- " **SOCIAL LUNCHEON GATHERING:** Open invitation to attend, 12noon at Ashby Presbytery, Malone St Geelong West, cost \$10 incl drinks. Bring a casserole or a sweet. Phone Joe Lambert to confirm on 5229 8442. This is a KSC project to support local and overseas charity work.
- " **ENROLMENT MASS** for school-aged children in the Baptism Program, 10.30am at St Francis Xavier Church, Corio. For further details about this program, please contact Anna on 5275 4120 on Wed or Thurs between 9am and 3pm.
- Oct 25... **ANNIVERSARY OF ABORTION LAW REFORM BILL:** Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral 11am followed by a Prayer Service in the Cathedral and guest speakers 2pm at the Cardinal Knox Centre, East Melbourne.

CATHOLIC DINERS CLUB, GEELONG hold a 6.15pm dinner on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 'Dromoland House'. The cost for the 2-course meal, pre-dinner drinks and nibbles, after dinner tea/coffee and mints is \$30 per person inclusive. Extra drinks are at bar prices. The club promotes a guest speaker/entertainer and the evening is usually over by 9.30pm. You are welcome to **trial a relaxing night out with us**. Please contact Terry on 5221 7339 or Patti on 5229 9963.

(/Cont'd from P1)

Every Catholic parish today has parishioners who are divorced and remarried; no doubt some are here at this Mass. In the face of the negative messages you hear, I want you to know how much we admire your often heroic faith, how much God loves you and how grateful we are that you hang in here with us. The problem for the Church is that, on the one hand, we want to keep affirming the permanence of married love, and yet, on the other hand, we have an increasing number of Catholics who are divorcing. We are caught between the fine ideal Jesus teaches and the frail human condition we all carry in different ways. We have not got the balance right yet.

The Church's remedy to marriage breakdown is an annulment. An annulment is not a Catholic divorce. A civil divorce says the parties that were married are not now. An annulment says that there were factors, often unknown to the couple on the day, which meant that there was never a full and true Christian marriage in the first place. The sacrament is therefore null and void. Some Catholics, and certainly people who are not Catholic, cannot face up to the long, complex and legal process involved in an annulment. It can be a traumatic experience. Others argue that the Church might step away from the more recent legal approach to dealing with marriage and, like the Orthodox Churches, use the Sacrament of Penance to nullify the Sacrament of Marriage. Whatever of the process, Christian teaching on this issue must always be metered with compassion.

From 1951 until 1993 Mary and her second husband did not receive the Sacraments. At my encouragement, she instigated annulment proceedings in 1990. In 1993 they received communion for the first time in 42 years. God had never moved away from them, embracing them in his arms, laying his hands on them every day and blessing them. At that Nuptial Mass in 1994, Maurice's best man was Brendan, born in Philadelphia in 1946. Maurice had legally adopted Brendan the day after he married Mary. And as we all received communion, with tears streaming down our faces, we understood that it is to human, frail and open hearts that the Kingdom of God belongs.