



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

**OFFICE:**

147 Separation St Bell Park 3215

Phone: 5278 1343 Fax: 5278 4618 Email: [cluster@netspace.net.au](mailto: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](mailto:cluster@netspace.net.au))

**COMMUNITY WORKER:**

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

**LITURGICAL CO-ORDINATOR:**

Frank Kearney - Phone 5278 1343 (email: [frankkearney@netspace.net.au](mailto:frankkearney@netspace.net.au))

**THANKSGIVING CO-ORD:**

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

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist encourages his followers to be patient, as the wait for salvation will soon be over. The Israelites longed to see the day when the Messiah would come. Each generation hoped and prayed that they would be the one to witness the appearance of God's anointed. The Jewish people still hope and pray for this event in every generation.



But Jesus did not come as many expected. Some thought he would arrive in a dramatic event and the end of the world would occur. Others expected a regal entrance or a political overthrow of the Romans. Luke's Gospel repeatedly points out that the very people who longed for the day to see the Messiah missed out because they were looking for the wrong signs. John the Baptist is the first to see Jesus for who he really is for the world. He recognises that Jesus' sacrificial love can fill our valleys, lay mountains low, make crooked paths straight and rough ways smooth.

Advent is not a season where we have to pretend that we do not know Jesus is coming and then put on mock surprise at Christmas. Advent is the season which celebrates a 'patient yes'. Every year all of us in the Church stand in a queue and remind ourselves of how blessed we are to have seen our salvation in Jesus. We remember the faith of those who longed to see what we see and to know what we know. And we cultivate our patience for life's valleys, mountains and crooked paths where sometimes we can feel Jesus' absence more than his presence, where only when we look back we can see he was with us all the way.

So, as we all wait together in line this Advent let's say yes to all that salvation holds for us: yes to God's personal love; yes to Jesus' kingdom of justice and peace; yes to every opportunity to serve the Gospel and yes to knowing that our God is a companion to us at every step of our journey, even in the most unexpected ways. (Cont'd)

**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.

## - Second Sunday of Advent -

(Year C - December 6, 2009.)

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

People of Zion, the Lord will come to save all nations, and your hearts will exult to hear his majestic voice.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

The Lord has done great things for us;  
we are filled with joy.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths; all people shall see the salvation of God. **Alleluia!**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:****Second Sunday of Advent - Year C**

1st Reading: Zeph 3:14-18

2nd Reading: Phil 4:4-7

Gospel: Lk 3:10-18

## 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:

**Dec 7:** Moore family, Willana Ave; **Dec 14:** Iozzo family, Manifold 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, Rita Ambrose, Alan Mee, Rita McDonald, Felix Capicchiano, Toni Siketa, Jordan Willis, Margaret Mayne, Kylie Behr, John Robertson, Krishna & Trishna, Lorena Gonzaga

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

## **ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2009.**

(2nd 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

#### **8.00AM**

A Vanjek

F O'Neill

E Di Domenico, I Vanjek, R Allum

C Marcantonio, P Walsh

H Thornton

P Walsh, V Carmody

#### **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 Verdnik

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: **BBQ 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 School - Monday 9.30am-11.30am. 0-5 years Indoor/outdoor play. Ph 5278 3558 or mob 0400 722 726
- Manifold CWL - Pastoral Cluster Centre, First Tuesdays in the month
- Italian Mass - First Thursday of the month in St Patrick's Chapel
- Geelong Stroke Support group for survivors, partners, carers & families meet in the Ss Peter & Paul's 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:**

### RCIA (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS):

After the Enquiry Period, which has been from August 12 until now, we have two unbaptised adults, **Brian and Rachael Jepson**, wishing to be catechumens. This means they wish to receive further formation with the view of being baptised next Easter. We also have **Danielle Ingwersen and Bronwyn Cusworth**, who have been baptised in other Christian Churches, and **Daniel Siketa, Jade Williams and Clara Urquhart**, baptised in the Catholic Church, who wish to be fully initiated into the Catholic Church next Easter by the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.

To celebrate their decisions we will have at the 9.30am Mass of Holy Family this Sunday, the RITE OF ACCEPTANCE INTO THE ORDER OF CATECHUMENS AND WELCOME TO BAPTISED CANDIDATES. Please support them on their faith journey by your prayer, example and encouragement.

### OUR PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS:

#### *Attention all Christmas Carollers*

Do you enjoy Christmas Carols? Do you enjoy singing in the shower (or elsewhere?) Do you play an instrument?

If you answered yes to any of the above, we are keen to have you join us in a choir for singing carols before and during the Christmas Midnight Mass. We would love to see people from our three Parishes come together as one voice. All that is required is a love of singing and a desire to be part of the choir for this event.

If you play a musical instrument, your presence would be greatly appreciated - flute, guitar, violin, etc.

Practices will be at Holy Family on Wednesdays beginning **Wed Dec 2** from 7pm till 8.30pm. Come one! Come all!

You can contact Frank Lehpamer on [lehpamer@geelong.hotkey.net.au](mailto:lehpamer@geelong.hotkey.net.au) or phone 5278 4230.

### AN INVITATION TO ALL KNOWN CATHOLICS TO OUR CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS:

As part of our outreach to all known Catholics, Fr Mick and I are inviting them to attend our Christmas Ceremonies.

To ensure this is an effective outreach, we need your help. We would like you to :

- Distribute the envelopes in your own street and surrounds.
- Letters are ready to pick up in the church today.
- They are ALPHABETICAL BY STREET.
- All parishioners who live outside the parish boundaries – your letters are in a separate basket – alphabetical by street, regardless of suburb.

### FR MICK'S MATES:

After 5pm Mass on **Saturday Dec 5**, Fr Mick's Mates will be holding a Sausage Sizzle, Cake Stall, Relishes, Christmas Raffle, etc. Also there is a Christmas Raffle with many good prizes and it will be drawn on **Dec 21**. Cost of the ticket is \$1. More details in the weeks to come. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

## Holy Spirit:

⇒ **ST VINCENT DE PAUL'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL:** This weekend of Dec 5/6 the Holy Spirit SVDP Conference will be holding their Annual Christmas Appeal. Funds raised will go to assist those in our community who are less fortunate than ourselves. There will be a second collection at the Saturday 6pm Mass and the Sunday 11am Mass. Please give generously.

## Ss Peter & Paul's:

⇒ **FESTA DELL'IMMACOLATA CONCEZIONE PROGRAMMA:** DOMENICA 6 DICEMBRE NELLA CHIESA DI ST PATRICK BRITANNIA ST, GEELONG WEST. ALLE ORE 9.30AM. LA MESSA SARA CELEBRATA DA MONS JAMES MURRAY. DOPO LA SANTA MESSA CI SARA LA PROCESSIONE CON LA STATUA NEL CORTILE DELLA SCUOLA. SEGUIRA LA BENEDIZIONE TUTTI SIETE BENVENUTI.

## Stewardship Program:

Many thanks for your generous support of the program. The figures are:

	<u>Holy Family</u>	<u>Ss Peter &amp; Paul's</u>	<u>Holy Spirit</u>
<b>Previous:</b>			
Weekly Average Contribution	\$1,571 pw	\$1,185 pw	\$2,078 pw
No of Contributors	257	129	248
Average per Contributor	\$6.11	\$9.18	\$8.37
<b>The New Pledges:</b>			
Weekly	\$1,961 pw	\$1,706 pw	\$2,684 pw
No of Pledges	245	128	250
Average per Contributor	\$8.00	\$13.32	\$10.73

**No of School Families Pledging:**                      9 of 201 families                      16 of 181 families                      19 of 176 families

The programs' total has been successful because of the support of many good people, in particular the Office staff - Trish Stickland, Helen Brislane, Frank Kearney, Katharine Shelley and Rob Dickinson; the Chairman of the campaign David Lunn, as well as the volunteers, leaders, home visitors, working bee helpers, weekend Mass helpers and all those who were involved in any way. Also I would like to offer heartfelt thanks to Lorella DiPaolo, the Program Director of Catholic Fundraising who administered the program with professionalism and warmth. To everyone - many thanks! (Fr Gerard)

Also, thankyou to Shane Balkin, a parishioner and Solicitor in Geelong, who led us through an enjoyable and informative session about the legal aspects of Wills.

## Community Dates:

- Dec 13... **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Notice to members, family and friends - **BBQ Breakup** commencing 5pm at Alan & Louise Fossey's home. \$8 per family, just bring a salad or a sweet. Phone Joe Lambert 5229 8442 by Dec 8 to confirm attendance.
- Dec 18... **HANDEL'S 'MESSIAH'** will be performed at St Mary's Basilica 8pm by the Choir and Orchestra of The Scots' Presbyterian Church, Melb. Tickets \$35, \$30Conc from GPAC or at the door.
- Advent... **FREE LUNCHTIME ORGAN RECITALS** at St Mary's Basilica: **Nov 30** - *Rod Junor* (from Melbourne Town Hall); **Dec 7** - *Siegfried Franke* (from Christ Church, South Yarra); **Dec 14** - *Tom Healey* (from St Andrew's Brighton); **Dec 21** - *Frank De Rosso* (from St Mary's Basilica)
- Dec 25... **GEELONG COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER:** A fully catered traditional Christmas Dinner for any person or small family at no cost - **Christ Church Hall, cnr Moorabool & McKillop Sts.** If you or anyone you know is interested in attending please ph SVDP Society on 5221 9170 until Tues Dec 22 to book. Door opens 9.30am till 3.30pm with dining commencing 11.45am.

---

(/Cont'd from P1)

Scottish poet John Bell expresses it this way:

'Light looked down and saw the darkness. "I will go there", said light.  
Peace looked down and saw war. "I will go there", said peace.  
Love looked down and saw hatred. "I will go there", said love.  
So he,  
the Lord of Light, the Prince of Peace, the King of Love,  
came down and crept in beside us.'