



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
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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:	Len Monk -	Phone 5278 2966 (email: lenmonk@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 came across this story the other day which seems to be appropriate for the First Sunday of Lent.

In the second year of the Jesuit novitiate, the Jesuit novices are dropped around 140km from their first house in Australia at Sevenhill in South Australia. He has eight days to walk the distance and beg for food and accommodation. He cannot tell anyone who he is or what he is doing.

One Jesuit writes, 'It's the only time in my life I've been remotely in what we could call a wilderness and I have known hunger. 'There were many knockbacks, but there were a few occasions when people were extraordinarily generous. 'We are told that we cannot trade off being a Jesuit, but if we are invited into someone's home we can tell them who we are, so that they will not be frightened that they have welcomed Jack the Ripper to stay the night. If the person has offered the garage and a sandwich, however, we cannot use our being a Jesuit to get an upgrade from economy to first class!

'One woman who welcomed me into her home questioned me at length about where was I from, where was I going and how I got here. Then she declared, "I think I can trust ya". So she ushered me into her home, offered a meal that night, breakfast the next day and her guest room. 'I told this woman who I was and complimented her on her extraordinary generosity. "Well listen sunshine", she said, "let's face it, I knew you were OK, 'cause you're the most beautifully spoken, articulate beggar I've ever met."

In today's Gospel we are told that Jesus was tempted in the wilderness for 40 days. Numbers are never randomly used in the Bible. 1, 3, 7, 12 and 40 all have specific meanings. 40 indicates a time of formation. Luke tells us that Jesus confronts evil head-on and is tempted in every way that we are. We often feel alone when faced with difficult choices and temptations, but, especially at these moments, there are four things we need to remember:

Temptation is not sin. Only when we freely and knowingly choose to act on temptation is sin involved. Though one may like to talk about the temptations one has in Reconciliation, we never have to 'confess' them as though they are sinful actions. (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.

- First Sunday of Lent -

(Year C - February 21, 2010.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

When he calls to me, I will answer; I will rescue him and give him honour. Long life and contentment will be his.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
King of endless glory!**

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



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Second Sunday of Lent - Year C

1st Reading: Gen 15:5-12,17-18

2nd Reading: Phil 3:17-4:1

Gospel: Lk 9:28-36

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: **Feb 22:** Partridge Family, Rowe St, **Mar 1:** Johnson family, Ruhama Ave,
Mar 8: Lynch family, Criton Cres.

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:

MONTH SINCE DEATH:

ANNIVERSARIES:

BAPTISMS:

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Kathleen Lewis, Wendy Commons, Alan Mee, Felix Capicchiano, Toni Siketa, Jordan Willis, Margaret Mayne, Kylie Behr, John Robertson, Lorena Gonzaga, Joe Vanjek, Jim Hudson, Donald McMahon, Joan Gazenbeek, Lucas Bailey

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

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2010.

(4th Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

8.00AM

F O'Neill

L Kelly

L Sells, E Kelly, B McFarlane

L&E Kelly

9.30AM

M Lukesic

M Baird, P Gizycki

E Gdak, J McMahon, D Lunn

E Glynn, A Flomo

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

6.00PM

M Lacy

E Cotter, P Dickson

C McShanag

C Canny, M Brown, D McFarlane

T McShanag

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

Readers

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

5.00PM

A Henderson

G Tolan

M Ackland, M Gifford, S Beamond

R&K Maddalena

11.00AM

M Foley

M McGeady

H&M Broekman, D Dougherty, M Mirabile

M Broekman, D Dougherty, D Lipinski

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. 0-3 years Indoor/outdoor play. Ph 5229 8298
- 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:

- **BLUEPRINT FOR A BETTER WORLD:** How do communities make the transition from natural disasters such as the earthquake in Haiti, tsunamis in Asia, famine in the continent of Africa to viable and self sufficient communities? Join us as we explore the journey to a **Blueprint for a Better World**. Our guest speaker is Jamie Davis, International Programs Manager for Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development. **Monday March 1 at 7.30-9.00pm in the Pastoral Cluster Centre, Bell Park.**
- **PARISH RECONCILIATION PROGRAM:**
For Catholic children in the parishes of the Pastoral Cluster who do not attend our Catholic Schools.
This program will begin on **Sunday Feb 28**. Late enrolments are still being accepted. Please contact Frank Kearney at the Cluster Office on **Mon, Tues, Wed** - Ph 5278 1343.
- **LENT 2010: "Do you love me?"** An invitation to explore and deepen our life of service in Jesus Christ. A program for personal and group use. Would those interested in joining a group discussion for Lent please sign the clipboards available in each Church indicating days of the week you are available for a group and time of day that is suitable.
- **SENIORS COMMUNITY KITCHEN:** A social group to meet and plan economical meals to share and take home. New members welcome. Phone Kath on 5243 3341.



Liturgy in the Pastoral Cluster in February:

⇒ **COMMITMENT MASSES BY CHILDREN WHO ARE MAKING THEIR SACRAMENTS:**

All the weekend Masses of Feb 20 & 21 and Feb 27 & 28.

Masses will be as normal with the exception that at the time of the Creed the children of our Catholic schools who are making a Sacrament this year, will make a personal commitment to a good and proper preparation for the reception of their respective Sacrament.



Fr Mick's Mates - Relay for Life, March 20th and 21st

Registrations for those who wish to participate in this year's "Relay for Life" can be made at each of the three parishes: Holy Spirit...

Amy O'Brien
Holy Family... Bernadette Kline and Vicki Resciniti
Ss Peter & Paul's... Desma Dougherty

Registration after Mass Feb 14, 21 and 28.

Coming Event: Night on the Bay - Friday March 12, cost \$20 per person.
Finger food to be provided, BYO drink.



Ss Peter & Paul's:

- ⇒ CAN YOU SPARE 2 HOURS A WEEK? St Vincent de Paul Geelong West is in need of people to do visitation. You would go out with a trained person and you don't need to live in the area. Please ph Sheila if you can help on 5243 2870.
- ⇒ ARE YOU A SINGLE PARENT DAD OR MUM? Young Vincentians organize outings and social events throughout the year for you and the children. Interested? Ph Sheila on 5243 2870.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

"I have now brought you the first fruits of the products of the soil which you, O Lord, have given to me." (Deut 26:10)

This simple line from the Old Testament presents us with two challenges. First, do we bring God our first fruits - the best we have to offer? Second, do we remember that everything we have has been given to us by God?

We brought nothing into this world and we can take nothing from it. So why not share what we have while we are here?

Community Dates & Notices:

Feb 27... **PICKING UP THE PIECES** is a one-day program for those who are in the early stages of grief following the end of their relationship. This program can help with the feelings of confusion and loss that come with being separated, divorced or widowed. To be held at 62 McKillop St, 9am-4.30pm, \$50 (\$30 Conc) - Incl lunch, tea and coffee. Bookings essential - limited places. Ph 5221 7055.

Feb 28... **CENTACARE CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES** invite you to the Inaugural Geelong Mass of Appreciation for donors, benefactors and people we have helped. Principal celebrant will be Archbishop Denis J Hart, Archbishop of Melbourne. The Mass will be held at St Mary of the Angels Basilica Geelong, commencing at 3pm. Light refreshments will be provided at the conclusion of Mass. Enquiries to Mr John McCarthy 9287 5555.

ST JOHN OF GOD HOSPITAL: Expressions of interest are sought for a Special Eucharistic Minister for the 3rd and 5th Sunday of the month at the Hospital. Ph Patricia Boom on 5226 8888 or email patricia.boom@sjog.org.au

PASTORAL HEALTHCARE NETWORK AUSTRALIA: Activities include Sign-Shi-Do classes, Prayer Shawl Ministry and Carers Day Out. Bookings at 264 Shannon Ave Newtown, 5247 0128.

SIMPLE ACTS OR A WAY OF LIVING: The Geelong Catholic Deanery invites the youth of our parishes to journey the 6 weeks of Lent together through reflection, prayer, celebration and engagement in the ministry and life of Christ. Venue - St Bernard's Parish Cafe, 74 Fryers Rd Belmont. Time: 5-6.30pm each Saturday in Lent. Contact & RSVP: Kristen Rowan kristenr@stmarysgeelong.com.au or 0434 983 629.

Feb 20... Live Simply	Feb 27... Live Humbly	Mar 6... Live Generously
Mar 13... Live Compassionately	Mar 30... Live Creatively	Apr 3... Live fully

Meetings in the Pastoral Cluster this week:

- Fri Feb 12... A meeting was held to begin the process of co-ordinating interior refurbishment of Holy Family Church. Details will be provided at a later date.
- Tues Feb 16... A meeting with Claire Griffin, Co-ordinator of the Columban Partnership Program, 10am at the Pastoral Cluster Centre.
- " Cluster Staff Meeting. The Office will be closed from 11am to 1pm.



The good news of the Gospel challenges us to change ourselves and our world for the better. This week's story takes us to rural Cambodia where Samon lives with his family. Life here is often a daily struggle. Caritas Australia is supporting 22 Cambodian communities, including Samon's, with practical training in micro credit to increase families' food production and livelihoods. Your generous donations to Caritas Australia's Project Compassion allow subsistence farmer families to gain skills to increase their household food security and offers hope for a healthier future.

(Cont'd from P1)

When we look at our temptations they often appear as good things, but often they have a sting in the tail which is destructive. We need to be very alert to all the consequences of what we do and say, and learn from our experiences. The more we give into temptation, the more immune we become to seeing that there's anything wrong with what we are doing. We can develop whole habits in our living, deceiving ourselves that what we are doing is 'not that bad'.

St Ignatius Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits, tells us in *The Spiritual Exercises* that the worst temptations are greed, pride and riches. This comes as a surprise to Catholics who have been told for too long that sex is number one. Ignatius says that we should be wise in how we deal with temptations: name what's going on, and attend to the pattern of the temptation quickly and consistently.

As John B. Metz, says, 'We can say that the three temptations in the desert are three assaults on the poverty of Jesus ... What Satan fears most is the powerlessness of God in the humanity he assumed ... so he appeals to Jesus' divinity, he wants God to remain God ...but Jesus subjected himself to our plight and opted for us as we are.' We should take great comfort from this: there is no path of temptation along which Jesus has not gone ahead of us to show us we can choose life ahead of death.

That's what Lent is always about – a yearly season where we are encouraged to keep embracing life and live it to the full.