



Pastoral Cluster

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

PARISH PRIESTS:

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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:

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SCHOOL PRINCIPALS:

Holy Family -

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Holy Spirit -

Mary Abbott

Minerva Rd Manifold Hts

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St Patrick's -

Basil Flynn

Petrel St, Geelong West

Phone 5229 4412

Reflection... (by Richard Leonard SJ)

The resource I use to help couples prepare for marriage has questions for them to think about and discuss in between sessions. One of the questions at the end of one of the chapters is, 'What effect would adultery have on your marriage?' In one sense this hypothetical question is absurd. Dealing with the consequences of any sin requires time and place, context and contrition. It is even tougher to imagine the effect of any destructive behaviour in one's marriage even before the marriage has begun. Still, it never ceases to amaze me how this question usually leads the couple to have a very fruitful and frank discussion, not about adultery, but about their values, family history, commitment, fidelity and growing old together.



Sometimes, however, I cringe when the prospective bride or groom seems to give the green light to their future spouse by saying, 'Well I guess if he or she went looking elsewhere it would be my fault' or 'I love him or her so much that I know we could go on regardless'. Others say very clearly that it would alter the trust and respect of the relationship, but they hope they could look at the circumstances and rebuild the relationship.

The most mature couples do not wipe over the seriousness of the sinful action, but want to hold on to compassion, forgiveness and a commitment that it will not happen again. Couples like these have clearly understood the power of today's readings. The third Sunday of Lent is all about second chances. In Exodus we have a bush that is alight but does not burn and in Luke we have a fig tree that does not bear fruit, is earmarked for the chop and saved by the gardener. In both cases where we would expect to find destruction we find new opportunities for growth, nurturance and flowering.

Over the centuries the goodness of God that always gives us another chance has not been proclaimed as vigorously as it should have been. We have focused on God's justice as though it was a once and for all, shape up or ship out sort of message. These ideas can be deduced from today's second reading where Paul seems to argue that God killed the chosen people for their complaining and infidelity. (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.

- Third Sunday of Lent -

(Year C - March 7, 2010.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

My eyes are ever fixed on the Lord, for he releases my feet from the snare. O look at me and be merciful, for I am wretched and alone.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord is kind and merciful.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Repent, says the Lord. The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**

Fourth Sunday of Lent - Year C

1st Reading: Joshua 5:9-12

2nd Reading: 2Cor 5:17-21

Gospel: Lk 15:1-3,11-32

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

Vincetian 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: 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: Baby Lateisha McKellar, Dulcie Cox (nee Wilkinson - USA)

MONTH SINCE DEATH: Frank Patti

ANNIVERSARIES: Vjekoslav Iskra, Joan Booth, Ray Carroll, Joan Booth, Salvatore Rotiroti, Joe Trinder, Reg McFarlane

BAPTISMS: Ruthy Vaanhold, Otis Dalbosco (HS)

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Kathleen Lewis, Wendy Commons, Felix Capicchiano, Toni Siketa, Jordan Willis, Margaret Mayne, Kylie Behr, John Robertson, Lorena Gonzaga, Joe Vanjek, Jim Hudson, Donald McMahon, Joan Gazenbeek, Lucas Bailey, Dorothy McKenzie, Jeff Booth, Robert & Simon Yap, June Tay, Janet Ho, Rosalie & Lance Gilbert.

Please see notice on Page 3 in bulletin.

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2010.

(2nd Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

8.00AM

R Allum

F O'Neill

E Di Domenico, I Vanjek, R Allum

C Marcantonio, P Walsh

9.30AM

C Simpson

D Lunn, A Negro

R&R Zanardo, H Verdrik

V Resciniti, G Cracco

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

6.00PM

M Lacy

M Willett, G Harrison

B Murphy

M Brown, D McFarlane, P Ryan

B Stocks

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

Readers

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

5.00PM

A Hubbard

P Power, P Hubbard

P Hubbard, N Neeld, A Henderson

R&K Maddalena

11.00AM

E Strzelecki

M Martin

E Strzelecki, A&L Fossey, P Pollard/M Burn, J Gailius

M&H Broekman, D Dougherty, L Fossey

T Martin

Liturgy in the Pastoral Cluster:

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL THANKSGIVING CONTRIBUTORS:

All contributors (envelopes, credit card, direct debit) - your next set of envelopes/statement of giving, with Easter letter enclosed, is on a table in the back of the Church. They are in order, alphabetical by STREET, regardless of suburb.

NB: From now on, envelopes will be distributed twice a year.

Today's set will take you up to the end of November. The next sets will go out in November 2010 and May 2011.

Easter Letter: Easter letters for all other known Catholics in the Parish are also in a separate box in the back of the Church. It would be appreciated if you could take the bundle for your street and deliver them. Thankyou to all who assisted in preparing the Easter letters and thankyou all for your continuing generous support of the Parish.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):

On Sunday Feb 21 the Rite of Election of Catechumens and the Presentation of Baptised Candidates for full Communion with the Catholic Church was celebrated at St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne. Archbishop Hart presided and it was great to see so many present at the Cathedral. The next step for our Catechumans BRIAN and RACHEL JEPSON, and our Candidates BRONWYN CUSWORTH, DANIELLE INGWERSEN, DANIEL SIKETA, CLARA URQUHART and JADE WILLIAMS in their journey to join the Catholic Church at Easter are the **SCRUTINIES** to be celebrated at 9.30am Mass on Sundays March 7, 14 and 21.

The Scrutinies are rites of self-searching and repentance. The Scrutinies are meant to:

1. Uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective or sinful in the hearts of our Catechumens and Candidates.
2. To bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong and good.

The Scrutinies are celebrated in order to deliver the candidates from the power of sin, to protect them against temptation, and to give them power in Christ who is the way, the truth and the life.

The prayers in the Scrutinies are based on the gospels from Year A for the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent, so the readings at the 9.30am Mass will be from Year A.

As the Christian life is always one of ongoing conversion, the Scrutinies apply to all of us. Hence the intercessions of the Prayer of the Faithful used for the Scriptures will be prayed at all the Sunday Masses in the Cluster.

COMMUNION UNDER BOTH KINDS:

The Archbishop has clarified that the practice of Communicants receiving the Blood of Christ from the Chalice can now be reintroduced. The teaching of the Catholic Church is that the reception of Communion under both kinds is liturgically and sacramentally preferred.

In light of the above, there will be the opportunity for Mass-goers at all Cluster Masses to receive Holy Communion under both kinds from Easter Sunday. This change will mean that there will be a need for more Special Ministers.

We will require five Ministers of the Eucharist for each Mass at Holy Family and three at each Mass at Holy Spirit and Ss Peter & Paul's. If you can help in this ministry, there will be a sign-up board at the back of each of the Churches.

New Rosters for Eucharistic Ministers at the Masses will be drawn up in the week before Holy Week.

CLUSTER NEWS:

Many people request a name of someone who is ill to be inserted in the bulletin for prayers. This gesture is a good gift to the ill person. To ensure an effective response the following protocol is necessary to follow. Firstly, the person who is ill gives explicit permission to have their name placed in the bulletin. The purpose of this protocol is to protect the privacy of the ill person. Secondly, the name will be printed in the bulletin for approx five weeks. If prayers are still needed then the person or carer needs to phone the office so that the name can be reinstated.

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

⇒ **ST PATRICK'S PAST PUPILS REUNION:** On Wed March 17 at the Sphinx Hotel Thompson Rd North Geelong at 6.30pm. RSVP to Shirley on 5248 3347.

⇒ **IRISH FOLK FESTIVAL:** Sunday March 21, 11am till 4pm. Rides, showbags, Guinness, Spinning Wheel, 'Donegal Express' Band, BBQ, Craft, Books, Irish Fare, Face Painting, fresh produce and so much more! Petrel Street, Geelong West ALL WELCOME!



COMMUNITY DATES & NOTICES:

Mar 7... **LUNCHEON FOR SISTERS OF THE HOLY ANGELS:** 12noon in Ss Peter & Paul's Hall, cost \$7 - all welcome!

Mar 10... **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Next meeting will be held at Ss Peter & Paul's small Hall at 3pm. All members and retired members most welcome.

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.

Coming Event: **Night on the Bay - Friday March 12, cost \$20 per person.**

Finger food to be provided, BYO drink.

Limit of 15 people per parish. Please contact Amy, Vicki or Desma to book your spot.





Easter Ceremonies:



You are warmly invited to share in our Holy Week celebrations...

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - SECOND RITE:

Tuesday March 23	7.30pm	Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West
Wednesday March 24	7.30pm	Holy Family, Bell Park
Thursday March 25	7.30pm	Holy Spirit, Manifold Hts
Wednesday March 31	7.30pm	Holy Family, Bell Park

MASS OF THE OILS:

Tuesday March 30	11.00am	St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne
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MASS OF ANOINTING:

Wednesday March 31	11.30am	Ss Peter & Paul's, followed by lunch
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MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER:

Thursday April 1	7.00pm	Holy Spirit
<i>Adoration after Mass concluding with Night Prayer of the Church - 9pm</i>		
	6.00pm	Holy Family - Croatian

GOOD FRIDAY (April 2)

Way of the Cross	10.00am	Around St Patrick's Schoolyard
	10.30am	Holy Family
	11.00am	Holy Spirit
Celebration of the Lord's Passion	3.00pm	Holy Family
	6.00pm	Holy Family - Croatian

HOLY SATURDAY (April 3)

Blessing of Easter Food	4.00pm	Holy Family
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EASTER VIGIL:

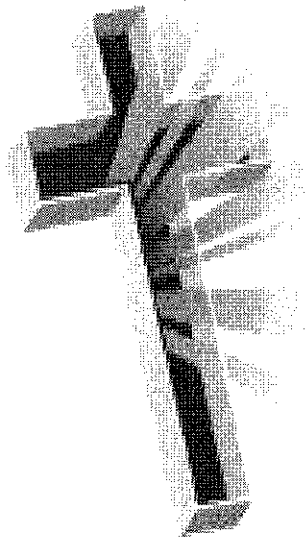
7.30pm	Holy Family
10.00pm	Holy Family - Croatian

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES:

8.00am	Holy Family
9.30am	Holy Family
11.00am	Holy Spirit
11.00am	Ss Peter & Paul's

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES (In a language other than English)

9.30am	Lithuanian Mass at Ss Peter & Paul's
9.30am	Italian Mass at St Patrick's Chapel
11.30am	Croatian Mass at Holy Family



PROJECT COMPASSION 2010:



To bring about the kingdom of God, we must be transformed within ourselves and our community. This week's story takes us to East Timor where Domingas is being supported in a Caritas-funded Family and Community Violence Prevention Program. Domingas, like many women in her community was the victim of violence and abuse. The program has provided her with ongoing counselling and a small grant to enable her to build a business and give her economic independence. Your donation to Caritas Australia's Project Compassion helps to support women survivors of violence and to work for just relationships.

Project Compassion boxes are available in the back of each Church.

(/Cont'd from P1)

Paul was a tough man and for him Christian commitment was no picnic. He was aware of how people were suffering and dying for the Gospel, so he was at pains to teach the people of Corinth that the commitment demanded from the Gospel could entail everything they had. His reading of why the Israelites died in the desert, however, needs to be read against the second chances of the other readings, especially the Gospel.

We believe in Lent that we enter a holy time in our year and visit a holy place in ourselves where the fire of God's love should burn brightly within us. We are offered these weeks to re-examine our values, family history, commitment, fidelity and growth so as to chart how best we can grow old with God. To do this sometimes requires facing up to our sinful behaviour and making choices to change our lives. We can only do this when we trust that the fire of God's love is not about destruction, but compassion, forgiveness and a second chance.

May this Eucharist be nurturance for the foundations of our lives and a moment to take stock and to assess with honesty the fruitfulness of how, as a sign of Christ's light within us, we live out our faith in our marriage, at home, at work and in the world.