PARISH PRIESTS:

Frs Gerard Keith & Mick Fitzpatrick - Phone 5278 1343

Web Page Address:

OFFICE:

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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 -Len Monk - Phone 5278 1343 (email: cluster@netspace.net.au)
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COMMUNITY WORKER: LITURGICAL CO-ORDINATOR: THANKSGIVING CO-ORD:

Len Monk -Frank Kearney -Helen Brislane -

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SCHOOL PRINCIPALS:

Holy Family -Holy Spirit - Brian Everett Mary Abbott

Separation St, Bell Park Minerva Rd Manifold Hts Phone 5278 4634 Phone 5229 8298

St Patrick's -

Basil Flynn Petrel S

Petrel St, Geelong West Phone 5229 4412

Reflection... (by Richard Leonard SJ)

Bright and early on a Monday morning, in times that were much less ecumenical, Mick and Paddy, a pair of Irish ditch diggers, were repairing a Dublin road directly across the street from a house of ill repute. Soon, they saw the Protestant Minister lurking about the place and then ducking into the house. 'Would ya look at that Mick!' said Paddy. 'What a shameful disgrace. That Protestant Minister sinning in the likes of that place!' 'Well', said Mick, 'he's got a ticket to hell anyway Paddy, so that's only getting' him an upgrade on the seat.'



A short time later they watched as a Jewish Rabbi looked around cautiously and, when he was satisfied no one had spied him, darted into the house. 'Did ya see that Paddy?', Mick asked in shock and disbelief. 'Is nothing holy to those Jewish people?' 'God in heaven above', Mick replied, 'Do they have "half price Monday" for the clergy at that sinful place?' 'Well, all I know Paddy is that a man of the cloth indulging himself in sins of the flesh is a terrible shame, I tell yal'

Not long had passed when they saw a third man, Fr O'Donovan, their parish priest, lurking about the house looking around to see if anyone was watching and then quietly sneaking in the door. 'Mick, look it's Father O'Donovan', said Pat removing his cap. 'Ah Mick', said Paddy, taking off his own cap, 'one of the poor girls musta died ...' Often our history colours everything about us, even those toward whom we can give the benefit of the doubt, be compassionate and forgive.

What is so shocking about Jesus' parable of the prodigal son is, that as the story goes, everything about the Jewish culture of first century Palestine set the boy up for a fall: he was greedy for his father's inheritance; we can assume he left the chosen land for the far country where he squandered his inheritance recklessly; he ended up eating with the unclean pigs;

and then he had the temerity to return and ask for forgiveness.

This was the least likeable kid in town. He did not deserve to be treated better than a slave. That's what makes the boy's father so magnificent in love. He was derided by his faithful older son for this folly of the heart and he would have been considered a fool by his neighbours. And this is the model of compassion Jesus gives us to emulate. (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.

- Fourth Sunday of Lent -

(Year C - March 714 2010.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Rejoice, Jerusalem! Be glad for her, you who love her; rejoice with her, you who mourned for her, and you will find contentment at her consoling breasts.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I will rise and go to my father and tell him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Fifth Sunday of Lent - Year C

1st Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21 2nd Reading: Phil 3:8-14 Gospel: Jn 8:1-11



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.

The Pastoral Cluster at Prayer

WEEKEND MASSES:

Holy Family, Bell Park: English... 8am and 9.30am (Sunday)

Holy Spirit, Manifold Hts:

Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West:

6.00pm Sat

11am - 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays

11am - 2nd and 4th Sundays

5.00pm Sat

Maryville Nursing Home: 11.15am Wed:

9.30am - Italian Mass at St Patrick's

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

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Holy Family: 9.15am Tues, 9.15am Thurs

9.00am Wed, 11am Fri and 9am Sat. Reconciliation after Saturday Mass **Holy Spirit:**

Grace McKellar Centre: 10.15am - 1st, 3rd, 5th Tues;

Multicultural Centre: 1.30pm - 1st Fri Vincentian Village: 3.00pm - Mon

COMMUNAL PRAYER:

Mon... Holy Family Women's Prayer Group

Meditation Group Tues...

Wed... Prayer of the Church

Wed... Holy Family Women's Prayer Group

Thurs... Italian Prayer Group

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Fri...

Divine Mercy Fri... Sat... Rosary

10.00am

5.30pm

Before 9am Mass 10.00am

10.00am After 11am Mass

3.00pm After 9am Mass Holy Family Community Centre Holy Spirit Church

Holy Family Community Centre St Patrick's Chapel

Holy Family Community Centre

Holy Spirit Church Holy Spirit Church 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:

Leanne Bidmade, Larry Battye, Tess Flatt, Kathleen Butler

MONTH SINCE DEATH:

Antonio lannelli

ANNIVERSARIES:

Antonino Battaglia, William Harris, Julie Craven

BAPTISMS:

Ardith O'Donnell, Olivia Bell, Liana Loney (P&P)

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Kathleen Lewis, Wendy Commons, Felix Capicchiano, Toni Siketa, Jordan Willis, Margaret Mayne, Kylie Behr, John Robertson, Lorena Gonzaga, Joe Vaniek, Jim Hudson, Donald McMahon, Joan Gazenbeek, Lucas Bailey, Dorothy McKenzie, Jeff Booth, Robert & Simon Yap,

June Tay, Janet Ho, Rosalie & Lance Gilbert, A Dianne Rickey

Please see notice on Page 3 in bulletin.

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2010.

(3rd Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY Commentators

MA00.8

K Saunders

B Rainbow

A Vanjek, C Marcantonio, P Walsh

Welcomers

Lectors

R&L Allum

9.30AM

L Lehpamer

H Verdnik, T McMahon

J de Palma, M Modica, E Glynn

E Dalton, G Carmody

HOLY SPIRIT:

Special Ministers

6.00PM

Commentators Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers **Projectionist** Sr J McGonigal

J McKenzie G Wright

C Horan, C Canny, V Logan

T Dunlop

11.00AM

M Currie G Brown

P Murfitt

B Gorman, I Cleary, L Coles, V Trinder

T Cleary, D Brown

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

Lectors

5.00PM D Maddalena

K Maddalena

Special Ministers Welcomers

M Gifford, B Ditkun, M Sleeman

Projectionist

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.

Many thanks to those who delivered the Easter Invitations to our parishioners.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):

The next step for our Catechumens 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 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.

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.

COLUMBAN PARTNERSHIP: On Monday March 15 the children from Gr 3-6 at our three Cluster schools will be involved in a Mass at Holy Family Church. The focus of the Mass will be their commitment to the Columban Partnership. Afterwards the children will have a shared lunch together.

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.

HOLY SPIRIT:

CONGRATULATIONS to Beryl McGonigal who celebrated her 100th birthday on March 11. Many thanks for all she has contributed to the parish over her long life.

🔜 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 14... ST IGNATIUS COLLEGE: Information Session for prospective students 11am-2pm

Mar 21... LEGION OF MARY - ACIES: St Francis Xavier, 143 Bacchus Marsh Rd Corio, 2-3.30pm

Mar 22... JESUS IN JERUSALEM presented by Dr Joe Fleming, 10-11am and 7.30-8.30pm at St Bernard's Church, Fryers Rd

Belmont

MARCH FAIR AT TORQUAY: Many thanks to all who assisted at the Fair. Despite inclement weather the Fair made a \$10,000 profit which will be used to assist the continuation of youth ministry in the Deanery.

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

All parishioners are invited to join the team for a BBQ at Deakin University at 7.30pm on Saturday March 20. BYO Meat and Drink with a Salad to share. (Site No 78 & 79)
Also at 9.00am Sunday March 21 there will be a breakfast of bacon & eggs supplied by Desma.



Assistance is needed for the setup of tents at the Fr Mick's Mates site at Deakin University. Set up is at 10am Saturday 20th. If you can assist please contact David Lunn on 0408 378 982



Easter Ceremonies:

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



THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - SECOND RITE:

Tuesday March 237.30pmSs Peter & Paul's, Geelong WestWednesday March 247.30pmHoly Family, Bell ParkThursday March 257.30pmHoly Spirit, Manifold HtsWednesday March 317.30pmHoly Family, Bell Park

MASS OF THE OILS:

Tuesday March 30 11.00am St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne

MASS OF ANOINTING:

Wednesday March 31 11.30am Ss Peter & Paul's, followed by lunch

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER:

Thursday April 1 7.00pm Holy Spirit

Adoration after Mass concluding with Night Prayer of the Church - 9pm

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

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:



Care for God's creation has always been an important part of Christian tradition. In this week's Project Compassion story we meet Clare from the Southern Highlands in Papua New Guinea. Clare works in the maternity ward, supporting local women to have access to safe maternity services. She also works as an educator on maternal health issues and provides ongoing support to mothers about child health, nutrition and prevention of disease. Your donation to Caritas Australia's Project Compassion helps PNG communities to have access to safe maternity and child health facilities as well as primary health care.

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

(/Cont'd from P1)

The context for this story, however, matters. The author of Luke 15 has Jesus responding to charges about the company he was keeping and especially those with whom he dined. In Jesus' day, one only ate with intimates and Jesus shared his table with losers. Three parables are given as an explanation for this practice: the lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son. In each case the shepherd, the woman and the father go to ridiculous lengths to save that which is lost.

Who was admitted to the table of Luke's community was a huge issue. It seems some things never change. The action and words of Jesus, however, lead us to conclude the table is here for those of us who know the frailty of our lives enough to recognise our hunger and thirst for the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation. Today's Gospel is not just about each of us being welcomed into the arms of our compassionate God, it is also a challenge for us to defend the right of the outcasts, the public sinners and the losers who seek to turn their life around to be welcomed here as well.

This is not just about the table of the Eucharist, either. To the degree that we help our country be more hospitable to the most defenceless, the poor and the displaced then we live out the power of this parable. May this Eucharist then, help us live beyond our history, which so often colours those toward whom we can give the benefit of the doubt and show compassion and may it give us the courage and faith to be ridiculously generous, and magnificently loving.