



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

A teacher told me recently that when she asked her grade fours to draw a picture of the Ascension, not unsurprisingly most of them did a fairly conventional portrait of Jesus rising up on a cloud. One of her students, David, who is a particularly gifted artist, had Jesus blasting off into the sky. Down the side of Jesus' pure white garment was the word NASA and David provided all the sound effects for how he imagined the scene of the first Ascension. He concluded, without a hint of irony, that, 'the Ascension must have been a real blast!'



None of us can blame David for marrying our modern culture with an ancient story. In fact if some of us are honest, David's 'space shuttle Jesus' is not far from what we think as well.

The Ascension stories, however, are not primarily interested in how or when Jesus got back to heaven. John and Paul never mention it at all. Mark and Matthew have it happening on the same day as the Resurrection and Luke has it occurring 40 days after Easter on the same day as Pentecost. The one thing, on which all the New Testament writers agree, is where in heaven Jesus went and where he is presently – at God's right hand.

Even to this day, being on someone's right is a place of honour. In the Old Testament being on the right hand of David, Samuel or Elijah was to be the anointed and favoured one, the true son or daughter. In telling us, then, that Jesus is now at God's right hand, the Gospels use a formal phrase to announce that God affirms everything Jesus said and did on earth and that he is the way for us to follow.

That can be all well and good, but Jesus goes one step further and that's why this feast is so important. Jesus taught us that where he is, so shall we be, that he was going to prepare a place for us and that, in and through him, we will have life and have it to the full.

The feast of the Ascension is the day, each year, where we remember and we celebrate that, just as Jesus was welcomed to God's right hand, so, too, shall we be welcomed to the right hand of Jesus. . (Cont'd P3)

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.

- The Ascension of the Lord -

(Year C - May 16, 2010.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking in the sky? The Lord will return, just as you have seen him ascend, alleluia.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy; a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Pentecost Sunday

1st Reading: Acts 2:1-11
2nd Reading: 1Cor 12:3-7, 12-13
Gospel: Jn 20:19-23

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:

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: Dan Murray, Peter Moody

ANNIVERSARIES: Robert Convery, Des Brennan, Andrew & Patrick Murray, Giustino Cavallo, Angelina De Palma, Claude Carmody, Emilio Callegher

BAPTISMS: Jake Mahon-Bartlett, Lachlan, David & Thomas Handley, Dwyer Jones, Xavier Welsh (HS)

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Dianne Rickey, Patrick Duffy°, Wendy Commons, Felix Capicchiano, Bruno Sorgiovanni, Jim Hudson, David Fort, Connie Horan, Agnes Vanjek, Kathleen Lewis

(Please note: After approx five weeks names will be deleted from the sick list - please phone the office if you wish names reinserted)



ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 23, 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

D Lunn, P McBride, J McMahan, C Simpson, V Resciniti

E Glynn

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

6.00PM

M Lacy

E Cotter, P Dickson

C McShanag, G Harrison, E Cotter

C Canny, M Brown, D McFarlane

T McShanag

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

Readers

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

5.00PM

A Henderson

G Tolan

A Henderson, G Tolan, Dean Dougherty

R&K Maddalena

11.00AM

M Foley

M McGeady

M Foley, D Dougherty, H&M Broekman, M Mirabile, J Gailius

M Broekman, D Dougherty, D Lipinski

R Zarb

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)
Holy Spirit School - Monday 9.30am-11.30am. 0-3 years Indoor/outdoor play. Ph 5229 8298
- **Playgroup** - Pastoral Cluster Centre, First Tuesdays in the month
- **Manifold CWL** - First Thursday of the month in St Patrick's Chapel
- **Italian Mass** - Survivors, partners, carers & families meet in the Ss Peter & Paul's Hall.
- **Geelong Stroke Support Group** - Dinner at Desma's every 1st Tuesday of the month at 6.30pm. Bookings phone 5278 2712.
- **Catholic Deanery Solo Group** - Second Sunday of each month, 12noon in the small Hall.
- **Ss Peter & Paul's Luncheon** - Second Tuesday of each month, 6pm at Dromoland. Dinner & Guest speaker. Ph Patti on 5229 9963
- **Catholic Diners' Club** -

If you wish to know more about these groups, as well as about our Sacramental Program for children in non-Catholic schools, our Baptism and Wedding procedures, our Partnership with the Columbans in the Philippines and so on, please visit our webpage:

www.pastoralclustergeelong.org

Cluster News:

LITURGY IN THE PASTORAL CLUSTER:

May 15/16 - The Ascension

May 22/23 - Pentecost: As part of our celebration of the foundation of the Church and its mission, the Grade 6 children from the three schools will be in attendance and the focus of the Masses will be our Columban Partnership. Masses the children will be in attendance are the 5pm (Ss P&P), 6pm (HS) and 9.30am (Holy Family). **Also there will be a second collection at all Masses with the proceeds going to support the \$3,000 per parish commitment to the Columban Partnership.**

May 27 (Thurs) - Pastoral Liturgy Team Meeting: 7.30pm at the Pastoral Cluster Community Centre

May 29/30 - Trinity Sunday

FIRST EUCHARIST:

This year there will be a change to the way First Eucharist is celebrated. The purpose of the change is to give this celebration a stronger parish and family focus. To that end Fr Mick and I have invited the First Eucharist children and their families to the Ss Peter & Paul's Presbytery for a BBQ. Holy Family last Friday, St Patrick's Friday May 14th and Holy Spirit Friday May 28th.

Firstly, during the second term children and their families from our three parish Catholic schools will be invited to a BBQ at Ss Peter & Paul's Presbytery.

Secondly, all children who hope to receive their First Eucharist will attend a Mass during the second term and there will be a special welcome and encouragement for them, similar to our Baptism welcomes.

Thirdly, the celebration of the First Eucharist will be integrated into normal Saturday night and Sunday Masses over the third term.



PARISH FIRST EUCHARIST PROGRAM:

We welcome the Catholic children who don't attend one of the Parish schools and have enrolled in the Parish First Eucharist Program.

The program begins this Sunday. On behalf of the Parishes of the Pastoral Cluster, we wish these children and their families every blessing for this program.

NOTE FROM THE OFFICE:

The Pastoral Cluster Office will be closed on **Thursday May 27** for an Inservice in Melbourne.

(Cont'd from P1)

This is his promise, this is our faith and this is the hope we are called to proclaim to the world. And let's be clear about the invitation. There is nothing we have ever done, are doing, or will do, that will get our name removed from the invitation list to the feast of Christ's kingdom. The challenge is accepting that we have a standing invitation and living lives worthy of the love that places our name on the list. The feast of the Ascension announces that Jesus will faithfully accompany us no matter how far we lose our way and that by our fidelity to Christ we accept or reject the standing offer.

And because the Ascension is an Easter feast it develops even further that there is nowhere, bar evil, where God does not dwell. Because of the Resurrection and Ascension we can find God everywhere we want to: in our homes, our work, our suffering, our old age, our emotional, sexual or financial turmoil – and even in our death.

Even though the writers of the New Testament are not too clear on the details of how the Ascension happened, what we initially see in this wonderful feast is not what we get. Thanks be to God, it's so much more.

Holy Family:

⇒ **HOLY FAMILY MOTHERS' GROUP RAFFLE:** Thankyou to all who bought tickets for this Mothers' Day fundraiser. Congratulations to the winners: Belinda Tolkin who won the \$100 Myer voucher and S Lipsys - the wine.

COMMUNITY DATES & NOTICES:

- May 19...** **2010 KNOX PUBLIC LECTURE:** Rev Dr Gerald O'Collins SJ AC will speak on "Jesus Our Priest: How can and should we describe the priesthood of Jesus himself?" Bookings and Information: Email ctc@ctc.edu.au or ph 9412 3314 by **Friday May 14**. Catholic Theological College, East Melbourne.
- May 20...** **FREE TALKS ON MENTAL HEALTH:** Chris Mackey will speak on Enhancing Marital Relationships at the Geelong West Town Hall (Supper room), 7.30-8.45pm
- May 23...** **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Socil Gathering 12noon at Ashby Presbytery, Malone St - \$15 per head, drinks included. Bring a casserole or sweet, all welcome! A KSC Project for Overseas Missions. Ph Joe Lambert on 5229 8442 to confirm attendance.
- May 30...** **GEELONG COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA:** Concert 1 - Fabulous French Favourites at McAuley Hall, Costa Centre, Sacred Heart College 3pm.
- June 10...** **FREE TALKS ON MENTAL HEALTH:** Chris Mackey will speak on Positively Parenting Teenagers at the Geelong West Town Hall (Supper room), 7.30-8.45pm

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end" (Rev 22:13)

These words from the very last chapter of the Bible are a final reminder for us to put God first in our lives.

Putting God first doesn't mean giving until it hurts. Putting God first means giving until our giving fills us with joy and contentment.

This usually means giving more generously, not less.

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS FOR HOLY FAMILY PARISH

This year Holy Family celebrates its Golden Jubilee. This occasion is worthy of celebration. I would like to call a meeting of people who have ideas and who are prepared to organise events to celebrate this occasion. The meeting...

Venue: Pastoral Cluster Community Centre
Date: Thursday 3rd June
Time: 7.30pm

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:

SVDP is in urgent need of warm blankets, doonas, clean mattresses and winter coats for all the family. Please leave at 162 Fyans St South Geelong, Monday-Friday 9am-5pm or phone 5229 0911 for mattress pickup.



An Invitation to celebrate the 'Year of the Priest' in the Pastoral Cluster

("I will give you shepherds..." Jer 3:15)

We would like to extend a warm invitation to ALL parishioners to join us for Mass and a Luncheon to celebrate the Year of the Priest. This occasion is an opportunity for us to thank you for sharing your faith and lives with us and in doing so you have enriched us and our Priesthood. Heartfelt thanks!!

Date: Sunday 30 May

Mass: 11am at Ss Peter & Paul's, cnr Mercer & Malone Sts Geelong West

(Please note the change of Church for the 11am Mass on this Sunday which is the Fifth Sunday of the week and normally held at Holy Spirit, Manifold Hts)

Luncheon: Ss Peter & Paul's large hall, Malone St Geelong West after the Mass

If you wish to attend the Luncheon, please fill in your name on the clipboards that are available at the back of each Church. If you are able to assist with the catering by providing sandwiches or slices or savouries, could you also indicate on the clipboards provided.

Pat Bourke of Holy Spirit parish can be contacted if you have any questions or clarification about catering on 5278 2422.

(Fr Mick and Fr Gerard)

To ensure that this occasion is an enjoyable community event, we need volunteers to assist with the setup of tables, chairs, trestles and decorations, as well as the clean-up afterwards.

If you are able to assist, could you please sign clipboard at the back of the Church.

Also, there will be a meeting on MONDAY MAY 24, 4PM at the Pastoral Cluster Office to organise the setup, etc.