

Reflection... (by Richard Leonard SJ)

A Queensland grazier, a Sydney stockbroker, and a woman barrister from Melbourne died and were standing in line, waiting for their chance at the entrance to Heaven. St Peter called the grazier first. 'We have only one simple requirement for entrance here,' St Peter said, 'You must spell "God".' 'Easy enough,' said the bloke from Queensland, 'G-O-D.' And he entered Heaven. Next, St Peter called the man from Sydney. 'We have only one simple requirement for entrance here,' he said. 'You must spell "God".' 'G-O-D.' And he solution to the stockbroker, 'G-O-D.' And he said. 'You must spell "God".' 'No problem,' said the stockbroker, 'G-O-D.' And he went in.



Finally, the woman barrister approached St Peter. 'Good riddance to the world,' she said. 'My whole life, I've tried to excel in a male-dominated society, only to continuously bump into the proverbial "glass ceilings" at every point. I can't tell you, St Peter, how glad I am finally to be rid of male chauvinism.' 'Well, you'll certainly find none of that here,' said St Peter. 'I'm sure you'll enjoy heaven, if you can meet this one simple requirement for entrance. You must spell "Czechoslovakia".'

One of the things I find reassuring about today's Gospel is that the Church seems to have been wrestling with women's leadership since the very beginning. It's the issue that will not go away. When it comes to interpreting scripture, I am always pleased that I'm a Catholic. We're not fundamentalists or literalists. We believe that the truth of the scripture lies not just in the words themselves, but also in the careful interpretation of the text in history. The story of Martha and Mary is a complex narrative. It can be read on at least two levels.

The first level is extraordinary enough: it focuses on Mary who assumes the position of the Rabbi's student and is defended against any attack on her right to be there. In first century Palestine, Jewish women were 'not permitted to be taught the Torah, but only instructed about how they should live their lives in obedience to its demands. They were not permitted to touch the scriptures nor to take part in public debate or official liturgical ritual.' (Fitzmyer, Luke p.892) From this context we can see the sort of freedom Jesus envisaged for women, against the practice of his own day.

On another level, however, this story focuses on Martha. The writer of Luke's Gospel tells us that we are in Martha's home and, that with Jesus as special guest at table, she is serving the members of her household with care and devotion.

(Cont'd P4)

- 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year C - July 18, 2010.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

God himself is my help. The Lord upholds my life. I will offer you a willing sacrifice; I will praise your name, O Lord, for its goodness.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord keeps in our minds the wonderful things he has done. He is compassion and love; he always provides for his faithful. **Alleluia!**



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time 1st Reading: Gen 18:29-32

| 1st Reading: | Gen 18:29-3 |
|--------------|-------------|
| 2nd Reading: | Col 2:12-14 |
| Gospel: | Lk 11:1-13 |

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.

The Pastoral Cluster at Prayer

WEEKEND MASSES: Holy Family, Bell Park:

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

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

English... 8am and 9.30am (Sunday)

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; 1.30pm - 1st Fri Multicultural Centre: 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 | Rosarv | After 9am Mass | Holy Spirit Church |

OUR LADY'S STATUE: July 19: Montalto family, Graylea Ave. 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: Monica Wilkes, William (Bill) Carew, Liudas Bungarda, Gerard O'Shea ANNIVERSARIES: Cosimo Nadile, Tony Lusetic, Martin Kenny **BAPTISMS:** Mayan Harkness (HF), Dylan Barsby (HS) PRAY FOR THE SICK: Kathleen Lewis, Mary Smith, Paulus Handianto Soetaper Kasa, Patricia McMahon, Margaret Harris, Damian Taylor, Iolanda Marruso, Joseph Escorse, Wendy Commons

(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, JULY 25, 2010.

(4th Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators Lectors **Special Ministers** Welcomers

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators Lectors **Special Ministers** Welcomers Projectionist

8.00AM F O'Neill L Kelly L Sells, E Kelly, B McFarlane L&E Kelly

6.00PM

M Lacy E Cotter, P Dickson M Brown, D McFarlane T McShanag

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators Readers **Special Ministers** Welcomers Projectionist

C McShanag, G Harrison, E Cotter

5.00PM

A Henderson G Tolan A Henderson, G Tolan, Dean Dougherty R&K Maddalena

9.30AM M Lukesic

M Baird, P Gizycki D Lunn, P McBride, J McMahon, C Simpson, V Resciniti E Glynn

11.00AM

M Foley M McGeady H&M Broekman, D Dougherty, M Mirabile, M Foley, J Gailius M Broekman, D Dougherty, D Lipinski R Zarb

Recurring Activities in the Cluster:

| . | Holy Family Casserole lunch - | Third Sunday of each month at the Community Centre from 12noon a Casserole lunch BYO to share | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| . | 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 3rdTuesdays 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 - | 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 eac | h month, 6pm at Dromoland. Dinner & Guest speaker. Ph Patti on 5229 9963 | | |
| | If you wish to know more about these groups, as well as about our Sacramental Program for children in non-Catholic schools, our | | | | |

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: <u>www.pastoralclustergeelong.org</u>

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

- Thoughts on Giving -

"Mary has chosen the better part

and it will not be taken from her" (Lk 10:42)

feet and listening to His words.

Cluster News:

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE:

1. Fr Gerard is away from Monday July 12 at a Conference in Sydney and the following week at a Retreat with the Jesuits.

RELAY FOR LIFE:

The Fund- and Friend-raising for our Relay for Life will include three Parish Sausage Sizzles - The story of Martha and Mary Oct 3 Holy Spirit after 11am Mass; Oct 10 Ss Peter & Paul's after 11am Mass and Oct 17 Holy Family after 9.30am Mass. The Melbourne Cup Luncheon will again be held at the Ss Peter & Paul's Presbytery on Nov 2

and, just prior to Christmas, there will be some Sausage Sizzles after Mass with an opportunity what God wants us to do unless to buy Christmas fare. Also there will be a Bay Cruise of Corio Bay in February 2011 **Please mark these dates in**! did, just sitting quietly at God's

Also there will be a Bay Cruise of Corio Bay in February 2011. *Please mark these dates in your diary!*

FR MICK'S MATES - RELAY FOR LIFE:

This group will meet on **Wednesday July 21** at 7.30pm in the Cluster Office. We will be focusing on ideas and help for fundraising for our 2011 effort. All welcome!!

PASTORAL CLUSTER LEADERSHIP TEAM:

The next Leadership Team meeting will be held July 29 at 7pm at the Pastoral Cluster.

MARIA FORDE 2010 CELTIC SPIRITUALITY AND MUSIC TOUR:

There are still a few seats remaining on our tour of Ireland. In two weeks we will visit the counties of Dublin, Mayo, Galway, Limerick, Clare, Kerry, Cork, Waterford, Tipperary and Wicklow. We will witness breathtaking scenes including the Cliffs of Moher, the Aran Islands, the Ring of Kerry, hear Irish music at its best, learn about religious order founders Catherine McAuley and Edmund Rice and enjoy the craic! The tour commences in Dublin on September 16, accommodation is 3 and 4 star and the tour will be led by singer Maria Forde and a local Irish guide. If you would like to join us on the trip of a lifetime please call Chris at Emeral Travel on 9670 9696 for an itinerary - <u>www.mariaforde.com</u>

Monsignor James Murray - Diamond Jubilee of Ordination

On July 23, Monsignor James Murray will have been ordained a Priest for 60

years. In recognition of this milestone and years of service (most of the

years having been served in Geelong), he will celebrate a Mass of

Thanksgiving at St Mary's Basilica on **Sunday July 25 at 2.30pm**.

Afternoon tea will follow. Everyone is most welcome!

On behalf of everyone in the Pastoral Cluster, we thank the Monsignor for his generous service and support to us, and we wish him God's special blessing on this important milestone in his life.

Holy Family:

- ⇒ HOLY FAMILY CHURCH RENOVATIONS: As you are aware we are hoping, as part of our Golden Jubilee Anniversary, to renovate the Holy Family Church. The renovations are not structural but rather cosmetic. These include rendering the Sanctuary wall, parquetry floor on the Sanctuary, upgrading of the narthex, cleaning the pews, etc. The purpose of this renovation is to uplift the Church and to make it a warm and prayerful sacred space. Of course, this renovation is going to cost a considerable amount of money. I'd like to call a meeting of parishioners who are interested in ways of fundraising this renovation. So Tuesday July 27, 7.30pm at the Pastoral Cluster Centre!
- SPECIAL INVITATION TO THE PARISIONERS OF HOLY FAMILY: You are invited to help celebrate the Silver Jubilee of Priestly Ordination of Fr Wahid on Tuesday August 17 Mass will be celebrated at St Clement of Rome, Egan Drive, Bulleen at 7.30pm followed by supper, with a Parish Celebration on Sunday August 15 when Mass will be celebrated at St Clement of Rome at 11am followed by lunch. You are invited to attend one or both celebrations; please RSVP by July 29 to the Parish Office on 9850 3262.

Holy Spirit:

MANIFOLD CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Communion Luncheon, Melbourne July 27 - \$30. This money can be paid. For transport or enquiries contact Pat Bourke 5278 2422 or Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063.

COMMUNITY DATES & NOTICES:

- Aug 4... GOLDEN JUBILEE MASS: Fr Patrick Flanagan will celebrate his 50th Jubilee with a Mass at noon at St Bernard's Church, Belmont. Many parishioners would know Fr Flanagan and are warmly welcome to attend this special celebration. Please bring a plate to share with a cuppa after Mass.
- Aug 18/19/20: ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE PRODUCTION OF 'JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR': Involving students from St Joseph's and Sacred Heart Colleges, staged at the newly refurbished 'Playhouse Theatre' at GPAC, Lt Malop St. Performances start 7.30pm and tickets are available from St Joseph's College Accounts Office 5226 8111 or GPAC 5225 1200. Adults \$20, Conc/students \$15 and groups 10 or more \$15. Family tickets \$60.
- Aug 20... WORLD YOUTH DAY 2011 SPANISH FIESTA: The official launch of the Melbourne Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to WYD 2011 will be held at St Brigid's Church, Fitzroy Nth, beginning 7pm with Praise and Worship followed by Mass celebrated by Archbishop Denis Hart and the Fiesta at 8.30pm in the adjacent Parish Hall. Contact details ph 9412 3326 or email annaliese.wursthorn@cam.org.au
- Aug 20-22... MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND: For bookings ph 9899 0824 or email vicbookings@wwme.org.aui
- Aug 22... ANNUAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS: Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, or 60-70th Wedding Anniversary this year? The Life, Marriage & Family Office invite you and your families to join us at St Patrick's Cathedral for the Annual Anniversary Mass at 11am by Archbishop Denis Hart. Couples who register will receive commemorative certificates and packs. To register ph 9287 5579 or Imf@cam.org.au You can also register online at www.Imf.cam.org.au Registrations close on Friday August 13.

MARRIAGE & RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION:

Centacare Catholic Family Services' Marriage and Relationship Education Programs offer couples an opportunity to spend time reflecting on their relationship, identifying strengths and challenges and further developing skills. The programs operate in venues throughout Melbourne and Geelong. For a detailed program brochure go to <u>www.centacaremelbourne.org</u> or contact Karin Kaiser at Centacare on 9287 5516, email <u>karin.kaiser@centacaremelbourne.org.au</u>

(/Cont'd from P1)

Martha comes across as strong and outspoken. Mary, meanwhile, is passive and silent. It is likely this story is criticising a call in Luke's community for women to move away from the leadership Jesus gave them and to adopt again the traditional roles to which the Jewish/ Christians were more familiar.

At the Vatican on 21 May 2000 the Pope told a group of Bishops from the USA: 'The genius of women must be ever more a vital strength of the Church of the next millennium, just as it was in the first communities of Christ's disciples.' To that end today's story from such a community holds a key to our own dilemma. Just as Jesus broke through the gender boundaries of his own day, so too must we. We must renew our commitment to ending anything that degrades, exploits or dehumanises women throughout the world.

But more, it's time for the Church to take some strong symbolic and practical steps to defend the leadership of women within our own Catholic community. For example, Church teaching does not stand in the way of re-admitting lay people, and this time lay women, into the College of Cardinals; women could continue to assume high profile positions in each Diocese and also leaderships roles within the Roman Curia, starting with those departments that deal with instructions and decisions that directly affect them; and the Church could welcome the ordination of women as Deacons. These avenues would enable women to have even more options for them to demonstrate and realise the full extent of their genius, as the Pope puts it.

At this Eucharist, then, let us recommit ourselves to using, in the best possible way for the mission of the Church, the gifts, talents and strengths of over half our community. May we learn from the earliest Church, described in today's Gospel, 'that which is the better part' and never 'take it away from her.'