



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)		
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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)

Daniel went to his mother demanding a new bicycle for Christmas. 'Danny, we can't afford it,' she said, 'so write a letter to Jesus and pray for one instead.' 'Dear Jesus, I've been a good boy this year and would appreciate a new bicycle. Your friend, Daniel.' Now Danny guessed that Jesus really knew he was a brat. So he gave the letter another try. 'Dear Jesus, I've been an OK boy this year and I want a new bicycle. Yours truly, Daniel.' Danny knew this wasn't true either so he tore it up and tried again. 'Dear Jesus, I've thought about being a good boy so may I have a new bicycle? Daniel.' Finally, Danny thought better of making these false claims and so ran to the Church. He went inside and stole a small statue of Mary and ran out the door. He went home, hid it under his bed and wrote this letter. 'Jesus, let's face it, I've broken most of the Commandments; tore up my sister's doll and lots more, I'm desperate. I've got your mother Mary, if you ever want to see her again, give me a bike for Christmas. You know who.'



This humorous story has a serious lesson for us on the feast of the Assumption. Throughout history there are those who have ransomed the memory of Mary to fit in with how they understand women should behave in society. As a result, sometimes, Mary is presented as meek and mild, passive and subservient. The problem with this view is that it is impossible to reconcile it with the ten stories we have of Mary in the New Testament: the Annunciation, Visitation, Nativity, Presentation, flight into Egypt, losing Jesus in the Temple, going to bring Jesus home from his public ministry, the wedding feast at Cana, being at the foot of the Cross, and Pentecost.

The strength and power of Mary's witness is most especially captured in the Magnificat from which we just heard. Here Mary extols how God is saving us by turning the world on its head, doing the very opposite of what was expected. (Cont'd P4)



We welcome and congratulate the children who will be making their First Eucharist this weekend at Holy Spirit Church - 6pm Saturday and 11am Sunday and also at Holy Family Church - 9.30am Sunday



- Assumption of the Virgin Mary -

(Year C - August 15, 2010.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, the moon beneath her feet, and a crown of twelve stars on her head.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Mary is taken up to heaven, and the angels of God shout for joy.

Alleluia!



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Is 66:18-21
2nd Reading: Heb 12:5-7, 11-13
Gospel: Lk 13:22-30

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:

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

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

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: **Aug 16:** Spitale family, Marathon Ave; **Aug 23:** O'Neil family, Derby St;
Aug 30: Gazenbeek family, Derby Rd.

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:



RECENT DEATHS:

Anton Topic, Pat Baker, Lorraine Thomson

ANNIVERSARIES:

Ida Gilbert, Fredrick Fusea, Sr Irmina Widdison, Bruno Di Cristoforo, Manuel Almeida, Fr Durkin, Joan Cudmore, Deceased members of O'Brien and Byron families, Jim Cudmore, Gordon Brown, Caterina Iannuzzi, John, Julie, Alici & Nobby Da Costa, Louisa Rodrigues, Kate Dempsey, Cath Edwards, Bruno Nesci, Domenico, Pierina & Santo Caccamo, Salvatore & Rosa Rao, Maria & Antonino Rappazzo, Rade Ruzic

BAPTISMS:

Sarah & Rebekah Runia, Amelia Anderson and Thomas Anderson (already baptised - welcome into the Catholic Church)

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Kathleen Lewis, Mary Smith, Paulus Handianto Soetaper Kasa, Patricia McMahon, Margaret Harris, Damian Taylor, Iolanda Marruso, Joseph Escorse, Wendy Commons, Giuseppa Resciniti, Margaret Donaghy, Patricia McMahon, Rosalie & Lance Gilbert

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 22, 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 McMahon, 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

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

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 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** - 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

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 IN AUGUST:

- Aug 18...** Clonard College Yr8 Mass: 11am in the Clonard Chapel
Aug 19... Holy Family Gr2/3 Mass: 9.15am in Holy Family Church
Aug 20... St Patrick's Junior Mass: 9.15am in St Patrick's Chapel
" Holy Spirit Prep Mass: 11am at Holy Spirit Church
Aug 25... Confirmation Child & Parent Meeting: 7pm in Holy Family School
Aug 26... Clonard College Yr8 Mass: 11.50am in the Clonard Chapel
Aug 27... Holy Spirit Gr1/2 Mass: 11am at Holy Spirit Church
Aug 29... Columban Partnership Mass & Meeting: At the Columban Head Office in Essendon. The Partnership time begins with Mass at 11am in their Chapel, followed by discussions and lunch.

PASTORAL LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING: Aug 24, 7pm at the Pastoral Cluster Office.

CENTACARE - CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PASTORAL CLUSTER BEREAVEMENT GROUP:

Invites you to a Loss and Grief Support Group. This invitation is for a 6-week facilitated grief support group for those who have been bereaved some time over the last three years.

The aim of the group is essentially to provide a confidential setting to share your grief story and to receive support and strategies to find hope for the next chapter of life's journey.

Facilitators are Fr John McCarthy (Centacare), trained Loss & Grief Counsellor & Group Facilitators, Margaret Ahern & Rhonda Walker.

Venue: Pastoral Cluster Centre, 7-9pm on **Thursday 19 & 26 Aug and 2, 9, 16 & 23 Sept.** Cost \$25 for the six sessions.

For further information and registration contact Angie at Centacare on 5221 7055.

PASTORAL CLUSTER PHILIPPINES PARTNERSHIP:

Recently we received a letter from Fr Sean Connaughton, a Columban priest who has worked many years in the Philippines and was responsible for the introduction of the Grameen Bank in that country. A number of travellers to the Philippines from the schools and parish met Fr Sean and were deeply impressed by his commitment to addressing the causes of poverty. He writes in appreciation of what we have done for social justice in the Philippines...

Greetings from where I am working now in the parish of Castletown, Ireland. I'm now in my 74th year, but in good health, thank God.

I recently visited the Philippines. Two things may help from my 21 days visit to Kazama Grameen in the Philippines. Your group has been so generous and diligent in this social apostolate. Looking at pages of data reports last month, I see about forty million people still live on two euros a day (for a family of six) in that nation.

For your part, I would say that the six latest branches of Kazama are almost 100% set up by you. I also received a thick pack of reports and plans from Sukaban Kindergarten. We began that in 1993 by filling up a massive mud pond that used to be a bathing place of carabaos. The Grameen members pledged to keep that going by a small % of weekly incomes. Jon and Marlou have sent me a summary report for the first quarter. They continue to send me reports every three months.

I include some photos. Most of them are not good, however, what's there is the "livelihood" of the people. Sometimes I like to remind people that it is the Socio-Economic part of our Basic Christian Communities: "Faith without works is dead".

Kazama has much to do. We each do our little piece.

Best wishes for now to all in the group,

Yours in Christ - Fr Sean Connaughton.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS BISHOPS' CONFERENCE:

Make your Vote Count! An election statement from the Australian Bishops is inserted in each of this week's bulletins.

Holy Family:

- ⇒ **HOLY FAMILY GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY CHURCH REFURBISHMENT:** On Tuesday Aug 3 a further fundraising meeting for this project was held. Further clarification on fundraising was considered.
- The Croatian Club on Cox Rd has generously offered to hold a Luncheon with all the proceeds going to the refurbishment. **The Luncheon will be held on Sunday Nov 7 at the Croatia Club in Cox Rd.**
 - A general appeal to be held
 - An opportunity for people to 'sponsor a pew' in remembrance of their loved ones
- At the meeting there was recognition that sponsorship by companies and businesses can be of great assistance. If you have an affiliation with a company that may be interested in supporting us, please let me know.*
- The next meeting will be held **Tuesday Aug 17, 7pm at the Pastoral Cluster Office.** (Fr Gerard)

Holy Spirit:

- ⇒ **CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE, MELBOURNE COMMITTEE** invite you to join them for Brunch, glass of bubbly and Fashion Parade while enjoying the views across the city from the 17th floor of the RACV Club, Bourke St Melbourne. Cost is \$60 and funds will go to Beyond Blue, who will have a speaker at the function. Date: Sept 13 - Coach will be running from Geelong via Werribee for \$10 per person. For tickets contact Jeanette Sheahan on 5278 2063.
- ⇒ **HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL CELEBRATES 100 DAYS IN PREP:** Our Prep children have had 100 days at school this year so we decided to celebrate this milestone on Wed Aug 4. We all came dressed up to represent the number 100. The children engaged in some fun and exciting numeracy and literacy activities concluding with an afternoon tea party. We also aimed to collect 100 cans of food - we exceeded this target having a total of 114 cans! These have been donated to the St Vincent de Paul Society. It was a wonderful community celebration day.

Ss Peter & Paul's:

- ⇒ **FESTA DI SAN BARTOLOMEO:** Domenica, 22 Agosto 2010. Nella basilica, di Santa Maria degli Angeli, di Geelong. Alle ore 2.30pm. Verra celebrata, La Santa Messa da Padre Francesco Merlino, e Monsignor James Murray con la partecipazione di Rebecca Hay. 'Associazione di San Bartolomeo invita tutti gli, Italiani di essere presenti a questa funzione religiosa dopola santa messa verra' offerto un piccolo rinfresco.

Community Dates and Notices:

- Aug 15...** **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA:** *Winds of Change* with Dominic Perissinotto, organist at St Patrick's Basilica Fremantle, and Michael Lichnovsky on Saxophone at St Mary's Basilica, 3pm. An exciting and unusual program of fine music including Bach, Bonnet, Milhaud, Paulsson and Platti. Tickets at the door - \$25 full, \$20 concession.
- Aug 25...** **PARENTS AND CHILDREN SHARING THE JOURNEY:** This seminar is for parents with their Yr6 child. The aim is to help your child succeed at school and in life. Explore strategies to venture out with confidence to meet the challenges of adolescent years at school and enjoy family living. Create a foundation for resilience in transition from primary to secondary school. Will be held at St Anthony's, 90 Kees Rd Lara, 7-9pm. *Registration \$10/person. Ph Shirley O'Sullivan on 9464 5225 or email shirley@stclaresthomastown.catholic.edu.au*
- Aug 29...** **OPEN DAY - BALLARAT CAMPUS OF THE ACU (AQUINAS):** 10am-3pm, 1200 Mair St Ballarat. For more information visit www.acu.edu.au/openday
- Sept 2...** **CENTACARE'S GALA PARADE OF WEDDING GOWNS THROUGHOUT THE CENTURY:** At Box Hill Town Hall, 1022 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill, 7.30pm as a fundraiser for Alcohol and Other Drug Family Service. \$35/head - tickets or further information ph 9495 6144.
- Sept 9...** **FREE TALKS ON MENTAL HEALTH:** Chris Mackey is offering a further series of free public lectures on mental health and wellbeing. Next talk is *Dealing with Suicidality*, 7.30-8.45pm at the Geelong West Town Hall Supper Room.
- " **DAY TOUR TO MELBOURNE:** Conducted by the Deanery to visit Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre in East Melbourne and the Carmelite Monastery in Kew. Lunch will be provided at the Mary MacKillop Centre and A'noon Tea at the Monastery. Buses will leave from Kardinia Park at 9.30am and will return at around 4.30pm, cost \$30/person. Everybody welcome! For further enquiries and to book please ph Catherine Moon on 5222 1977.

(/Cont'd from P1)

The New Testament does not demonstrate a meek woman, devoid of creativity and initiative. It shows a strong, noble woman who put her free will at the disposal of God's will. That is what the feast of the Assumption celebrates: that because God will never be outdone in fidelity and generosity, he remained utterly faithful to Mary through death, as she was utterly faithful to him in life.

The Catholic Tradition has always honoured Mary as being obedient, the pre-eminent disciple of her Son and the sign of what could await all Christians who are invited to share in the mission of Jesus on earth. Religious obedience is not passive. We listen to the voice of God and choose to say yes to Christ's love and liberation. Discipleship does not mean our personality counts for nothing. Rather, it's the valuing of every individual's ability to contribute to Christ's kingdom in a unique way. Prefiguring what can happen for all of us does not diminish the particular gifts God lavished on Mary, but reassures us that God recognises his own in this world and the next.

May this Assumption Day see us then stop ransoming the image of Mary to the distortions of the past and find in her creative and free self-giving a pattern for our Christian lives, and a beacon of hope to which we can hold firm.