

Reflection... (by Richard Leonard SJ)

esus and Satan have an argument as to who is the better computer programmer. This goes on for a few hours until they agree to hold a contest with God as the judge. They set themselves before their computers and begin. They type furiously for several hours, lines of code streaming up and down the screen. Seconds before the end of the competition, a bolt of lightning strikes, taking out the electricity. Moments later, the power is restored, and God announces that the contest is over. He asks Satan to show what he has come up with.



Satan is visibly upset, and cries, 'I have nothing! I lost it all when the power went out.' 'Very well, then,' says God, 'let us see if Jesus fared any better.' Jesus enters a command, and the screen comes to life in vivid display, the voices of an angelic choir pour forth from the speakers. Satan is astonished. He stutters, 'But how? I lost everything, yet Jesus' program is intact! How did he do it?' God looks up over his glasses and chuckles, 'Ah you see, Jesus saves.'

Salvation has, rightly, always been the big issue. Who was going to make it, how it was going to happen and when would Christ return in glory have captured the imagination of each generation of believers. The roots of this thinking can be found in today's Gospel. The earliest Christians, especially the Gentiles, saw that the Jews had been given every opportunity for salvation. They were the Chosen people. They had the Law and the Prophets. They were looking for the Messiah. Jesus, however, did not come as they expected or act as they hoped, so they rejected him and his followers. Within a generation after Jesus' death the Jews were persecuting the Christians and expelling them from the synagogues. The Christians took comfort from saying that in the salvation race the Jews might have started as the favourites, but they had missed the start and were now coming last. (*Cont'd P4*)

We welcome and congratulate the children who will be making their First Eucharist this weekend at Ss Peter & Paul's Church Saturday 5pm and Sunday IIam



(Year C - August 22, 2010.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Listen Lord, and answer me. Save your servant who trusts in you. I call to you all day long, have mercy on me, O Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!

2nd Reading:

Gospel:

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me. **Alleluia**!

Lk 14:1,7-14

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 1st Reading: Sirach 3:17-20.28-29

Heb 12:18-19,22-24



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

<u>Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West:</u> 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...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;Multicultural Centre:1.30pm - 1st FriVincentian 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 Praver 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 23: O'Neil family, Derby St; Aug 30: Gazenbeek family, Derby Rd. *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: Mark Hanlon, Catherine Capichiano

8.00AM

K Saunders

B Rainbow

R&L Allum

Sr J McGonigal

J McKenzie

6.00PM

ANNIVERSARIES: Ray Brunger, Bill Tomlinson, Anda Pavic, Mary Hogan, Geza Csernak, Veronica Harris, Ursula Pickard
 BAPTISMS: Damian Lukesic, Poppy Christou, Hendrix VanDenHam, Hunter Matthews (P&P)

 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, Mary Evans, Rita Walsh

(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, AUGUST 29, 2010.

(5th Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators Lectors Special Ministers Welcomers

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators Lectors Special Ministers Welcomers Projectionist

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators Lectors Special Ministers Welcomers Projectionist V Logan T Dunlop 5.00PM

G Wright, T Thornton, D Kosmetschke

A Vanjek, C Marcantonio, P Walsh

<u>9.30AM</u>

L Lehpamer H Verdnik, T McMahon C&J Taylor, E Glynn, M Fiorillo E Dalton, G Carmody

<u>11.00AM</u>

M Currie G Brown P Murfitt, M Lacy, M Currie B Gorman, I Cleary, L Coles, V Trinder T Cleary, D Brown

<u>5.00PM</u> D Maddalena K Maddalena K Maddalena, B Ditkum,

Recurring Activities in the Cluster:

Holy Family Casserole lunch -		onth at the Community Centre from 12noon a Casserole lunch BYO to share	
Holy Family Women's Group -		f 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 -	old CWL - Pastoral Cluster Centre, First Tuesdays in the month		
. Italian Mass - First Thursday of the month in St Pat		onth in St Patrick's Chapel	
Geelong Stroke Support Group -	Survivors, partners, care	ers & families meet in the Ss Peter & Paul's Hall.	
Catholic Deanery Solo Group -	Dinner at Desma's ever	y 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 -			

ır 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 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.

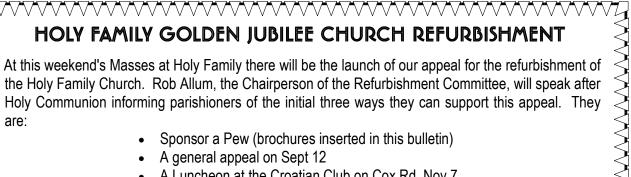
The aim of the group is essentially to provide a confidential setting to share your grief story and to receive support and strategies to find hope for the next chapter of life's journey.

Facilitators are Fr John McCarthy (Centacare), trained Loss & Grief Counsellor & Group Facilitators, Margaret Ahern & Rhonda Walker. Venue: Pastoral Cluster Centre, 7-9pm on Thursday 26 Aug and 2, 9, 16 & 23 Sept. Cost \$25 for the six sessions. For further information and registration contact Angle at Centacare on 5221 7055.

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Holy Family:

"MAKING JESUS REAL" AT HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL: Holy Family school students have been involved in the Religious \Rightarrow Education Program, 'Making Jesus Real" (MJR) over the past two years. In fact MJR isn't viewed as a program but a 'way of life' where children identify Christian values and attitudes in themselves and others. Last week Peter Mitchell (the writer and creator of MJR) visited Holy Family School and facilitated a session with teachers and students. One focus of MJR is that Jesus uses us as his special agents to get his message across to people. When we see these messages we 'switch on' to the 'God moments' in our lives. MJR provides spirituality for primary school children and makes explicit the behaviours, values and attitudes that we want to 'see' in our students.



A Luncheon at the Croatian Club on Cox Rd, Nov 7.

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.
- ⇒ THE HOLY SPIRIT CONFERENCE OF SVDP sincerely thank the Holy Spirit Primary School Grade Prep students for the 114 cans of food recently given by them to the Society, to pass on to the less fortunate members of our community. This help will greatly assist many families during this cold winter time.

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 aquesta funzione religiosa dopola santa messa verra' offerto un piccolo rinfesco.

Community Dates and Notices:

- 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 <u>shirley@stclaresthomastown.catholic.edu.au</u>
- Aug 28...LEGION OF MARY RETREAT: With Fr Ray at St Thomas Church, Plume St Norlane from 10am for Mass till 3pm.
Bring lunch to share, all welcome!
- Aug 29... KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS in conjunction with Belmont Seniors Centre present a concert "Geelong: Simply the Best" 2pm in the Belmont Senior Citizens Centre Clubrooms, 52 Thomson St Belmont. All tickets \$10. For more information phone Joe Lambert on 5229 8442.
- Sept 4... RETREAT DAY: Uniting Care, Wesley Centre for Life Enrichment presents Simple Approaches to a Meditative Way of Living by Rev Paul Sanders, 9.30am-4pm, cost \$30, Conc \$20. To register ph 5229 0719
- 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.
- " SVDP MASS for all volunteers, past and present members all are welcome. St Bernard's Church, Fryers Rd Belmont, 7.30pm. Light supper served after Mass.
- Oct 3... CENTACARE CONCERT IN THE CATHEDRAL: Join Centacare in celebrating their 75th Anniversary with the stars of Australia's Got Talent' at St Patrick's Cathedral, 2.30pm. Tickets \$35, \$25 Conc, ph 9287 5517
- Oct 16... CLONARD COLLEGE 20 YEAR REUNION: Class of 1095-1990 at Belmont Hotel, 77 High St Belmont, 4-10pm, drinks at bar prices. RSVP Antoinette 0400 064 185

MARY MACKILLOP RETREAT: Anthony Chapman, the Director of Mission at SJC, is conducting a Retreat based on Mary MacKillop. The focus is for young people and the dates and times are: Aug 25, 31 - 7.30-8.30 at SJC; Pilgrimage to Penola SA on Sept 11-12 and a final gathering on Sept 15, 7.30-8.30pm at St Joseph's Chapel. For more details <u>anthonyc@sjc.vic.edu.au</u> or ph 5226 8100.

(/Cont'd from P1)

This way of thinking had a strong effect on the Church. While we have always believed in the mercy and love of God, at different times we have been hostile to other religions, other denominations and the secular world. We have often needed to express this in absolute terms about who was going to be saved and, more importantly, who was not!

The Second Vatican Council, however, reflected on the Church's experience of working side by side with religious people and secular humanists throughout the world who were as committed as we are to justice, love and freedom. In the 'Declaration on the relationship of the Church to non-Christian religions', the bishops thought more generously about how God has a relationship with all people who in turn relate to God, even if they do not name it in the same way we are able to. The Council did not resile from believing that Jesus is the way to the Father, but they also affirmed that God can work in an infinite number of ways to assist people to salvation. It is Church teaching now that our relationship to all people who share the best of our values must be characterised by acceptance, collaboration, dialogue and charity.

This does not make salvation any less important. It just clarifies for us that it is God, not us, who does the saving and the judging. Christian salvation marks us out as people who know who we are following, where we are going, how we are getting there and why this world, and the next, matters to us. Salvation gives our lives meaning, direction and purpose. The way we live out this salvation should be irresistible to others. As the folk hymn sings, 'They will know we are Christians by our love, by our love. Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.'