



# Pastoral Cluster

Incorporating the Parishes of Holy Family Bell Park, Ss Peter & Paul's Geelong West & Holy Spirit Manifold Hts.

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<b>OFFICE HOURS:</b>	Mon-Wed 9am-4.30pm (Closed 1-2pm for lunch), Thurs 9-12noon, Fri 9.30am-2.30pm			
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<b>SCHOOL PRINCIPALS:</b>	Holy Family -	Brian Everett	Separation St, Bell Park	Phone 5278 4634
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	St Patrick's -	Basil Flynn	Petrel St, Geelong West	Phone 5229 4412

## Reflection... (by Richard Leonard SJ)

Today's Gospel announces that 'God is with us'. In this final week of Advent the following story reminds us that God comes to us in unpredictable ways often with unsettling messages.

'I hurried into the shop to grab some last minute Christmas gifts. I looked at all the people and grumbled to myself. I would be in here forever. I hurried to the toy department and wondered if the grandkids would even play with my gifts.

'My eye caught a little boy holding a doll. He kept touching her hair and he held her so gently. I watched him turn and ask, "Aunty Jane, are you sure I don't have enough money?" Gently, the woman replied, "Emily doesn't need a doll David." The woman went to another aisle. The boy continued to hold the doll. David looked so sad that I couldn't resist asking who the doll was for. "My sister wanted it so badly for Christmas." I told him that maybe Santa was going to bring it. He said "No, Santa can't go where my sister is...I have to give the doll to Mummy to take to her." I asked him where his sister was. He looked at me with the tear-filled eyes, "She has gone to be with Jesus. Daddy says that Mummy is going to have to go to be with both of them soon too." My heart nearly stopped beating. "David went on, "I told Daddy to make sure Mummy goes nowhere until I got back from the store. I want Mum to take this doll to Emily."

'While he wasn't looking I reached into my purse and pulled out some cash. "David how about we count that money again?" He grew excited, "I asked Jesus to give me enough money. I just know I have enough." I slipped my money in with his and we began to count it. He looked up from the count and exclaimed, "Jesus has given me enough money for Emily's doll."

'In a few minutes his aunty came back and I wheeled my cart away. I could not keep from thinking about the little boy as I finished my shopping in a totally different spirit than when I had started.

'On the way home I remembered a story in the newspaper several days earlier about a drunk driver hitting a car and killing a little girl and that the mother was left on life support. Two days before Christmas I read in the paper where the family had turned the machine off. The day before Christmas there was a funeral notice saying that a Requiem Mass would be celebrated on St Stephen's Day for Julia Norris and her daughter Emily. Michael was their husband and father, and their son and brother was David. (Cont'd P4)



## - 4th Sunday of Advent -

(Year A - December 19, 2010.)

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Let the clouds rain down the Just One, and the earth bring forth a Saviour.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

A virgin will give birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel:

God is with us.

**Alleluia!**

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Holy Family - Year A

1st Reading: Sirach 3:2-6,12-14

2nd Reading: Col 3:12-21

Gospel: Mt 2:13-15,19-23



### 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.

# CHRISTMAS ROSTERS

Rosters for the Masses over the Christmas weekend are below. We still need helpers where there are \*\*\* If you can help phone Frank Kearney 5278 1343 on Monday or Tuesday.

## CHRISTMAS EVE

<b><u>HOLY FAMILY</u></b>	<b><u>6.00PM</u></b>	<b><u>MIDNIGHT</u></b>
Lectors	Fr Gerard	J Taylor, F O'Neill
Commentator	-	D Lunn
Special Ministers	B McFarlane, L Sells, ***	C&J Taylor, D Lunn, E Glynn, H Verdnick
Projectionist	F Kearney	C Resciniti
<b><u>Ss PETER &amp; PAUL'S</u></b>	<b><u>7.00PM</u></b>	
Lectors	M Martin, D O'Brien	
Commentator:	M Gifford	
Special Ministers	A Henderson, P McClinchy, M Gifford	
Projectionist	R Martin	
<b><u>HOLY SPIRIT:</u></b>	<b><u>8.00PM</u></b>	
Lectors	G Harrison, P Dickson	
Commentators	E Cotter	
Special Ministers	E Cotter, C Laffy, B Murphy, V Trinder	
Projectionist	T McShanag	



## CHRISTMAS DAY

<b><u>Ss PETER &amp; PAUL'S</u></b>	<b><u>8.00AM</u></b>
Lectors	M Foley, ***
Commentator	***
Special Ministers	B Ditekum, M Foley, P Pollard
Projectionist	A Zarb
<b><u>HOLY SPIRIT</u></b>	<b><u>9.00AM</u></b>
Lectors	***
Special Ministers	G Wright, ***
Projectionist	F Kearney
<b><u>HOLY FAMILY</u></b>	<b><u>9.30AM</u></b>
Lectors	H Verdnick, T McMahon
Commentator	T McMahon
Special Ministers	I Vanjek, H Verdnick, G&P Carmody, ***
Projectionist	C Verscinit



## ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, DEC 26, 2010

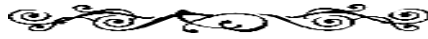
<b><u>HOLY FAMILY</u></b>	<b><u>8.00AM</u></b>	<b><u>9.30AM</u></b>
Lectors	L Kelly, ***	H Verdnick, P Gizycki
Commentators	F O'Neill	M Lukesic
Special Ministers	I Vanjek, L Kelly, B McFarlane, L Sells	H Verdnick, V Resciniti, J McMahon, C Simpson
Projectionist	P McBride	C Resciniti
<b><u>HOLY SPIRIT:</u></b>		<b><u>10.00AM</u></b>
Lectors		M Lacy, P Dickson
Special Ministers		D Boyle, G Wright, ***
Projectionist		F Kearney
<b><u>Ss PETER &amp; PAUL'S:</u></b>		<b><u>11.00AM</u></b>
Lectors		K Maddaleena, L Strzelecki
Commentator		M Foley
Special Ministers		D Dougherty, M Mirabile, M Foley, J Gailius, H&M Broekman
Projectionist		R Zarb

### FURTHER ASSISTANCE NEEDED FOR:

<b>Christmas Eve:</b>	3 Special Ministers at Holy Family 6pm
<b>Christmas Day:</b>	2 Readers at 8am Ss Peter & Paul's
	2 Readers and Commentator at 9am Holy Spirit
	2 Special Ministers at 9am Holy Spirit
	1 Special Minister at 9.30am Holy Family
<b>Sunday (Boxing Day):</b>	1 Reader at 8am Holy Family
	1 Special Minister at 8am Holy Family
	1 Special Minister at 10am Holy Spirit

*Many thanks in anticipation for your support in our Christmas celebrations. (Frank Kearney)*

# Christmas in the Pastoral Cluster



## *Christmas Masses:*

Dec 24...	6.00pm	Holy Family (Focus on the children)
	7.00pm	Ss Peter & Paul's
	8.00pm	Holy Spirit (Focus on the family)
	Midnight	Holy Family (Carols from 11.30pm)
Dec 25...	8.00am	Ss Peter & Paul's
	9.00am	Holy Spirit
	9.30am	Holy Family

## *Christmas Masses in a language other than English:*

Dec 24...	9.00pm	Holy Family (Croatian)
Dec 25...	9.30am	Ss Peter & Paul's (Lithuanian)
	9.30am	St Patrick's Chapel (Italian)
	11.30am	Holy Family (Croatian)

**Britannia St, Geelong West**

## *Second Rite Reconciliation:*

Tuesday	Dec 21...	5.00pm	Ss Peter & Paul's
Wednesday	Dec 22...	7.30pm	Holy Family

### **CHILDREN'S MASS 6PM AT HOLY FAMILY ON CHRISTMAS EVE:**

Children are invited to come along dressed in a Christmas outfit - angel, shepherd, etc. **Also**, any child who would like to be an active participant (Reader, Offertory, etc) is invited to meet Frank Kearney at Holy Family Church on **Monday Dec 20 at 11am** for an allocation of jobs.



### **PLEASE NOTE:**

- ◆ There will be **NO 5pm Saturday evening Mass at Ss Peter & Paul's**, nor will there be a Mass at 6pm at Holy Spirit.
- ◆ On the **Sunday** there will be 8am and 9.30am Masses at Holy Family, 10am at Holy Spirit and 11am at Ss Peter & Paul's.



### **POST CHRISTMAS IN THE CLUSTER:**

Please note there will be **NO Masses** on Monday 3pm at Vincentian Village or Tuesday 9.15am at Holy Family or Wednesday 9am at Holy Spirit. There will be Mass on Thursday 9.15am at Holy Family and Friday 11am Holy Spirit.

### **New Year's Masses:**

Dec 31...	Friday 5pm Ss Peter & Paul's, 7.30pm Holy Family
Jan 1...	Saturday 9am Holy Spirit
Jan 3...	Monday 3pm Vincentian Village

**The Parish Office** will be officially closed until the New Year. Please leave a phone message and someone will return your call.

## AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:



- RECENT DEATHS:** Fr William (Bill) Donegan
- ANNIVERSARIES:** Ripalda Sicuro, Domenico, Giovanni & Rosetta Santamaria, Vincenzo Giuseppina, E Maria Salvo, Concetta Gangemi, Hung Ling Regina Soeharjo, Mary Monaco, Irene & John O'Neill, Herman Gazenbeek, Anne Whitney, Leslie Cranbourne, Boris, Eva & Andrew Uroda, John & Mary McMahon, Zlatko Veleek, Jack & Edna Clonan, Tom Fogarty, Marjorie & Charles McShanag, Catherine & Joseph Capicchiano
- BAPTISMS:** Malaika Zimba (HF), Kalani, Summer, Reef & Bede Donaghy (HS)
- PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Damian Taylor, Iolanda Marruso, Wendy Commons, Giuseppa Resciniti, Margaret Donaghy, Patricia McMahon, Rosalie & Lance Gilbert, Margaret Harris, Dorothy Sproules, Maria Law, Mary Smith, Joseph Escorse, Peter Kenny, Elena Cattanack

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

## Cluster News:

### THANKYOU!

Thankyou to all who took the time to notify the Office of changes of address, following the recent Christmas letter delivery. It is a great help in keeping our records up to date.

### Holy Family:

- ♦ **PARISH BBQ:** Will be held on the TODAY, Dec 19. BYO everything - all welcome!

### Holy Spirit:

- ♦ **Christmas Appeal:** The Holy Spirit Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society sincerely thanks all who generously contributed to the recent 2010 Christmas Appeal. The \$1,480 given will greatly assist many in our community to have a more happy and a holy Christmas time.

## Community News:

**Dec 20... MUSIC AT THE BASILICA:** Free lunchtime organ recital on Monday 12.30-1.15pm. All welcome!

**Dec 25... GEELONG COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER 2010:** A fully catered traditional Christmas dinner is available to any person or small family at no cost, who may be alone and would like to join others to celebrate this special day in a true Christmas atmosphere - **Christ Church Hall, cnr Moorabool & McKillop Sts. Doors open 9.30am till 3.30pm and dining commences 11.45am.** If you or anyone you know is interested in attending, please forward name and phone number for catering purposes during office hours to St Vincent de Paul Society, 162 West Fyans St South Geelong, ph 5221 9170 until Tues Dec 21 or 0408 133 561 from Wed Dec 22.

### **SPECIAL CONCERT: Sunday Dec 19, 7.30pm at Holy Family Church...**

The HKUD "LADO" Geelong are holding a free Concert to bring together the communities of Geelong. The senior vocal ensemble consisting only of volunteers, along with our 25 piece orchestra of traditional Croatian musical instruments, will perform a mixture of English, Croatian and Italian Christmas songs.

*(Cont'd from P1)*

'As I gathered with my family in front of an overblown meal which none of us could finish, holding expensive gifts we didn't need and drinking more alcohol than was necessary, I thought "we've lost the plot with Christmas". God-with-us arrives as a simple child in need of love; and in the honour of that day we spend money, eat too much and get drunk.

'I left the table went to my desk and wrote a card for each member of my family. I told them what I'd never been able to say: "I want you to know I love you."

'When they read those cards, my family thought I was losing it, but through David and that doll, God visited me in the last week of Advent and Christmas will never be the same again.'