

Reflection... by Richard Leonard SJ

ome years ago, Pope John Paul II went to Lima, Peru. There he was met by a massive crowd of two million people. Instead of the usual greetings from the President and the Cardinal, two people from a shantytown stepped forward to the microphone. Their names were Irene and Viktor Charo. As the huge crowd went quiet, they begin to speak to the Pope. 'Holy Father, we are hungry, we are sick, we lack work, our children die before their time. Yet we believe, Holy Father, we believe in the God of life. And we hunger for bread.'

Before a hushed crowd, the Pope replied in his best Spanish. 'You tell me you hunger for bread.' 'Yes, yes', the millions yelled in reply. 'You tell me you hunger for God', said the Pope and again the crowd swelled with an emphatic 'Yes! Yes!' 'I want this hunger for God to remain; I want your hunger for bread to be satisfied.'

The Pope then turned to the generals and the wealthy politicians gathered there – many of them devout Catholics – and said very starkly, won't simply say share what you have. I will say give it back. Give it back - it belongs to the poor.' As extraordinary as the Pope's words were that day, Jesus' words about the Eucharist in today's Gospel are even more so. In the sixth chapter of John's Gospel many people were so horrified by the claims Jesus makes for the reality of his presence in the Eucharist, they stopped following him. John clearly links Jesus giving himself for the sake of God's kingdom and our redemption, with the communion we share with Him in every Mass.

When we receive the Risen Christ in communion it's not a symbol of his presence or a sign of his life to which we say 'Amen'. It is Christ who hosts us, who gives us himself so that we might be transformed into His image and likeness. In modern language Christ says to us at every Mass, 'Here I am, broken and poured out in love for you. Take me. I'm here for you.'

The danger with all gifts, and most especially with this gift, is that we can think it's just for us, an intimate moment between each of us and Christ. It is that, but it's also much more. St Augustine in a sermon on the Eucharist on 9th August 413 wrote that the Mass was about three things: goodness, unity and charity. Augustine taught that if we were not better people, working for unity and loving each other away from the Eucharist, it fails to achieve its purpose. (/Cont'd P4)

- The Body and Blood of Christ -(Year A - June 26, 2011.) ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: God is the strength of his people. In him we, his chosen, live in safety. Save us, Lord, who share in your life, and give us your blessing; be our shepherd forever. **RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own. **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia! NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time 1st Reading: Zech 9:9-10

2nd Reading:

Gospel:

Rom 8:9,11-13

Mt 11:25-30

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 |
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| Holy Spirit: | 9.00am Wed, 11am Fri and 9am Sat. Reconciliation after Saturday Mass |
| Ss Peter & Paul's: | 7.30pm Thurs |
| | |

10.15am - 1st, 3rd, 5th Tues; Grace McKellar Centre: **Multicultural Centre:** 1.30pm - 1st Fri

Maryville Nursing Home: 11am Tues; Vincentian Village: 3.00pm -Mon

COMMUNAL PRAYER:

| Mon | Holy Family Women's Prayer Group |
|-------|------------------------------------|
| Tues | Meditation Group |
| Wed | Prayer of the Church |
| Wed | Holy Family Women's Prayer Group |
| Thurs | Italian Prayer Group |
| Fri | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament |
| Fri | Divine Mercy |
| Sat | Rosary |
| | |

5.30pm Before 9am Mass 10.00am 10.00am After 11am Mass 3.00pm After 9am Mass

10.00am

Holy Family Community Centre Holy Family Community Centre Holy Spirit Church Holy Family Community Centre St Patrick's Chapel Holv Spirit Church Holy Spirit Church Holy Spirit Church

OUR LADY'S STATUE: June 27: Montalto family, 2 Graylea Ave; July 4: Sheahan family, Sladen St; July 11: McShanag Family, 39 Sladen St; July 18: McMahon family, 301 Church St 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:

Jack Powell, Alina Synoradzki, Antoinette Von Elgt

ANNIVERSARIES: Matthew Barr, Margaret McFarlane, Alex Sexton, Damicina Aloi, Judy Hayes, Joseph Dubrovic, Vincenzo Pitaro, Rocco & Francesca Daniele, Daniel Brady, Teresina Marafioti, Giovanni Puglia

BAPTISMS: Isaac Howard (P&P)

Bernie Dalton, Florence Williams, Pasha Alden, Wendy Commons, Margaret Donaghy, Maria Law, Peter PRAY FOR THE SICK: Farrar, Doris Boyle, Heidi Maguire, Joan Bellew, Kate Jennings, Nevenka Juraga, Joan Gazenbeek, Felix Capicchiano, Dianne Rickey, Liam Shay, Regina Starcevic, Joseph Escorse, Gillian Henry, Anthony Dunn, John O'Neill, Alina Synoradzki, George Carmody

(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 3, 2011.

(1st Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators Lectors **Special Ministers** Welcomers

8.00AM R Allum A Vanjek

9.30AM

T McMahon C&J Taylor G&P Carmody, D Farrar, R&R Zanardo M&E Hoffman

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators Lectors **Special Ministers** Welcomers Projectionist

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators Readers **Special Ministers** Welcomers Projectionist

F Chrimes, J Bartolo, I Vanjek, B McFarlane U Guardiano, K McArthur

6.00PM

Sr Sibberas J O'Neill D Boyle, M Abbott, D Torpy V Logan, P Ryan **B** Stocks

11.00AM

M Shilling M Currie, B Middleton V Trinder, M Currie, P Delahunty A Dickson, D King, I Cleary, C Kelynack L Coles

- 5.00PM C O'Brien
- D Woods N Neeld, J Jess

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 7.00pm |
| . St Vincent de Paul - | Holy Family meet 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at the Community Centre, 7.30pm |
| | Ss Peter & Paul's meet 4th Thursday 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 - | Holy Spirit Hall, First Tuesdays in the month |
| . Italian Mass - | First Thursday of the month in St Patrick's Chapel |
| . 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 Terry on 5221 7339 |
| If you wish to know make should | these around so well as shout our Secremental Pression for shildren in new 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: www.pastoralclustergeelong.org

Cluster News *

FR MICK'S HOLIDAY:

Fr Mick is away from Monday June 13 until Friday July 1. He will be spending time with his family in the north of Victoria. We wish Fr Mick a restful holiday!

MASS OF THE ANOINTING AT Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

There will be a Mass of Anointing at Ss Peter & Paul's Church, followed by a light luncheon. This Anointing Mass is open to all in the Cluster and beyond.

> Venue... Date... Time... Luncheon...

Ss Peter & Paul's Church Wednesday June 29 11am Ss Peter & Paul's Small Hall

To assist with catering there will be sign-up boards at the back of all Churches this weekend and next.

FR MICK'S MATES:

The next meeting of Fr Mick's Mates will be held Wednesday July 6 at 7pm in the Pastoral Cluster Community Centre.



STEWARDSHIP CORNER - Thoughts on Giving

"Do not forget the Lord, your God... who brought forth water for you

from the flinty rock and fed you in the desert with manna" (Deut 8:14-16)

It takes great trust to follow the Lord in a life of stewardship. Yet, just as He provided for the Israelites, God will provide us with all that we need. We in turn must be willing to hold our many gifts - not with a clenched fist, but rather with an open hand, ready and willing to share.

A VOCATION VIEW:

NEW CLUSTER EMAIL ADDRESS:

Please note that our email address has changed and is now

<u>cluster@cam.org.au</u>

DO SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL FOR GOD:

Next weekend our Parish will be holding the annual Catholic Mission Church Appeal, focused on Peru. With the help of the Church, missionaries in Peru and around the world reach out in Christ's name to help communities affected by hardship, disease and extreme poverty. You can stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters to support the work of the universal Church. Please come prepared next weekend and give generously. Together we can do something beautiful for God.

That we can collaborate with God is a humbling truth. That God lives among us is startling. That we are the Body of Christ is our vocation.

Ss Peter & Paul's:

ARE YOU A FORMER ST PAT'S STUDENT? In 2011 St Patrick's celebrates 100 years of schooling at its Petrel St site. To mark this occasion the school's history is to be researched and published and we are desperately seeking photos and memorabilia - uniforms, yearbooks, newsletters and newspaper articles. If you'd like to share your recollections with us a questionnaire is available and we are very keen to listen if you'd rather have a chat. If you'd like to know more ph the school office on 5229 4412. Submissions closing soon!

Holy Spirit:

- MANIFOLD BRANCH OF CWL: Monthly Meeting will be on Wednesday July 6, Feast Day of St Maria Goretti. We will attend 9am Mass at Holy Spirit, have morning tea and meeting in Parish Hall afterwards. Please bring along a plate to share. For information and transport ph Tricia Joyce 5221 1986 or Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063.
- ST VINCENT DE PAUL: The annual SVDP Winter Appeal held last weekend in the Holy Spirit Parish was an outstanding success. The collection raised \$1,237. This great effort will assist the needy of our parish area during the cold winter months. Heartfelt thanks to all!!

Community News:

July 2... ANAM CARA HOUSE GEELONG IS HOLDING AN ART AND CRAFT SHOW - 10am-4pm in the Pioneer Hall at St Mary's Office, 150 Myers St (gold coin donation). Many local artists works will be on display and available for purchase. Also featured are crafts including handmade Peruvian jewellery, a doll exhibition, bed quilts and lots more. Devonshire tea provided at a small cost. Proceeds from all sales will help support your local Community Hospice, so come along and enjoy! .

VOLUNTEER - ST VINCENT DE PAUL:

Can you assist with the bread run on July 27th and August 24th and 31st? Please call Sr Concepta on 5277 3620 / 0421 470 490. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

VINNIES WINTER APPEAL:

This winter hundreds of local residents are experiencing financial hardship or social distress. Some are sleeping in the cold weather with no appropriate shelter, blankets or warm clothing. **Donations of blankets and warm clothing will help our community!** Please donate items at your local Vinnies Centre or call 5229 0911 for bulk pick-up.

Geelong City - 164 Moorabool St, Hamlyn Hts - 71 Vines Rd, Norlane - Shop 1 Labuan Square, Ocean Grove - 18 Marine Pde, Queenscliff - 31 Hesse St, South Geelong - 162 Fyans St.

WHAT'S NEW AT WING AND A PRAYER:

First Eucharist Gifts - Stop stressing! Wing and a Prayer have it covered. Call in and see our fantastic gift ideas - whether its handmade jewellery, Fair Trade Crosses from El Salvador, Communion Rosaries, Missals, Pins, Stoles, Transfers, Cards, Custom made Candles, you'll find it here. For this really special event see us in Malop St (opp Officeworks), also open Sat 9-1pm, ph 5221 4451.

Book of the Week - *Walk in a Relaxed Manner: Life Lessons from the Camino by Joyce Rupp* \$21.95. At the age of 60, Joyce didn't know what she was getting herself into when she began a 47 day pilgrimage along the Camino de Santiago in Spain. Share her simply learnt but profound lessons that can help us travel more freely through life - and set out with hope and enthusiasm!

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Hence, like the Pope in Peru, many people have linked the reception of the Bread of Life here with the giving of bread which sustains life away from here. On average in our world 26,000 die every day of starvation. John F Kennedy observed in 1961, 'The only thing standing between us and the elimination of hunger is our desire to see it.' We could feed all the world's poor. We choose not to.

In a talk on the Eucharist, the then Jesuit General, Fr Pedro Arrupe said, 'while there is hunger in the world then our Eucharists are incomplete'. By this he didn't mean that when we gather for Mass anything is wrong. Rather he meant that when we gather around this holy table for this sacred meal while people still starve in the world, then something vital is lacking. There's an emptiness. Yet it's an emptiness that invites us in. The God who comes to us at every Eucharist as real food is the same God that asks, 'When I was hungry, did you feed me?' This question says that just as God feeds us, so we too should and can feed each other.

May this feast of the Body and Blood of Christ give us the strength of our convictions. May the real food and drink we provide away from this sacred table prove to the world the power of the Eucharist to change us into a people that are good, unifying and loving. And may we not just share with the poor from our excesses, but give them back the food that is rightly theirs.