



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@cam.org.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)		
LITURGICAL CO-ORDINATOR:	Frank Kearney -	Phone 5278 1343 (email: frankkearney@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

Charged with the rape and murder of a young woman, it only took the jury twenty minutes to return a guilty verdict for the three men in the dock. The courtroom erupted in cheers as the verdict was read out. As the men were being led out of the courtroom the mother of two of them ran toward the dock yelling, 'I think what you've done is despicable, but I want you to know that I love you.'

Outside the courthouse, the media were expecting the parents of the victim to advocate capital punishment for the criminals. Instead, they said they wanted to forgive the perpetrators of this vicious crime. Everyone listened in disbelief. No one at that courthouse was running away from the heinous nature of the crimes, nor from the punishment the men deserved, but the parents involved chose to focus on either love or forgiveness.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us we should forgive each other seventy-seven times. Numbers are not randomly used in the Bible. 1, 3, 7, 12 and 40 all have specific meanings. To number something as seven is to describe it as being perfect. When we hear Jesus use this phrase we recall the story in the Book of Genesis of the seven days of creation where, on the seventh day, God looks at the result of his creative love and sees that it is very good. Jesus, using some shorthand, says that not only is forgiveness good, but that it is a creative act that gives life to the world and gives glory to those who exercise it.

In the 5th Century St Augustine said that forgiveness was like a mother who has two wonderful daughters named justice and compassion. In using such a metaphor Augustine knew that forgiveness was not a once-off event, it was a process that involved other virtues as well. Jesus teaches a similar lesson in today's Gospel, where he uses the image of the King settling his debts. Because the King is just, compassionate and forgiving, he rightly expects that, in turn, his steward will be so as well.

It's easy to be forgiving in the big picture. We can preach strongly about war, peace and reconciliation. It's quite another to forgive those closest to us. Sometimes the hardest place to be compassionate and just is our own home. If we are not speaking to a husband, wife, child, parent, sibling or friend then today's Gospel has a strong challenge right where we live. (*Cont'd P4*)

- 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year A - September 11, 2011.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Give peace, Lord, to those who wait for you, and your prophets will proclaim you as you deserve. Hear the prayers of your servant and of your people Israel.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Is 55:6-9
2nd Reading: Phil 1:20-24,27
Gospel: Mt 20:1-16



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**

Ss Peter & Paul's: 7.30pm Thurs

Grace McKellar Centre: 10.15am - 1st, 3rd, 5th Tues;

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

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:

Sept 12 - Wright family, 42 Logan St;

Sept 19 - Bourke family, 24 Sycamore St;

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS: Bill Salt, Franica Kivela, Mons Frank Lyons, Santo Manganeli, Peter Deneka

ANNIVERSARIES: Josef Hertz, Maurie Glynn, Francesco Ierna, Ron Sells, Salvatore Rotiroti, Bill & Pat Brooks, Walter Booth, Angelo Guardiano, Deceased members of the O'Brien & Bryon families

BAPTISMS: Miroslav Cucanic (P&P)

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Florence Williams, Pasha Alden, Wendy Commons, Margaret Donaghy, Maria Law, Peter Farrar, Doris Boyle, Heidi Maguire, Joan Bellew, Kate Jennings, Dianne Rickey, Liam Shay, Joseph Escorse, Gillian Henry, Anthony Dunn, George Carmody, Joan Jess, Theo Da Costa, Rosalie Gilbert, Josipa Marinac, Con Walsh, Vonnice VanDootselar

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, SEPT 18, 2011.

(3rd Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

8.00AM

K Saunders

B Rainbow

A Vanjek, C Marcantonio, P Walsh

R&L Allum

9.30AM

L Lehpamer

H Verdnik, T McMahon

C&J Taylor, E Glynn, M Fiorillo

E Dalton, G Carmody

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

6.00PM

Sr J McGonigal

J McKenzie

G Wright, E Cotter, D Kosmetschke

V Logan

T Dunlop

11.00AM

P Delahunty

G Brown

P&B Delahunty, V Trinder

I Cleary, L Coles, V Trinder

D Brown

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

5.00PM

D Maddalena

K Maddalena

K Maddalena, B Ditungun,

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 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 CLUSTER:

CONFIRMATION:

We congratulate the children from our three Primary Schools and our Pastoral Cluster Catechetical Program who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation. We pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and support them throughout their lives, especially as they enter into their teenage years. The celebrations have been well planned, joyous occasions. Special thanks to the Grade 6 teachers, the REC's of the three Primary Schools and Frank Kearney, the Co-ordinator of the Sacramental Program. Also thanks to Bishops Les Tomlinson and Peter Elliott for their leadership and presiding over the Sacrament.

COLUMBAN PARTNERSHIP MASS:

On the weekend of Sept 17/18 at the 5pm Mass Ss Peter & Paul's, 9.30am Holy Family and 11am Holy Spirit, the Grade 5/6 children will be present. The focus of the Mass will be our Columban Partnership and amongst other things the Columbans will be presented with a cheque from the schools and parishes as part of our ongoing commitment to our Partnership with the Columbans. The money will be used to support to Grameen Bank in the Philippines, a micro credit scheme which helps people in poverty to take out small loans so they can start their own business and so take steps to break out of the poverty cycle.

CHILD PROTECTION SUNDAY:

Today is Child Protection Sunday and the theme for this year is **Safeguarding Children and Young People**. Our parishes are endeavouring to provide a safe environment. One of the ways we are addressing that is complying with the Archdiocesan policy of having 'Working with Children Checks' for volunteers. Catholic Churches are joining with others in this awareness raising campaign. We wish to proclaim to our parish and to society at large our determination to protect young people and to stop child abuse wherever it occurs.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY:

On the weekend of Sept 24/25 as part of all Masses, the Australian Catholics Bishops Conference Social Justice Statement - *Building Bridges, Not Walls - Prisons and the Justice System* will be introduced and highlighted.

FR MICK'S MATES:

1. **Sausage Sizzle** will be held at Bunnings Corio, **Saturday Sept 24**, (hopefully the Cats will play on Sunday). Volunteers required to help with cooking and serving, one or two hour duration, between 8am and 4pm. Please ph David Lunn if available on 0408 378 982. Thankyou.
2. **Craft/Produce Stalls** will be held at Holy Spirit 11am **October 2**, Ss Peter & Paul's 11am **Oct 9**, and Holy Family 8am and 9.30am **October 16**.

YOU'D BETTER BLOODY BELIEVE IT!" (Authors John Gilfoyle & John Robbins):

A series of good fun Australian stories written by blokes who know and have lived in outback Australia. "... *It would be hard to find a happier and funnier collection of Australiana*" (Terry Oberg, Catholic Leader, Brisbane). Cost is \$30 - \$15 of which is donated to the Kuya Centre for homeless boys in Manila, and \$15 for Fr Mick's Mates (Cluster Relay for Life Team). If you would like a copy, please contact David Lunn on 0408 378 982.

A VOCATION VIEW:

"Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."

Make a stand for mercy, empathy, forgiveness and selflessness!

Holy Family:

- ◆ **THE SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL - 50TH ANNIVERSARY:** On 19 Sept it will be 50 years since the Holy Family Conference of the Society of St Vincent began charitable work in the Bell Park Parish. The conference was founded on 19 Sept 1961. A sincere thankyou to all past and present members and auxiliary members, for their constant and dedicated work over this long period of time. We are sincerely grateful to past and present Parish Priests and Assistant Priests and to all parishioners for their loyal support and generosity. **New members are warmly welcomed**, please contact the Parish Office on 5278 1343.

Community News:

- Sept 14...** **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Monthly meeting 7.30pm in Clairvaux Meeting Rooms Belmont. Members please attend and bring a plate.
- Sept 15...** **MELBOURNE ARCHDIOCESAN LAUNCH OF THE AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT** - Building Bridges, Not Walls - Prisons in the Justice System. To be held in the Cathedral Room, Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert St East Melbourne. RSVP justice@cam.org.au or ph 9926 57810 by **Monday 12 Sept**.
- Sept 15-16...** **HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL ON STAGE:** St Ignatius College are holding our School Musical Production 7pm in the Playhouse Theatre. Adults \$25, Conc \$15, Family \$70 (2 adults, 2 chn). For information/tickets please ph 5251 1136 or info@ignatius.vic.edu.au
- Sept 18...** **CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE APPEAL CONCERT:** Celebrating NZ Music and Poetry, Kiwiana and Maori Culture - 2.30pm at St David's Uniting Church Newtown, cnr Aphrasia & Talbot Sts Newtown. Art auction to follow, doors open at 2pm for viewing. Free entry - donations/Koha Tax Deductible. All proceeds to the official Christchurch Earthquake Appeal. More information ph 5222 1237, alisonmwong@gmail.com
- “ **CONCERTS AT THE BASILICA:** Prof Giampaolo di Rosa, International Organist (Rome) will be performing 3pm. Born 1972 in Cesena, Italy, he is a remarkable musician, an established performer, improviser, composer, researcher and teacher and enjoys a flourishing international career. The music of Bach, Di Rosa, Guilman and Widor and an improvisation on a given theme will be heard in this outstanding concert. Tickets \$25/\$20 at GPAC or at the door.
- Sept 21...** **SACRED HEART OLD COLLEGIANS MORNING TEA:** 10am at Sacred Heart Performing Arts Centre, Aphrasia St entrance, \$10 donation. Entertainment by the College Ensemble - all welcome! Contact Gael Perry on 0419 130 685.
- Sept 26-28...** **DON BOSCO MOTHER AND DAUGHTER CAMP:** The camp is open to all daughters aged 8-16 and their mothers/grandmothers/aunties. There will be time for relaxation, activity, fun and best of all, quality time to spend together in a cosy and welcoming environment. To be held at the Don Bosco Camp, Safety Beach - for more information ph Emily 5987 2692 or go to www.donboscocamp.org

FOCUS FACILITATOR TRAINING:

Would you like to be a trained facilitator in your parish? FOCUS is a facilitative instrument for use with couples preparing for marriage and is conducted over four one-hour sessions. Training: Thurs 3 Nov 7.30-10pm and Sat 5 Nov 9.15-5pm at Knox Centre, 383 Albert St East Melbourne. Cost \$230/person or \$370/couple incl Foccus Kit, one year registration, lunch, morning and a'noon tea and handouts. For details ph CatholicCare and speak to Karin on 9287 5516.

FOR MARRIED COUPLES:

“*Difference to Eternity*” CatholicCare Marriage Enrichment day is for couples who are happy with their marriage and would like to spend a day together. This program explores the personalities that each person brings to their marriage and it challenges couples in a fun way to accept and appreciate the growth opportunities their differences offer. The cost is \$80/couple and includes lunch, morning and a'noon tea. **Sunday 16 Oct** 9.30-4pm. For more details ph Karin on 9287 5516 or ccam.org.au

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - *Thoughts on Giving*

"None of us lives for oneself; whether we live or die, we are the Lord's." (Romans 14:7-8)

Whatever we have in this life, we have because God gave it to us. We may think that we get all the credit for our success. However, the reality is that we are only working with the gifts that God gave us - including our family background, our natural abilities, our education and the opportunities that have crossed our paths. All of these are gifts from God. Our very lives are a gift from God and thus belong to Him. This is why we must take time every day to ask God how He wants us to use the life He has given us.

(/Cont'd from P1)

Part of the problem is that we could have accepted the film *Love Story's* motto, 'Love means never having to say you're sorry'. This idea is many things, but it's not Christian. For followers of Jesus the exact opposite is true. We seek opportunities to forgive and ask for forgiveness.

Jesus doesn't tell us that forgiveness is easy, just necessary. To forgive someone in our family, our workplace, our circle of friends or in our Church is not to pretend that a sinful situation did not occur, but to face it head on and demand justice with compassion.

For when we stand before God with the weakness and sinfulness of our own life, God will not settle old scores, take revenge and exact retribution. Rather God will be perfectly just and completely compassionate. When we choose forgiveness over revenge, and love over hate we begin to glimpse God's creative goodness coming to perfection in us, because forgiveness is a participation in the very heart of God.