



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)		
THANKSGIVING CO-ORD:	Helen Brislane -	Phone 5278 1343 (email: helen.brislane@cam.org.au)		
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

The film *Forrest Gump* was once described as the 'battler's triumph'. On one level it was about how the last will be first. This story picks up where the film left off. Forrest Gump dies and goes to heaven. On arrival St Peter informs him that there are three questions he has to answer before he can enter.

- 1) What days of the week begin with the letter T?
- 2) How many seconds are there in a year?
- 3) What is God's first name?

Forrest answers straight away, 'Shucks, there are two days in the week beginning with the letter T - Today and Tomorrow.' St Peter replies, 'That's not what I was thinking, but you have a point. How about the next one?' 'I think the only answer can be twelve.' 'Twelve?' St Peter asks. 'Shucks, there's gotta be twelve: January 2nd, February 2nd, March 2nd. . . . 'Hold it', interrupts St Peter, 'I see where you're going with this. Let's go to the final question.' 'Sure', says Forrest, it's Andy!' 'Andy?' exclaims an exasperated St Peter. 'OK, I can understand how you came up with your answers to my first two questions, but just how in the world did you come up with Andy as God's first name?' 'Shucks, that was the easiest one of all', Forrest replied. 'I learned it from the hymn . . . ANDY walks with me, ANDY talks with me, ANDY tells me I am his own.' St Peter opened the pearly gates and yelled, 'Run Forrest, run!'

In today's Gospel, in which the first labourers are paid the same wage as the afternoon workers, what the early birds didn't reckon on was that they could have come much later and got the same deal. We would cynically call the afternoon workers, 'Johnny-come-latelies' and chances are if we were confronted with the same situation we would be with the complainers.

This story was important to the early Church because generations of Jews waited and longed for the Messiah and, like the first workers, they were the first to respond to the call of Jesus and to work in the field of his Kingdom. For some of the early Jewish-Christians, including St Peter, it came as a surprise that the Lord was calling Gentiles to the life and work of Jesus' Kingdom as well. (*Cont'd P4*)

- 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year A - September 18, 2011.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

I am the Saviour of all people, says the Lord. Whatever their troubles, I will answer their cry, and I will always be their Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord is near to all who call him.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Ezek 18:25-28
2nd Reading: Phil 2:1-11
Gospel: Mt 21:28-32



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 19 - Bourke family, 24 Sycamore St;

Sept 26 - Hoare family, 21 Sycamore 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: Terry Murphy, Cornelius (Con) Walsh, John Forbes, Reginald Lee, Vincent Fitzpatrick (Fr Mick's cousin), Joseph Fox, Jim Brockman

ANNIVERSARIES: Michele Marruso, Valli Glynn, Stefan Selthafner, Jack Hickey, Giuseppe & Gietino Pino, Ines Duarte, Harry Gazenbeek, Nicanor Manalo, Stoja, Blaz & Ivan Mrkogaca

BAPTISMS: Rhyder Strahan, Jaxon Taylor (HF), Chloe Luzar, Amelia Steel, Oliver Welsh, Alexia-Rose Welshlewis (HS)

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, Vonnie VanDootselar

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, SEPT 25, 2011.

(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 McMahan, 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

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 7.00pm
- **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 ❖

COLUMBAN PARTNERSHIP MASS:

This 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 of \$3,000 from each of the schools and three parishes (in total \$18,000) 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.

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. In Bishop Saunder's opening address in the Statement he says: *"Between 1984 and 2008, the number of Australians in prison per 100,000 people almost doubled. Over that time, however, rates of crime either stayed steady or fell. The majority of Australian prisoners come from the most disadvantaged sections of the community: Indigenous people, the underprivileged, those suffering from mental illness. Given these facts, we must ask if the justice system is truly delivering justice to our community. In raising these questions, we are in no way seeking to justify crimes or minimise the terrible impact they can have on innocent people. But we do ask whether so many people should be in Australian jails, whether there are constructive alternatives to imprisonment, and what is being done to help prisoners lead productive lives once they have served their time. Again and again in the Gospel, we read how Jesus reached out to the marginalised and rejected, and called on his followers to do the same. It is our hope that this Statement will help all Australians heed that call."*

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**.
3. **Fr Mick's Mates Raffle:** Tickets \$1 each with prizes of a Quilted Throw, Cushions, Gourmet Basket (relishes, jams, chocolates). **Tickets will be sold at Sausage Sizzes on October 2nd, 9th and 16th.** Thankyou for your support!
4. **Official Launch:** You are invited to attend the Official Launch of the 2012 Geelong Relay for Life on **Tuesday 4th Oct 7pm at the Deakin Waterfront Cafe, The Esplanade, Geelong.** Find out how you can get involved, register your team, Andrew Bews MC and guest speakers from Cancer Council Vic and Dr Karen White. Entertainment and light refreshments. **RSVP by 23rd Sept** to Sam Santospirito on 0425 820 791 or email samsanto@iprimus.com.au. This event sponsored by Deakin University.

A VOCATION VIEW:

We can never be called 'generous'. All that we possess we have received from God. It is our vocation to return to God all the talents God has entrusted to us.

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.

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.

Holy Spirit:

- ◆ **HELP AT MASS NEEDED:** Can you read loudly and fluently and are prepared to read at Mass? We need a Reader for the 11am Mass each 1st Sunday of the month. Please consider. Also we require Special Ministers of the Eucharist for the 11am Mass on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Please give it a thought. A brief training session will be provided for each. Phone Frank at the Office on 5278 1343 or let Fr Gerard or Fr Mick know. Your help will be greatly appreciated by our Church community.

Community News:

- 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.
- Oct 11... **SEEKING ASYLUM - Is there a Just Solution?** Rerum Novarum Oration 2011 features Orator Bishop Vincent Long van Nguyen OFMConv, the first person of Vietnamese background to hold the position of Auxiliary Bishop of the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne and proudly the first asylum seeker elevated to such Office. Respondent is Hon Malcolm Fraser, AC,CH,CGL,PC. Since leaving parliament Mr Fraser has played an eminent role in international relations, appointed a Companion of the Order of Australia. **7.30pm in Central Hall, 20-22 Brunswick St Fitzroy.** Light refreshments from 7pm. Information Mark Clarke 9926 5727. **RSVP Oct 7 to justice@cam.org.au**
- Oct 13... **FREE TALKS ON MENTAL HEALTH:** Christ Mackey, Clinical Psychologist, presents **Complex Trauma and Dissociation, 7.30-8.45pm in the Geelong West Town Hall - Supper Room.**
- Oct 16... **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. 9.30am-4pm, for details ph Karin 9287 5516 or ccam.org.au

PRAISE THE LORD!

Catholic Charismatic Renewal Melbourne has launched its own YouTube channel. The idea is to present a series of short teaching excerpts to strengthen you in your faith and to provide a tool for evangelisation. Our account name is CCRinMelbourne!! Go to YouTube and search for CCR Melbourne.

THANKYOU:

CatholicCare would like to thank the community of the Cluster for its generous donation of \$2,975.45 to our recent Church Appeal. Your generosity supports the vital work of CatholicCare. We work on behalf of the Archdiocese in Melbourne and Geelong to fulfill the Church's mission of service to the community. CatholicCare provides programs and services that help families and individuals in the development of strong and healthy relationships, and encourage a sense of connectedness within their communities.

- Fr Joe Caddy, Chief Executive Officer CatholicCare

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - *Thoughts on Giving*

"You too go into my vineyard" (Mt 20:4)

In today's Gospel we see how much Our Lord wants us to be co-workers with Him. Just as the Master went out repeatedly to invite more workers into his vineyard, so Our Lord continually calls us to participate more fully in the Church. Life on earth is short. How many times does God have to call us, before it is too late? Even the workers who entered the vineyard late were paid well. Do we want to be left standing alone in the marketplace for all eternity because we failed to fulfill our jobs as Christian stewards?

(Cont'd from P1)

We can imagine that it rankled some of the early birds to see these Johnny-come-latelies taking charge of the Christian mission. This wasn't how it was supposed to be!

This story, then, is a wonderful commentary on how fickle we are and, luckily for us, how extraordinarily generous God is. What we see in ourselves and others is only a glimpse of what God is like. God is so much more: more loving; more forgiving; more compassionate; and more just. And because God is so much greater than anything we could ask or imagine, we are constantly surprised at how he turns our expectations, our fears and predictions upside down. We constantly look for God in the big and spectacular and he comes to us poor, naked, sick, in prison and hungry. God speaks through the most surprising people at the most surprising times.

That's why those people who have decided that God can only work in certain ways, places, people, institutions and times so often end up at the end of the line when it comes to religious wisdom. Michael McGirr in his excellent book, *Things You Get for Free* argues that there is a crisis of belief today, but that it's not the way we often think. In a brilliant turning of the tables, McGirr says that the crisis of belief is that people inside the Church sometimes cannot believe that people outside its traditional structures can experience the love of Jesus. God loves and guides the Church, but is not bound by it. God is busy about making sure those who might be last have a chance to come in first.

Rather than resent this, however, let's thank God for being bigger than we are and for being just to all of us, no matter when, or how, we get the Word.