



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)		
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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

These days most people keep vigils because they are anxious. We wait in hospital corridors for news of a sick relative. A parent stays up with an infant who may be teething or has a high temperature. We might even sit by the phone waiting to be reassured that a loved one is safe and well, or that we have passed the exam or got the job. Many of these occasions are highly stressed vigils. Some of the younger or more hardy ones amongst us sometimes keep vigils that are filled with excited anticipation, as when some of us sleep out to get tickets to a sports game or concert, or when we see the old year out and the new year in.

It was not long ago, however, that vigils were a much more common feature of people's lives. We often kept vigil with the dead. We used to keep all night vigils of prayer, especially when parishes had perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Perhaps before any of us can remember, there were also vigils kept with the bride the night before her wedding, when she waited and watched for the sign of her approaching groom and his attendants. The Church has enshrined the experience of keeping vigil through the Vigil Mass on Saturday night, the Vigil Ceremony in the funeral rites and the most important one, the Easter Vigil.

This tradition starts with today's Gospel where we are exhorted to be alert, keep awake and wait for the Lord to return. In a sense this is a strange Gospel to have as we prepare for Christmas. It is linked to the first preface of Advent which reads, 'Now we watch for the day, hoping that the salvation promised us will be ours, when Christ our Lord will come in glory.' Our attention is, therefore, directed to a great future event, not the future feast we are about to celebrate.

This is unique. All other feasts of the Church either remember a past event, like those of Holy Week or Pentecost, or they are 'title feasts' which proclaim a truth about God's action among us which the entire church holds to be true, like Trinity Sunday. But not the First Sunday of Advent. Rather than talk about the coming of Jesus at Christmas it helps us reflect on the final coming of the Lord at the end of time. It is the bridge between the 'last days' of the Church's year, which we have been celebrating over recent weeks, and the first days of the Church's New Year. (Cont'd P4)

- 1st Sunday of Advent -

(Year B - November 27, 2011.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

To you, my God, I lift my soul, I trust in you; let me never come to shame. Do not let my enemies laugh at me. No one who waits for you is ever put to shame.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come and save us, Lord our God;
let us see your face, and we shall be saved.
Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Second Sunday of Advent - Year B

1st Reading: Is 40:1-5,9-11
2nd Reading: 2Pet 3:8-14
Gospel: Mk 1:1-8



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)

Croatian... 11.30am (1,3,4,5th Sunday), 12.30pm (2nd Sunday) - Slovenian... 11.30am (2nd 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

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Holy Family: 9.15am Tues, 9.15am Thurs

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:** 11am Tues;

Multicultural Centre: 1.30pm - 1st Fri **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:

Nov 28: McMahon family, 24 Douglass St; **Dec 5:** Moore family, 39 Willana Ave; **Dec 12:** Brown family, 23 Bostock Ave

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: Francesco Amato, Mary (Dolly) Treloar, Peter Culo, Harry Toth

ANNIVERSARIES: Francesca Genua, Giuseppa Mileto, Margaret Livingstone, Giorgio Buttignon, Pat Mullen, Vincent Atkinson, Julia French, Vlado Zanic, Antonio & Carlos Palana, Zanardo family, Sanzon family, Zanon family, Kevin Bohan, Mary Sells

BAPTISMS: Charlie Bongiovanni, Sophie & William Young, Ignatius & Archie Fraatz (P&P)

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Joan Jess, Theo Da Costa, Josipa Marinac, Vonnie VanDootselar, Fred Williams, Joy Crompton, Mary Smith, Margaret Barry, Margaret Dunn, Heidi Maguire, Florence Williams, Tasha Alden, Joseph Escorse, Jillian Henry

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, DEC 4, 2011.

(1st Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

8.00AM

R Allum

A Vanjek

F Chrimes, J Bartolo, I Vanjek, B McFarlane

U Guardiano, K McArthur

9.30AM

T McMahon

C&J Taylor

P Carmody, D Farrar, R&R Zanardo

M&E Hoffman

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

6.00PM

Sr Sibberas

E Cotter

D Boyle, M Abbott, D Torpy

V Logan, P Ryan

B Stocks

11.00AM

M Currie

P Joyce, B Middleton

V Trinder, M Currie, P Joyce

A Dickson, D King, I Cleary, C Kelynack

L Coles

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

Readers

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

5.00PM

C O'Brien

D Woods

N Neeld, J Jess

RECURRING ACTIVITIES IN THE CLUSTER:

- **Holy Family BBQ -** Third Sunday of each month at the Community Centre from 12noon. BYO meat, salad, drink 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)
Holy Spirit School - Monday 9.30am-11.30am. 0-3 years Indoor/outdoor play. Ph 5229 8298
- **Playgroup -** Holy Spirit Hall, First Tuesdays in the month
- **Manifold CWL -** First Thursday of the month in St Patrick's Chapel
- **Italian Mass -** Dinner at Desma's every 1st Tuesday of the month at 6.30pm. Bookings phone 5278 2712.
- **Catholic Deanery Solo Group -** Second Sunday of each month, 12noon in the small Hall.
- **Ss Peter & Paul's Luncheon -** Second Tuesday of each month, 6pm at Dromoland. Dinner & Guest speaker. Ph Terry on 5221 7339
- **Catholic Diners' Club -**



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 ❖

CHRISTMAS MAILOUT:

The invitations to our Christmas ceremonies will be in the Churches on this weekend of Nov 26/27. We need help to distribute them. Could you deliver those in your own street and surrounds, or drive to another area and deliver there? Everyone that has to be mailed costs 60c (that's \$60 per 100 and we have about 2,000 to be delivered!) Thankyou in anticipation.

THANKSGIVING:

Please notify the office when you notice a change of address or a house that has been sold, as you are delivering the Christmas letters. It helps me keep the parish records up-to-date. (Helen)

MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSIONS APPEAL - DEC 10/11:

Since its foundation in 1969, parishioners have supported our own mission fund to help developing nations. This has marked our Archdiocese for its exceptional generosity. Currently, the major beneficiaries are people in Papua New Guinea, Timor, India, Sierra Leone, Pakistan, Botswana, Nigeria and Peru. Archbishop Denis Hart commends the fund to your continuing support. **Donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible.**

LITURGY IN THE CLUSTER:

The **Break Open the Word** is available in the Sacristy for Lectors who haven't yet collected their free copy.

NEW TRANSLATION OF THE MASS:

Over the last several months the new translation for the congregation has been introduced. This week we formally begin using the new translation for the parts of the Mass prayed by the Priest. Whilst the language has been changed, the essence remains the same. No doubt it will take some time to become accustomed to the new translation. Special thanks to the **Catholic Development Fund** who have donated beautifully bound Roman Missals for each of the three parishes.

LITURGY CALENDAR:

Nov 27... **BEGINNING OF ADVENT** - A time to prepare for the true meaning of Christmas. As part of the preparation an Advent Calendar will be made available with each of the Bulletins. The focus of this Advent Calendar is:

Take a Moment - Discover Advent

"In advent, as the year comes to an end, many of us don't have time to do anything other than what we're already doing. This Advent Calendar is designed to help us deepen and add value to what we're already doing. If you take a moment with the reflection for each day you will discover Advent; and that will certainly add depth and delight to Christmas. See how you go."

The reflections in the Calendar will be part of the introduction of each Mass during Advent as well as our Reconciliation service just prior to Christmas.

Nov 29... **Holy Family School Class Masses** - 9.15am

OUR PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS:

Attention all Christmas Carollers - Do you enjoy Christmas Carols? Do you enjoy singing in the shower (or elsewhere?) Do you play an instrument? If you answered 'yes' to any of the above we are keen to have you join us in a choir for singing Carols before and during the Christmas Midnight Mass. We would love to see people from our three Parishes come together as one voice - all that is required is a love of singing and a desire to be part of the choir for this event. If you play an instrument, your presence would be greatly appreciated - flute, guitar, violin etc (keyboard not required). Practices will be at Holy Family on Wednesdays during December from 7pm till 8.30pm. Come one, come all! You can contact Frank Lehpamer on 5278 4230 or lehpamer@geelong.hotkey.net.au

Holy Spirit:

- ◆ **ST VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL CHRISTMAS APPEAL COLLECTION:** This collection will take place next weekend, Dec 3/4. This appeal will assist all those people in our community who will be going through difficult times during the forthcoming holy season of Christmas.
- ◆ **ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS CARDS & COLUMBAN CALENDARS** (90th Anniversary edition) are available for purchase from the Piety Stall in Holy Spirit Church **until early January 2012**. Cards - Pkts of 10 \$8, Single \$1, Calendars \$8 each. All proceeds support St Vincent de Paul Society.

St Patrick's:

- ◆ **ST PATRICK'S CENTENARY GALA:** All former and current students, parents and staff of St Patrick's are invited to the fabulous Centenary Gala Cocktail Evening on **Saturday December 10**, 7pm at The Pier, Geelong. Music by 2Tone, Jazz Odyssey and Madhouse. Tickets \$85 include canapés, mini-meals and drinks. Contact Lucy on 0417 161 388 or St Patrick's on 5229 4412.
- ◆ **ST PATRICK'S CENTENARY MASS:** **Sun Dec 11 at 2.30pm at St Patrick's School.** Archbishop Denis Hart will be the Principal Celebrant - **ALL WELCOME!**

Community News:

- Nov 30... **WORLD AIDS DAY MASS:** St Francis Church, Lonsdale St Melb 5.30pm.
- Dec 1... **WORLD AIDS DAY:** To find out about the Catholic HIV/Aids ministry (an agency of CatholicCare) and the support it offers people who suffer HIV/Aids, please ph 8417 1280 or email am23@ccam.org.au
- Dec 2... **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** End of Year Social 6.30pm at the home of Alan and Louise Fossey. Open invitation to members, widows and families. BBQ meat and drinks supplied - just bring a salad or a sweet. Cost only \$5 per family. Ph Joe Lambert on 5229 8442 to confirm attendance. **Note - next branch meeting Feb 2012.**
- " **ST MARY'S PLAZA THEATRE PRESENTS "ELVIS SPECIAL":** 7.30pm featuring "Elvis - One Night with You" from the 1968 Special, plus Elvis in the 70s and Christmas song highlights! Raffles, door prize, supper - all welcome! A suggested donation of \$3/head would be appreciated.
- Dec 3... **LOURDES MASS:** Mass of hope and comfort the sick and fragile 10.30am in St Patrick's Cathedral. All welcome!!!
- Dec 4... **DAWN OF PROMISE:** God's people waited in hope for the coming of the Messiah. This beautiful work takes you on a moving musical journey culminating in the fulfilment of the Promise. Incorporating **The Promise** (sung every year at Holy Spirit's 8pm Christmas Mass), the choir for this performance includes a number of our Cluster parishioners. It will be held at St Thomas' Church, Peninsula Dve Drysdale at 7.30pm. This is a free concert and a great way to begin Advent.

Fr Mick's Mates News:

1. *A request for small baskets for Betty and Margaret for their Christmas hampers which will be available for sale in December.*
2. *Christmas Stalls to be held at Ss Peter & Paul's Sat 3rd Dec, 5pm Mass; Holy Spirit Sun Dec 4, 11am Mass; Holy Family Sun Dec 18, 8am and 9.30am Masses. If you would like to order a Christmas Hamper, please contact Margaret Brown re content and price on 5229 1280.*

MUSTER WITH THE CLUSTER

As part of our Partnership with the Columbans, we are again having a Movie Night.
This year the movie is **THE MUPPETS**.

Date: Thursday December 1st
Time: 6pm for a 6.30pm start
Venue: Village Cinemas Geelong
Cost: \$12 per ticket

This movie won't be released for general exhibition until January next year. This would be a good fun movie for grandparents and parents to take the children to see. Tickets available for sale after Mass or at the Pastoral Cluster Community Centre. Tickets sold on a first come/first served basis.



(/Cont'd from P1)

And how does the Church ask us to approach this feast? As on a vigil. Not a vigil of anxiety, where we never want to hear the worst news. Not a vigil of excited anticipation where we pin our happiness on entry into an event. But a vigil of hope where we wait and trust in a person, who has shared our lot, understands our frailties and loved us to death. We place our hope in Jesus the Christ, our brother, saviour and friend. This First Sunday of Advent we look beyond Christmas to the final moment when heaven and earth will be united and our vigil will be complete. On that day we believe the Son will have dawned once, and for all, on the world. Now, don't you think that's something worth being awake to see?

The first week of Advent is like the first days of other vigils wherein we pitch out tents and begin the wait to make sure we have front row seats for what is going to be, when it arrives, the best show in town!