



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@netspace.net.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: helenbrislane@netspace.net.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

Three key people of the Old Testament are given to us in today's readings: Abram, Moses and Elijah. Unfortunately most of what we know about these men is fairly sketchy. Who can blame the young children, then, who recently wrote down the following answers in an exam on the Old Testament? 'Moses led the Hebrews to the Red Sea, where they made unleavened bread, which is bread made without any ingredients. The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards, Moses went up Mount Cyanide to get the Ten Amendments. The First was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple. The Fifth was to always humour thy father and mother.'

The Jews of Matthew's community, however, would have been able to remember by heart every detail about Abram, Moses and Elijah. These men remain the Jews' greatest heroes. The first hearers of the Transfiguration story would have immediately made all the connections between Jesus' story and Abram, Moses and Elijah's experience of God on a mountaintop, where each has a life-changing encounter with the presence of God and is illuminated in every way. Each of them is called by God to fulfil a special task and so descend from the mountain with the strength to see it through.

Matthew is especially interested in the story of Moses. One of the refrains of the entire Gospel is that Jesus is the New Moses, the fulfilment of the law and the light that illuminates the darkest night. As interesting as the similarities are between Moses on Sinai and Jesus on Tabor, the differences are even more revealing for us on our Lenten journey. Moses goes up the mountain alone, Jesus takes companions with him who share in the experience and witness to it. The face of God is hidden from Moses whereas on Tabor Jesus is given to us as the face of God for the world. On Sinai Moses receives a code of law and is told to make sure the people obey it. On Tabor Jesus receives a proclamation of God's love and we're told to listen to him. While Moses' face shines, Jesus' whole body is transfigured with light. Moses descends to enforce the law; Jesus comes down to die that we might live.

Just when some of us think Lent is a grim season of self-denial, the Church gives us the story of Jesus' Transfiguration to put our sacrifices in context.

(/Cont'd P4)

- First Sunday of Lent -

(Year A - March 13, 2011.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

When he calls to me, I will answer; I will rescue him and give him honour. Long life and contentment will be his.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
King of endless glory!**

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Second Sunday of Lent - Year A

1st Reading: Gen 12:1-4
2nd Reading: 2Tim 1:8-10
Gospel: Mt 17:1-9



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**

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:

March 7: Montalto family, 2 Graylea 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: Needie Rodgers, Sebastiano Patti (in Italy)

ANNIVERSARIES: Rosaria Trafficante, Antonino Battaglia, Margaret Mary Bourke, Bridget Griffin, Reg McFarlane, Tess Flatt, Giovanni & Teresa Cito

BAPTISMS: Christian Brdar, Baxter King, Jacob Madjeric, Sierra Lecchino

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Wendy Commons, Margaret Donaghy, Margaret Harris, Maria Law, Mary Smith, Peter Farrar, Doris Boyle, Heidi Maguire, Joseph Escorse, Joan Bellew, Kate Jennings, Florence Williams, Pasha Alden, Nevenka Juraga

(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, MAR 20, 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

I Cleary, L Coles, V Trinder

T Cleary, D Brown

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

5.00PM

D Maddalena

K Maddalena

K Maddalena, B Ditkun,

Cluster News:

GETTING THE BEST OUT OF LENT:

1. Information for Parishioners - Lent 2011

The insert in this bulletin is from the Vicar General about making the most of Lent.

2. Lenten Calendar 2011 - *Take to Heart, Put into Practice*

Last week a free Lenten Calendar was distributed and it had a very brief reflection for each day, including a phrase from that day's scripture readings. The intent of the Calendar is that the person take a few minutes each day to reflect on the text and try and put a word from that text into action.

3. Lenten Scripture Study Groups:

10am... Wednesday at Holy Family Community Centre; 7.30pm... Thursday at Holy Family Community Centre

4. The Reflection:

As an initiative of the Australian Church the Australian Bishops would like to invite you to participate on the free online program *The Reflection*. Each week during Lent the Bishops of Australia will be sharing their thoughts and reflections in a *lectio* style, on the Sunday Gospels leading towards Easter. By simply logging onto the website each week (<http://thereflection.vividas.com>) you will be able to participate in a *lectio divina* for Lent, working with it at your own pace and in your own time over the week.

5. Project Compassion:

Project Compassion boxes are available at the back of each Church. Please take one. Over Lent there will be a brief reflection in the Bulletin on how your generosity is helping individuals and families break out of the vicious cycle of poverty.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT -



Kaluram is 33 and lives with his wife and three children in the hot plains of western Nepal. Caritas Australia supports Farmer Field Schools to improve food production and livelihoods for more than 12,000 poor farmers from disadvantaged ethnic groups and castes. Each of us is connected to Kaluram and people like him. Our choices do make a difference. Your donation to Caritas Australia's Project Compassion provides people like Kaluram with the opportunity to learn new skills, enables them to move away from dependence and debt and assists them to become self-supporting and independent.



RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

At 9.30am Mass at Holy Family this Sunday, **Lisa Ford** and **Tiffany Burns** will be accepted and welcomed as Catechumens preparing for Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. **Samuel** and **Jessica Ford** (Lisa's children) have been baptised in the Anglican Church and attend St Patrick's School, Geelong West. They wish to join the Catholic Church with their mother. Together with **Donna Courtney**, a baptised Catholic who has not received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist, they too will be welcomed at 9.30am Mass.

All parishioners have a very important part to play in bringing **Lisa, Tiffany, Donna Sam** and **Jessica** into full communion with the Catholic Church.

"The parishioners are called to be Christ's witnesses to those who are being initiated. In this way all the members of the parish are called to minister to the candidates by their faith, their commitment and their example. Those preparing for Christian initiation, through their commitment to the RCIA process of conversion, minister to the whole parish by challenging the members of the parish to renew their own faith and their own mission of being Christ's witnesses and of bringing others to Christ."

(Fr Elio Capra SDB - RCIA Co-Ordinator, Melbourne)

Next Sunday our Catechumens will attend the **Rite of Election** in St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne.

COLUMBAN PARTNERSHIP:

On Friday March 18 at Holy Family Church, 11.30am, there will be a Mass for the children from Grades 3-6 of our three Catholic Primary Schools. The focus of the Mass will be on the Columban Partnership.



EASTER MAILOUT WORKING BEE:

Over the last few years we have sent an individual invitation to all known Catholics in the Pastoral Cluster to our Holy Week Ceremonies. I believe this to be a good pastoral outreach, especially to those who are only nominally connected with our Church. The mailout has been effective because many people have volunteered to prepare and deliver the invitations. Again I call on your generosity to assist in the preparation of the invitations.

**THE WORKING BEE WILL BE HELD THIS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16,
11AM IN THE PASTORAL CLUSTER CENTRE.**

Next weekend the invitations will be at the back of the Churches and we ask if people could deliver them. Those invitations remaining at the end of the weekend will be available in the Pastoral Cluster Office and I ask those kind people who have been deliverers if they could come to the Cluster Office to collect the invitations for distribution.

Thankyou in anticipation - Fr Gerard



IRISH FOLK FESTIVAL:

St Patrick's Primary school is once again hosting the fantastic Irish Folk Festival on Sunday March 20 in the school grounds.

In addition to the normal fun things - rides, show bags, crafts, Irish fare, face painting, fresh produce etc, there will be "The Great Leprechaun Drop".

A great day out for the whole family!

Ss Peter & Paul's News:

- ♦ **ST PATRICK'S PAST PUPILS REUNION:** March 17, 6.30pm at the Sphinx Hotel, Thompson Rd North Geelong. RSVP to Shirley on 5248 3347
- ♦ **FESTA DI SAN GIUSEPPE:** Domenica 20 Marzo nella chiesa di St Patrick in Britannia St Geelong West - alle ore 9.30am. La messa sara celebrata da Mons James Murray. Tutti siete benvenuti..

Holy Spirit:

- ♦ **A CALL FOR SPECIAL MINISTERS & COMMENTATORS:** When we gather to celebrate Eucharist we need people to carry out the various ministries in order to have a meaningful celebration. Due to illness or other reasons, we have a need for members of our community to stand up to be Commentators, Readers and/or Special Ministers. We have vacancies on our rosters at the following Masses: **Special Minister for 1st week of month 11am; Commentator & Special Minister for 2nd week of month 6pm; Special Minister for 3rd week of month 11am and Commentator for 4th week of month 6pm.** Please give this your consideration and if able to help contact Frank Kearney at the Cluster Office on 5278 1343. **We also need somebody to co-ordinate the Masses - help with set up - at the 6pm 1st and 2nd week and 11am 3rd week.** Training is available.
- ♦ **MEMBERS OF MANIFOLD BRANCH OF CWL** are pleased to be able to advise that we are now resuming catering in the Hall after a Funeral Mass of Holy Spirit parishioners. Sandwiches, cakes/slice and hot soup will be provided in colder months, with tea and coffee (we purchase pastries if requested). If you can help we would love to hear from you - the more names we have means you are not required to help too often as we share it around. Ph Tricia Joyce 5221 1986 or Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063.
- ♦ **HOLY SPIRIT PRIMARY SCHOOL STAFF:** Will be attending an evening with Bruno Miteyo, a special guest of Caritas from the Congo, at Sacred Heart College on Thursday March 17. The purpose is to listen to the tragedies which have occurred in the Congo, as well as the staff working to build on their faith development.

Community News:

- Mar 13... **GEELONG YOUNG VINNIES IN ACTION 2011 DEDICATION MASS:** 5.30pm at St Mary's Basilica - contact details Christina on 0425 886 833, youngvinniesgeelong@gmail.com or www.vinnies.org.au
- Mar 17... **ST PATRICK'S DAY:** All Primary Schools in the Pastoral Cluster will be taking student representatives to a special Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral in Melbourne.
- Mar 20... **ST IGNATIUS COLLEGE GEELONG OPEN DAY 2011:** 11am-2pm - Information session 11am. Also *See the College at Work* on Wed May 4 9am-12noon. Applications for Yr 7 enrolments 2012 close Friday May 20. Yr 7,9&11 Academic Scholarship applications close Friday Apr 29. Prospectus and applications available on the website and from the College.

RELAY FOR LIFE

MINI RELAY FOR LIFE - FR MICK'S MATES: Preps-Grade 2 at Holy Family, Holy Spirit and St Pat's will gather on Friday March 18 at St Pat's Primary School, 11.30am, for a shared lunch (byo) and a mini 'Relay for Life' event. Fr Mick will lead the children out on the first lap!

Fr Mick's Mates - Relay for Life March 19/20, 2011:

RELAY FOR LIFE WEEKEND:

At Deakin University beginning Sat noon until Sun noon. All parishioners are invited to join the team for a BBQ at 7.30pm on Saturday March 19. BYO meat and drink with a salad to share. **The site Numbers are 78 and 79.**

Survivors and Carers Morning Tea:	Saturday March 19 at 10.30am at the KD Stewart Centre, Deakin University.
Survivors and Carers Walk:	Saturday March 19 at 12noon
Candlelight Ceremony:	Saturday March 19 at 9pm

ASSISTANCE NEEDED for set up of tents at the Fr Mick's Mates site. Set up is at 10am Saturday 19th. If you can assist please contact David Lunn on 0408 378 982.

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The only reason we deny ourselves anything or commit ourselves to actions of service for these 40 days is to grow more deeply in love with the God who loves us into life. Penance is not meant to attack our self-esteem, it's intended to help us sort out what really matters, to cast some light in the darkness of our lives and to focus on the relationship which gives meaning and purpose for this world and the next.

The God of Mount Tabor is not interested in each us feeling isolated as we fulfil the letter of a legal code. He wants all of us to have hearts that listen to the Gospel of love so that we can gain the power to transform the world through the sacrifices of our daily lives.

On a much gentler scale, Sunday Mass is meant to be a weekly mountaintop experience for us where we hear God call us by name and confess his love for us; where we feel re-energised for the commission we have to bear his light to the world. In this context anything we can do this Lent that helps remove the blocks in our full response to his love, must be worth effort.