



Pastoral Cluster

Incorporating the Parishes of Holy Family Bell Park, Ss Peter & Paul's Geelong West & Holy Spirit Manifold Hts.

PARISH PRIESTS:

Fr Gerard Keith (email: gerard.keith@cam.org.au)
Fr Mick Fitzpatrick

Web Page Address:

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OFFICE:

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OFFICE HOURS:

Mon-Wed 9am-4.30pm (Closed 1-2pm for lunch), Thurs 9-12noon, Fri 9.30am-2.30pm

OFFICE MANAGER:

Trish Stickland -

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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

A man was driving along the road when he saw the Easter Bunny hop into his lane. He swerved to avoid hitting the bunny, but couldn't do so. The basket of eggs went everywhere. The driver felt guilty and began to cry. A woman saw the man and pulled over. 'What's wrong?' she asked. 'I accidentally killed the Easter Bunny', he explained. The woman knew exactly what to do. She went to her car, pulled out a spray can, walked over to the bunny, and sprayed the entire contents over the little furry animal. Miraculously the Easter Bunny came back to life, jumped up, picked up his eggs, waved at them and hopped on down the road. Not far away the Easter Bunny stopped, turned around and waved again. He kept doing this for as far as they could see.

The man was astonished. 'What in heaven's name is in that can you sprayed on the Easter Bunny?' The woman showed the man the label. It said: 'Hair spray. Restores life to dead hair. Adds permanent wave.'

For many of our children the bunny and its eggs are the most important thing about Easter. Over the millennia, Christianity has had a gift for domesticating local traditions and festivals, bringing them on board and making them our own. The name Easter comes from the Anglo Saxon spring festival in honour of the goddess Eostre. Her symbol was the rabbit and the giving of eggs were signs of new life bursting forth as winter withdrew. These associations only make sense in the northern hemisphere, but we can see why the early Christians could be so adaptable and inculcated with this local festival.

In both hemispheres Christians today celebrate Jesus being raised from the dead. In the New Testament there are two traditions about how the disciples come to know about Jesus' resurrection: the empty tomb and the apparitions of Christ.

Today's Gospel belongs to the empty tomb tradition. On Magdalene's urging, Peter and John run to the tomb, find it empty and come to at least an initial belief about the resurrection of Jesus. (Cont'd P4)



*Wishing you all a happy, safe
and blessed Easter!*



- Easter Sunday -

(Year B- April 8, 2012.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

I am risen, and I am with you still, alleluia.
You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia.
Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

This is the day the Lord has made;
Let us rejoice and be glad.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
Let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

1st Reading: Acts 4:32-35
2nd Reading: 1Jn 5:1-6
Gospel: Jn 20:19-31



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:

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.

MASS AT 'WING AND A PRAYER': Mass is held Mon-Fri 1.05pm in Malop St (next door to Darrel Lea). All welcome!

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS: Fr Tony Redden, John Rosso, Jean Fisher

ANNIVERSARIES: Anthony Siketa, Maria-Grazia Leone, Elizabeth Jovic, Lorenz & Katharina Hoffmann, William & Gertrude Paul, Gennaro Bove, Rosa, Antonietta, Salvatore Valentino, Alojz Akmacic, Raymond Lyons

BAPTISMS: Olivia Lakey, Cheyenne Milos, Marach, Anok, Asta, Adhel & Abouch Marach (HF), Ruby, Hudson & Millicent Casey (HS), Rhys, Angus & Callum McWaters (P&P)

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Margaret Dunn, Heidi Maguire, Ljerka Lehpamer, Dympna Murray, John Consedine, Florence Williams, Pasha Alden, Joseph Escorse, Gillian Henry, Yvonne Seales, Margaret Donaghy, Rita Duggan-McDonald

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, APRIL 15, 2012.

(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

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

6.00PM

Sr J McGonigal

J McKenzie

G Wright, E Cotter, D Kosmetschke

V Logan

B Stocks

11.00AM

J McCarthy

G Brown, M Kroger

V Trinder, L Fossey

I Cleary, L Coles, V Trinder

D Brown

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

5.00PM

D Maddalena

K Maddalena

K Maddalena, B Ditung,

RECURRING ACTIVITIES IN THE CLUSTER:

- . **Holy Family Luncheon -** Third Sunday of each month at the Community Centre from 12noon. BYO food and 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)
- . **Playgroup -** Holy Spirit School - Monday 9.30am-11.30am. 0-3 years Indoor/outdoor play. Ph 5229 8298
- . **Manifold CWL -** Holy Spirit Hall, First Wednesday 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:

LITURGY IN THE PASTORAL CLUSTER

RCIA:

Easter celebrates our life in the Risen Christ. One of the great joys of Easter is to welcome new life into the Church through the Baptism of adults and the reception into the Church of adults who have been baptised in other Christian Churches.

At the Easter Vigil, **Lisa Jones, Scott McLean and Lisa Sells** will be baptised, confirmed and receive the Eucharist. **Janice Cumming, Marguerite Giles, Rachel McLean, Jenny Stubley and Jessica Wallace** will be received into the Church through a Profession of Faith and the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.

The children of **Lisa Jones, Scott and Rachel McLean and Janice Cumming**, will also be baptised.

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL INVOLVED!

PROJECT COMPASSION:

Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia! Celebrate that your generosity to Project Compassion continues aid and development work reflective of the life of Jesus Christ, and shaped by the tradition of Catholic Social Teaching principles, in over 35 countries around the world. You have offered new life to your brothers and sisters struggling with poverty and injustice.

Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2012 appeal.



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY:

April 15 - Divine Mercy Sunday Mass celebrated by Bishop Vincent Long OFMConv. At Holy Spirit Church at 1.30pm followed by Rosary and Divine Mercy Prayers, concluding with Benediction. In preparation for the Mass there will be Confessions on Saturday after the 9am Mass at Holy Spirit Church.

- Apr 22...** **CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD** - 11am Mass at Ss Peter & Paul's
- Apr 29...** **CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD** - 9.30am Mass at Holy Family and 11am Mass at Holy Spirit
- May 6...** **CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD** - 9.30am Mass at Holy Family and 11am Mass at Holy Spirit
- June 17...** **CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD** - 9.30am Mass at Holy Family and 11am Mass at Holy Spirit
- June 24...** **CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD** - 11am Mass at Ss Peter & Paul's

ST PATRICK'S IRISH FOLK FESTIVAL 2012: The weather was great, the crowd was huge and the Festival this year was absolutely fantastic! St Patrick's Primary School is very fortunate to have such a wonderful parent community that all work together to help improve our school while having a lot of fun at the same time! There was a 97% volunteer rate from school parents offering to help set up, run and pack up the Festival this year - which is absolutely amazing. It is also a time when friendships between families, the staff and the general school community spirit really blooms. The rides continue to be one of the main attractions of the day and kids keep going back for their 15th or 16th turn on the very popular *Cyclone* ride. The Art Show, with the theme of *Things with Wings*, displayed the creative work of our students and encouraged their artistic minds. The day held something for everyone, including the Leprechaun Drop, Irish Dancing, books, clothes, face painting and delicious food and drinks on offer. We even launched our very own St Pat's cookbook that proved to be a huge success. (*Virginia Mansfield, Irish Folk Festival Co-Ordinator 2012*)

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS: The Easter edition 2012 of Australian Catholics is available for free at all of our Churches. This magazine is informative and accessible with its focus on faith and living for contemporary Catholics. This edition the focus is on our vocation to God; articles include Finding your True Calling, What is it that Touches your Heart? Religious Life Today, Discovering your Charism. You may wish to forward a copy of this to your own children/grandchildren who might find some of the articles helpful.

Cluster News:

PLEASE NOTE:

- ♦ The Pastoral Cluster Office will only be open on an ad hoc basis from Easter Monday April 9 until Thursday April 12. If no one is in attendance, please leave a message on the answering machine.
- ♦ There will be **NO** Monday Mass at Vincentian Village, and there will be **NO** Tuesday morning Mass at Holy Family Bell Park. The Wednesday and Thursday morning Masses will be as normal.
- ♦ There will be **NO** luncheon at Ss Peter & Paul's Hall on Easter Sunday, it has been changed to **April 22**.

Community News:

Apr 11... KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS: Monthly meeting 7.30pm, Clairvaux Meeting Rooms, Belmont. Members please attend and bring a plate.

Apr 20... SPECIAL FUNDRAISER MOVIE FOR KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS - To support their School Bursary Programme and ongoing charity work, 7pm at St Mary's Plaza Theatre "Burke and Wills". Entry \$10, supper incl. Limited seating, bookings essential! Information ph Geoff Johnston on 5244 1812.

May 3... CHARITY GOLF DAY: Run by the Southern Cross Golf Club with all proceeds to SVDP. Shotgun start 12noon at Torquay Golf Club VGA VLGA. Ph Ray Chapman 5243 3305.

May 4... DEMENTIA AWARENESS for home and community care and aged care volunteers - All volunteers working within Home & Community Care programs are encouraged to attend the McKellar Centre, 9.30am-12.30pm. Light refreshments, no charge, facilitator - Alzheimers Australia: Wendy Henderson. RSVP 20 April 12.

May 14... DEMENTIA AWARENESS for home and community care and aged care volunteers - All volunteers working within Home & Community Care programs are encouraged to attend the McKellar Centre, 1-4pm. Light refreshments, no charge, facilitator - Alzheimers Australia: Wendy Henderson. RSVP 30 April 12.



Papscreen Peace of Mind Campaign:
Most women who are diagnosed with cervical cancer have not had regular Pap tests. If you are a woman aged 18-70 book your papscreen today.
www.papscreen.org.au

GEELONG CATHOLIC DEANERY:

- ♦ Deanery Dinner Thursday April 19 at 6.30pm at Drumoland House, 258 Pakington St Geelong West. Guest speaker will be Bishop Vincent Long and his talk will be his memorable address last year for the honoured "Rerum Novarum" lecture. For bookings please contact the Deanery Executive Officer Catherine Moon 5222 1977, 0409 007 913 or deanexec@pipeline.com.au or cmoon2@bigpond.com. Proceeds to support Samaritan House, Geelong's new crisis accommodation for the homeless.

- ♦ **MUSICIANS AND SINGERS WANTED FOR REGULAR DEANERY MASS:** The 5.30pm Sunday Mass at St Mary's is well attended by younger people. Music from younger people would add considerably to both the power and atmosphere of the Mass. Do we have musicians and singers who can help provide music - not every Sunday, unless they want to, but from time to time? Further information from Fr Kevin Dillon - frkd@stmarysgeelong.com.au

OPEN DAYS FOR CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOLS:

St Ignatius College:

See the College at Work - Wed May 2, 9am-12noon

Ph 5251 1136, email info@ignatius.vic.edu.au

Web: www.ignatius.vic.edu.au

St Joseph's College:

Friday April 20, 9am-12noon Student Guided Tours,

4pm-6.30pm Staff Guided Tours

Ph 5226 8100, email sjcoffice@sjc.vic.edu.au

Web: sjc.vic.edu.au

(/Cont'd from P1)

We do not believe that God simply revived Jesus' corpse in the tomb, as our driver resuscitated the bunny in today's story. Easter Sunday does not celebrate the resuscitation of Jesus, but his Resurrection. We know his 'glorified body' was not the same as his human body because Jesus' presence could be encountered in several places simultaneously and he is reported to walk through walls and to vanish. The link between both resurrection traditions is the importance of Jesus' death. In the empty tomb accounts, as in today's gospel, the writers give us extraordinary details about the grave clothes. In the apparition narratives there are usually references to Jesus' wounds.

Whatever way they came to experience the Resurrection of Christ, the disciples knew that this was Jesus who actually died and was buried and that their personal encounter was with the one who was crucified.

What God did through the death and resurrection of Jesus is what Christians have done with local customs and festivals ever since: he entered into it, understood it, took it on board, domesticated it and vanquished its power. As a result we believe that God empathises with the full limitations of our human mortality and promises to remain faithful to us in death as he remained utterly faithful to Jesus.

That is why on this day 1,600 years ago St John Chrysostom could say on behalf of us all:

'Hell took a body, and discovered God. It took earth, and encountered Heaven. It took what it saw, and was overcome by what it could not see. O death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory? Christ is Risen, and you, O death, are destroyed! Christ is Risen, and evil is cast down! Christ is Risen, and angels rejoice! Christ is Risen, and new life is set free! Christ is Risen, and the tomb is emptied of its dead; for Christ having risen from the dead, becomes the first-fruit of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be Glory and Power forever and ever. Amen!'