



Pastoral Cluster

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

PARISH PRIESTS:

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Fr Mick Fitzpatrick

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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:

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SCHOOL PRINCIPALS:

Holy Family -

Brian Everett

Separation St, Bell Park

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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

Sometimes a piece of theatre can be so powerful it stays with you for your whole life. Many years ago I saw Jesuit dramatist Michael Moynahan perform his mime entitled 'Come-Passion'. It starts with a clown happily doing tricks and juggling for the audience. Soon, Jesus is led in by the soldiers and is crucified. The clown watches on in horror. When Jesus dies and the soldiers go home the clown remains at the foot of the cross. He removes the nails from the hands and feet of Jesus and cradles the corpse in his lap, as in Michelangelo's Pieta. He weeps for the evil that saw a just man crucified. Just then, the soldiers return and find the clown grieving over the body of Jesus. They crucify the clown. The clown suffers and dies on the cross. As they leave Jesus is raised to life, he sees the suffering clown, removes the nails, cradles him in his arms and holds him for what feels like an eternity.

When I saw this mime you could have heard a pin drop, and there wasn't a dry eye in the house.

The word compassion comes from the Latin word *compati* meaning to bear or suffer with. It's not pity, sympathy or commiseration. Those words imply that we stand outside an experience and feelingly look in on it. Compassion is about 'fellow-feeling'. It's what the Good Shepherd embodies, and what Easter is all about. If we are worthy followers of Jesus we will all have our fair share of Good Fridays, but Easter Sunday tells us that just as the Father remained faithful to Jesus, so Jesus will remain faithful to us, as one with us.

In recent years the bishops, who are often called shepherds of the local Church, have come under extraordinary scrutiny. And rightly so. All of us who are living the Christian life are accountable for what we have done and have failed to do, and the bishops are no exception. It's a tough time to be the local shepherd. The flock is highly educated and we no longer follow anyone's lead with a herd mentality. We want to know our shepherd, hear his compassionate voice call for justice for victims everywhere, but especially ones who have been injured in any way by the Church. We want to be confident that what our local shepherd says and does is what Christ the Good Shepherd would say and do. Over these past years our sense of dismay has come from a very few bishops who have chosen the so-called good name of the church, its social status and power, their public profile and even the threat of moral and financial liability over the voices of the most vulnerable members of our flock. (Cont'd P4)

- 4th Sunday of Easter -

(Year B - April 29, 2012.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The stone rejected by the builders
Has become the cornerstone.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.
Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**5th Sunday of Easter**

1st Reading: Acts 9:26-31
2nd Reading: 1Jn 3:18-24
Gospel: Jn 15:1-8

**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)

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: Apr 30 - Iozzo family, 21 Manifold St;

May 7 - Kolotelo family, 23 Bostock Ave; May 14 - Spitale family, 4 Marathon 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: John O'Kane, Valeria Colla, Matilda (Tilly) Preece

ANNIVERSARIES: Leonardo Cassio (1 month), Angelo Negro, Kristina Strajhar, Margaret Bohan, Jozefa Pozar, Manuel Almeida, Tom Starcevic, Mary Murray, Franca Tucak, Antonio & Josephine Puglia, Mario Ruscito

BAPTISMS: Xavier Lecchino, Raphael Virgona, Claudia Visintin (HS), Charlie Spokes (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, Maria Coppelino, Andrew Stocks, Maria Modea

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 6, 2012.

(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

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

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

5.00PM

C O'Brien

D Woods

N Neeld, P McGlinchy

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:

www.pastoralclustergeelong.org

LITURGY IN THE PASTORAL CLUSTER

- ◆ **PLEASE NOTE:** There will be **NO** Monday Mass on April 30 at Vincentian Village.
- ◆ **CONGRATULATIONS:** To St Patrick's School for a wonderful whole-school Mass with the focus on Anzac Day.

- Apr 29...** **PRESENTATION OF COUNCILORS CHEQUES** for the upgrade of the Holy Family ramp. 8am and 9.30am at Holy Family Church.
- “ **CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD** - 9.30am Mass at Holy Family and 11am Mass at Holy Spirit
- May 4...** **CLASS MASS** - 11am at Holy Spirit for Grade 1/2
- “ **MASS AT THE MULTICULTURAL CENTRE** - 1.30pm
- May 6...** **CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD** - 9.30am Mass at Holy Family and 11am Mass at Holy Spirit
- “ We welcome to the **Order of St John of Jerusalem** Knights who will be present at the 9.30am Mass Holy Family. The Knights are an order which dates back to the 11th Century and is the oldest surviving international Christian Order of Chivalry. The motto of the order is: **“Pro Fide Pro Utilitate Hominum, For Faith For Service to Humanity.”**
- May 11...** **CLASS MASS** - 9.15am at St Patrick's in the Chapel
- “ **CLASS MASS** - 11am at Holy Spirit Church
- May 12/13...** **MOTHERS DAY MASSES** - The school children will be involved at 5pm Ss P&P, 6pm Holy Spirit and 9.30am Holy Family Masses. The focus of these Masses is to celebrate the important vocation of Motherhood.
- May 23...** **CLASS MASS** - 10.15am at St Patrick's in the Chapel
- May 24...** **WHOLE SCHOOL MASS** - 10am at Holy Spirit Church
- May 26/27...** **FEAST OF PENTECOST**
- May 30...** **CLASS MASS** - 10.15am at St Patrick's in the Chapel
- May 19/20/26...** **CONFIRMATION COMMITMENT MASS** for children from Holy Spirit
- May 20/27...** **CONFIRMATION COMMITMENT MASS** for children from Holy Family
- May 26/27...** **CONFIRMATION COMMITMENT MASS** for children from St Patrick's

HOLY FAMILY RAMP:

Just over 12 months ago we had the renovation of Holy Family Church. To complete the refurbishment we needed to undertake an upgrade of the ramp so that it could be more aesthetically pleasing and could provide good access for the elderly and those with disabilities. I'm delighted to announce that a new ramp will be erected. The drawings of the new ramp are on the noticeboard at Holy Family Church.

The payment of this new ramp will be made possible because of the generous support of **Councilors Srechko (Stretch) and Eddy Kontelj**, who together are allocating \$50,000 from their Council Ward funding. The Councilors have a discretion to allocate funds to a community organization that is making a valuable contribution to the wider community. Both Councilors, Eddy and Stretch, wanted to recognize Holy Family's contribution through this Ward funding. The wider City of Geelong councilors supported the proposal.

There will be a presentation of the cheques at the 8am and 9.30am Masses at Holy Family this Sunday.

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY: On Monday May 28th all three schools will be closed and the staff will come together with Fr Elio Capra and the Pastoral Cluster staff for a Faith Formation Inservice.

Cluster News:

PLEASE NOTE:

- ♦ **Fr Mick will be celebrating his 80th birthday in October.** Please put Sunday afternoon, October 7th, in your diary!
- ♦ **Catholic Women's League Health Awareness Committee** are holding a Brunch at RACV Club, Bourke St Melbourne from 11am to 1pm on **Tuesday May 8**. Cost \$45 and funds go to Ovarian Cancer. There will be a guest speaker. Coach will be running from Geelong at extra cost payable on day. For tickets and more details ph Jeanette Sheahan on 5278 2063 by April 23.

Holy Spirit:

- ♦ **MANIFOLD BRANCH OF CWL** next meeting will be on **Wed May 2**. This will be held at Moorabool Valley Chocolate by Design, 320 Ballarat Rd Batesford, 11am and stay on for lunch. We do require definite numbers attending. To book and if you require transport please ph Tricia Joyce 0431 512 354 or Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063. We also have suggested as it is close to Mothers Day that we come along with a memory or memento of our Mothers.

Community News:

- Apr 29...** **SPECIAL FUNDRAISING MOVIE FOR "THE MELANIE JEWSON FOUNDATION":** "The Way" will screen at the Village Cinema 1, 2.30pm to support the raising of funds to purchase specific medical equipment for the Port Vila Hospital in Vanuatu. Tickets \$20, please contact Debra Brown 0408 583 299.
- 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.
- " **ELVIS SPECIAL - 'ROUSTABOUT':** St Mary's Plaza Theatre, 7.30pm. All welcome!
- May 6...** **SISTERS OF THE HOLY ANGELS LUNCHEON:** 12noon in Holy Spirit Hall, Bostock Ave Manifold Hts, cost \$8.
- May 10...** **FREE TALKS ON MENTAL HEALTH:** Chris Mackey is offering free public lectures on mental health and wellbeing and the next meeting will be on **Positive Psychology** from individual to city-wide interventions. 7.30-8.45pm at Geelong West Town Hall, Supper Room.
- 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.
- June 15-17...** **TABOR JOURNEY PROGRAM:** For separated, divorced or widowed people coping with the loss, grief, heartache and struggle that follows the end of a marriage/relationship. Ph CatholicCare 5221 7055 or email geelong@ccam.org.au

GEELONG CATHOLIC DEANERY:

- ♦ **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

GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS' CLUB: Come join us for a 2-course meal, stimulating guest speakers and the opportunity to meet new friends, all for only \$28. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at Dromoland House on Pakington St. For more information and reservations, please phone Terry on 5221 7339.

SAMARITAN HOUSE VOLUNTEERS: Samaritan House Geelong is seeking two male volunteer supervisors for each night of operation, 7pm-8am. Volunteers will be rostered for max of one night per month. Also there is a need for daytime volunteers, male or female, for cleaning, gardening, food preparation etc. Please contact St Mary's Office on 5222 1977.

YEAR OF GRACE:

Beginning at Pentecost, the Catholic Church in Australia will enter into a **Year of Grace**, a time of retreat and renewal as we contemplate the face of Christ through prayer, reflecting on the scriptures and the liturgy. **On Thursday May 24 in the Pastoral Cluster Community Centre, Bell Park**, you are invited to learn more about the upcoming Year of Grace events and resources. Each evening session will run from **7.30-9pm** with fingerfood and refreshments provided. Don't miss this opportunity to hear how your parish can get involved in this exciting nationwide initiative.

(/Cont'd from P1)

Today's Gospel reminds us what Christian leadership should look like. Jesus didn't liken it to princes in palaces or governors of provinces. His metaphor was of a compassionate shepherd who sleeps in the field with his flock, one who knows them so well and loves them so dearly that he lays down his own life for them.

Let's pray at this Eucharist that we always have the leaders we deserve, ones whose compassion is so transparent that it inspires us to be the same, even towards them.