



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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LITURGICAL CO-ORDINATOR:

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Helen Brislane -

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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

AREN'T we lucky we don't take the Scriptures literally? If we did it would appear from today's Gospel that only multilingual, snake-wrangling, poison-drinking exorcists, with a gift for healing, would be seen as the genuine Christian article. That would leave most of us out in the cold.

This passage, however, is a dramatic addition to Mark's Gospel to show that even though Jesus is now at the right hand of God, he sends his disciples out to the whole world to carry on his ministry, and that he will protect us when trials come. And even though there have been tragic and shocking chapters in our 2,000 year history, it's good for us to remember what God has done in and through us as we have gone out and proclaimed the saving love of Christ. Today 33% of the world's population are, at least nominally, Christian, numbering 2.1 billion people, making us the largest religion in the world. Our Catholic family accounts for just over half this group. We have around 1.1 billion Catholic brothers and sisters worldwide. Many Christians continue to be persecuted or discriminated for their faith, and some continue to die for their love of Christ which impels them to seek justice for all.

But the feast of the Ascension is not just an opportunity for us to look back on how we have tried to fulfil the command of the Lord to go out to the world. Indeed, this feast is primarily focused on where we are going from here on in. The Ascension promises us that just as the Father raised Jesus from the dead, so too the Father, Son and Spirit will welcome us into heaven as well, to be at Christ's right hand for eternity. This parable demonstrates the point.

In 1939 a father and son were famous art collectors. When World War II broke out, the son volunteered. In 1944 the son died in battle while rescuing another soldier. A year later, a young man came to see the father. 'Sir, you don't know me but I was with your son when he died. I want you to know he didn't suffer.' 'I know you both loved art, and though this isn't much, I want you to have it.' He gave the father a package. Inside was a portrait of the son. It was rough work, but the father welled up with tears. 'It was the least I could do for your son because he saved my life.' A few months later, the father died. At the art auction which followed, investors gathered from around the world.

The first item up for bid was the portrait of the son. (Cont'd P4)

- The Ascension of the Lord -

(Year B- May 20, 2012.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?
This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven
will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy;
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my Gospel.
I am with you always,
Until the end of the world. **Alleluia!**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Pentecost Sunday

1st Reading: Gen 11:1-9
2nd Reading: Rom 8:22-27
Gospel: Jn 7:37-39



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: **May 21** - Wright family, 42 Logan St; **May 28** - Stocks family, 2 Orr St; **June 4** - McMahon family, 301 Church St. If anyone would like to have our Lady's Statue or if you could spare an hour a month to help Tina Montalto 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: Shirley Sexton, John Exton, Marjorie Hill

ANNIVERSARIES: Marianna Macarol, John Kennedy, Peter Bordonaro, Giustino Cavallo, Francesco & Annunziata Guarnaccia, Luke Walsh (1st Anniversary)

BAPTISMS: Savannah Serra, Lucas Westerland (HF), Ruby Kunovic, Liam Lambert, Nathan Posterino, Jacob & Liam Waring (HS)

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 Modica

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 27, 2012.

(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 McMahon, C Simpson, V Resciniti

E Glynn

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

6.00PM

M Lacy

P Dickson

C McShanag, G Harrison, E Cotter

M Brown

T McShanag

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

Lectors

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 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

- May 23...** CLASS MASS - 10.15am at St Patrick's in the Chapel
- May 24...** WHOLE SCHOOL MASS - 10am at Holy Spirit School
- May 26/27...** FEAST OF PENTECOST
- May 30...** CLASS MASS - 10.15am at St Patrick's in the Chapel
- May 31...** CLASS MASS - 9.15am at Holy Family Church
- June 2/3...** FEAST OF THE HOLY TRINITY
- June 9/10...** FEAST OF THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

We welcome the children from Holy Family and Holy Spirit Schools who will be making their Confirmation Commitment this weekend:

- 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
- June 2/3...** EUCHARIST COMMITMENT MASSES - 5pm Ss P&P, 6pm & 11am Holy Spirit, 9.30am Holy Family

NEEDED URGENTLY: The parishes rely on volunteers to help make our liturgies more meaningful and run smoothly. At Ss Peter & Paul's and Holy Spirit we need people to be part of Commentator/Reader Rosters and to assist with the projectionist work at all Masses. We are particularly looking for those in the 20-50 year old group as many of our older parishioners have been involved for many years. Neither task is beyond most. If you can use a computer, even at the basic level, you can handle the requirements of projectionist - it is not difficult. If you can assist please contact Frank at the office on 5278 1343.

5.30PM MASS AT ST MARY'S BASILICA: If anyone is a regular attendee of this Mass and would like to be a Reader or Special Minister of the Eucharist, please contact Sr Anne Lourey on 5222 1977.

THANKSGIVING: On the Sunday of May 6th, the Geelong members of the Order of St John of Jerusalem (an ecumenical group of civic and religious leaders) attended the 9.30am Mass at Holy Family. At the luncheon afterwards I was pleasantly surprised by the many, unsolicited and genuine affirmations by the members of the Order about their experience of the Holy Family Mass and its community. (I'm sure the members of the Order would have been likewise complimentary had they attended a Holy Spirit or Ss Peter & Paul's Mass.)

Sometimes it takes an "outsider" to help the "insider" recognize the good things that they have. Indeed at the Pastoral Cluster we are blessed in many ways with our community, staff, Churches, facilities, activities, and so on. These blessings just don't occur but, rather happen because of the generous sharing of time, talent and treasures by the Pastoral Cluster's Priests, staff and parishioners.

As we draw to the end of the financial year and in the aftermath of the Federal Budget, I draw your attention to the fact that for the last six months the amount given has fallen \$19,000 below the amount pledged. I know there can be many reasons for this, some of which are beyond a person's control, but I do urge contributors to continue to support the Thanksgiving Program because it is your way of enabling the Pastoral Cluster to continue to be the faith-filled, sacramental and pastoral contributor to the local community that is clearly obvious to others.

In light of the above, I am still much appreciative of the generosity of so many over so many years. (*Fr Gerard*)

- ♦ **THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES: Last day to pick up Thanksgiving Envelopes!** Thankyou to all who contribute regularly to support our parish. For those who give weekly and monthly the next set of envelopes is ready to collect today. Letters are laid out in street order, regardless of suburb. There are 88 people currently giving by credit card or direct debit. This steady income, like the envelope contributions, is vital for the running of the parish. If you would like to give using either means, please take a pink form from the back of the Church or contact Helen at the Parish Office. Thankyou.

Cluster News:

PLEASE NOTE:

- ◆ **SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY:** On Monday May 28th all three schools with the Pastoral Cluster staff will gather for a Faith Formation Inservice with Fr Elio Capra. **The Pastoral Cluster Office will be closed on that day and there will be no Monday Mass at Vincentian Village.**
- ◆ **FR MICK WILL BE CELEBRATING HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY IN OCTOBER:** Please put Sunday afternoon, October 7th, in your diary!
- ◆ **ENROLMENTS FOR EUCHARIST PROGRAM** For Catholic children attending non-Catholic schools: Enrolments close on **Wednesday 23rd May** and the program begins on **Sunday 3rd June**. For enquiries or enrolment forms contact Frank Kearney at the Cluster Office on 5278 1343 on Mon-Wed 9-5pm or on Wed 23rd May from 7-8pm at the Cluster Office, 147 Separation St Bell Park.
- ◆ **ENROLMENTS FOR THREE CLUSTER SCHOOLS:** Enrolments for 2013 close on June 1. If you wish to find out more about the enrolment process please call the school office at Holy Family 5278 4634, Holy Spirit 5229 8298 or St Patrick's 5229 4412.
- ◆ **FESTA DI SANT' ANTONIO:** Domenica 17 Giugno 2012 nella chiesa di St Patrick in Geelong West - alle ore 9.30am, sara' celebrate la festa in onore di Sant' Antonio. S. Messa solenne celebrate da Mons James Murray. Dopo la Santa Messa ci sara' la processione all' aperto nel cortile della scuola. E distribuzione dei Panini. Tutti siete benvenuti.
- ◆ **HOLY FAMILY MOTHERS' DAY RAFFLE WINNERS:** 1st - A Haines, 2nd N Juraga, 3rd G Dougall

...Congratulations...

Congratulations to Fr Gerry Spillane, former Parish Priest of Holy Family Bell Park, who this weekend celebrates his 40th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood

FR GERARD 10 NOT OUT

We celebrate that for ten years Fr Gerard has been Parish Priest of each of the three parishes that form the Cluster.

We congratulate him on a difficult job well done. He has guided us wisely and gently as we have learned as we have gone along in the forming of the Cluster to be harmonious as it is.

We rejoice in his many gifts as a man and a Priest. He is very intelligent, prayerful, kind, compassionate, friendly, humble, etc.

We pray that he may continue to be our Parish Priest for many more years.

- Fr Mick

Community News:

- May 23...** **ST MARY'S SOCIAL CLUB:** An excursion to Midlands Golf Club - golf travel with morning tea at Ballarat Sports Club, 3-course meal and live entertainment. \$46/head. Phone Margaret McTernan to book 0402 080 625. Leaving Skilled Stadium at 9.30am (free parking at Skilled Stadium).
- May 24...** **YEAR OF GRACE:** A meeting to learn about the upcoming Year of Grace events and resources, to be held in the Pastoral Cluster Community Centre, 7.30-9pm with fingerfood and refreshments provided.
- May 31/June 1/2...** **PARADE - THE MUSICAL:** Presented by St Joseph's College Geelong. 71 talented students from St Joseph's will present the story of Leo Frank - an true, moving and inspiring story. Tickets available through SJC Office, 5226 8100 or @ www.sjc.vic.edu.au
- 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

CHAPLAINCY APPEAL: This weekend there will be a 2nd Collection. The intention of this Appeal is to raise funds to support the range of Chaplaincies in our Hospitals, prisons, HIV/Aids ministry, etc. Please note that some of the funds will be directed to provide more resources for pastoral care in the Geelong hospitals.

(/Cont'd from P1)

The auctioneer tried to start the bidding, '\$200 ...\$100 ...Any bids? Any at all?' The investors called out, 'Skip this one. Where are the Rembrandts?' Just then a man spoke up from the back. 'I'll give you ten dollars for the painting. It's all the money I have.' It was the gardener at the father's estate. So the auctioneer brought down his gavel. 'Sold for ten dollars!' An investor called back, 'Can we now get on with it?'

But the auctioneer continued, 'The auction is over. According to the will, whoever bought this painting would inherit the estate, including all the art.'

No matter what they said the wealthy investors couldn't buy their way into the inheritance. Only the one who had the eyes of love, and knew what he was looking at, inherited everything the Father and Son had to offer.

May we go out from this Feast of the Ascension so confident of our spiritual inheritance to come, that we lavish its riches on all we meet right now. Because when it comes to Christ's kingdom, there's plenty for everyone.