



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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OFFICE HOURS:

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

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St Patrick's -

Basil Flynn

Petrel St, Geelong West

Phone 5229 4412

Reflection... by Richard Leonard SJ

Recently I was invited to a relative's home for dinner. This family has been having more than a little trouble with their 13-year-old daughter, who is going through a particularly defiant and rebellious stage. The young girl was not happy with the vegetables her mother served at dinner and so she refused to eat them. The uneaten vegetables became the staging ground for an adolescent conflict. Trying to coax the girl into eating, her mother calmly used some lines I'd heard before. 'Wasting food is a sin' and 'There are starving people in the world who would be grateful for what you don't want'. With that the girl jumped up and left the dining room. A few minutes later she returned with an oversized envelope and a marker pen. She began to stuff the food into the envelope and as she did she angrily asked, 'What starving people do you want

me to send these vegetables to?' Who said being a parent was easy? Celibacy had never looked better!

In today's Gospel, after the 5,000 have been fed, Jesus says, 'Gather the pieces together that are left over. Let nothing be wasted'. Some of us have never truly been hungry, so it can be hard to fully appreciate how wasteful our developed world must appear to those who watch their families die of starvation. People who lived through the Depression or have lived through wars often carry the scars of being hungry. To this day some of them are on guard against waste. Others try to numb the memory of want by overindulging. For most of us in the developed world, especially 13-year-old middle-class kids, hunger has only ever been fleeting, and we are presently eating

ourselves into obesity.

Some people would prefer to think of the story of the feeding of the five thousand exclusively in spiritual terms. There is no question that today's Gospel refers to the Eucharist where all are spiritually nourished by Christ our host. It also refers to the eternal banquet where hunger will be no more. But this Gospel asks us to look at our world through the eyes of Christ's kingdom where the mighty will be cast down from their thrones, the poor will be raised up, and the rich who will not share will be sent away.

There is such a thing as healthy guilt. It's where we become aware of what we have done or failed to do to bring about Christ's Kingdom in our world.

/Cont'd P4

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Year B- July 29, 2012.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The hand of the Lord feeds us;
He answers all our needs.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us;
God has visited his people.

Alleluia!

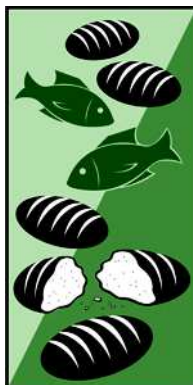
NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Ex 16:2-4,12-15

2nd Reading: Eph 4:17,20-24

Gospel: Jn 6:24-35



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 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: Ivan MacDonald

ANNIVERSARIES: Cosimo Mileto, Diana & James Horoba, Anna Rezelj, Raffaele Gulli, Tonino Gulli, Joseph Hagebols, Ludvik & Jozefa Pockaj, Joy Scaddan, Aloes Iskra

BAPTISMS: Avery & Peyton Howard, Chloe, Oliver & Reuben Long (HS)

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Heidi Maguire, John Consedine, Gillian Henry, Yvonne Seales, Margaret Donaghy, Rita Duggan-McDonald, Maria Coppolino, Maria Modica, Margaret Straughan, Pat Baum, Ken Gallagher, Theo DaCosta, Bernie Dalton

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 5, 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:

- July 29...** First Communion of Parish Group - 9.30am Holy Family and 11am Holy Spirit
Aug 8... St Mary MacKillop of the Cross
Aug 15... Feast of the Assumption - Masses 9.15am Holy Family & Holy Spirit, 12noon St Patricks and 6pm Ss P&P

FIRST COMMUNION:

Over the coming weeks there will be several celebrations of First Communion in each parish. Small groups of about 12 will be present at these Parish Masses throughout the rest of July and August.

The Masses that will have these celebrations are:

- Holy Family...** 9.30am Mass on July 29 and Aug 5,12,19&26.
Holy Spirit... 11am Mass on July 29 and Aug 5,19 and 6pm Mass Aug 4,18.
Ss P&P... 5pm Mass Aug 11,25 and 11am Mass Aug 12&26.

Please keep these children and their families in your prayers over the coming weeks.



RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):

We have started with a new group of 11 adults last Wednesday, 25th July, at 7.30pm at the Community Centre, Bell Park.

The first phase of the RCIA is the time of Enquiry. In this period the focus is upon the enquirers' questions and concerns. In response, the Church opens up these questions - questions about the Church, and the life questions that lie behind these questions - to allow the enquirers to discern God's call to salvation as a personal call to each of them.

Some of our enquirers are already baptized in other Christian churches and others are not baptized. Please keep them in your prayers, for faith is a gift of God, and please welcome them if ever introduced to them, as they need to belong to the faith community.

WE ARE A EUCHARISTIC PEOPLE:

This week's Gospel is about the Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes. This story is told more often than any other story in the Gospels. Mark records two instances (6:30-34 and 8:1-10), so does Matthew (14:13-21 and 15:32-39) Luke (9:10-18) and John (6:1-13) mention it once each. Sometimes this story is known as the *miracle of the loaves and fishes*. Almost certainly it occurred on more than one occasion. But that it should be stressed so much in the Gospels means it is quite significant. Many Catholics think of the story as the *multiplication* of the loaves and fishes. However in the texts there is no mention of 'multiplication'. It is more to do with *distribution*. These accounts stress that even when there is only a little on offer, usually there is still enough to go around and then some. The feeding of the multitude presents humanity with a new vision. It is a vision that challenges the many disparities found in today's world. Little wonder the evangelists stressed *distribution* as the issue! *Distribution* challenged their world just as it challenges ours. The actions of Jesus beckon humanity to a new way of being human, one where there is sufficient for everyone. The risen Christ is even now gathering all the fragments of broken lives into baskets of plenty. And today's Gospel proposes that by working for distributive justice, Christians can be a *real presence* in the world. And that indeed is *Eucharist*. (Fr Edmond Nixon CSSR, reprinted in this week's Kairos.)

THANKYOU to the community for the way that you have been the *real presence* through your generous support of Caritas Australia. This year we raised \$4,450 and for Catholic Missions \$2,240.

Also, the recent trip by representatives of the school and parish communities was a great success! It was an opportunity to see many good people, indeed saintly people, living out the ideal which Fr Edmund writes about through support, care and education of street families, the provision of health care, employment and accommodation. We also had the opportunity to see first-hand a Columban project that is committed to a sustainable living, which treats justly the environment. My hope is that we can reinvigorate and deepen our commitment to the partnership with the Columbans and Sr Kate O'Neill of the Kuya Centre. I look forward to hearing about your ideas and ways that you can be supportive of the Partnership. (- Fr Gerard)

Cluster News:

- ♦ **FR MICK'S MATES COMMITTEE MEETING:** Wednesday August 1st, 4pm at the Cluster Office.
- ♦ **GET TOGETHER:** After catching up briefly with so many of the Holy Family mothers from the 70s and 80s at the recent funeral of Ljerka Lehpamer, Lynn Meek and Vicki Smith thought it would be nice to try and organise a get-together. What if we meet at Lynne's Moorabool Valley Chocolate Tea Rooms at Ballarat Rd Batesford on **Thurs 23 August** at 10am for Morning Tea. Lynne's coffee is the best and she always has lots of cakes and slices at reasonable prices. So spread the word and RSVP to Vicki Smith 5243 4948 or vjsmith48@gmail.com
- ♦ **MONTHLY MEETING OF MANIFOLD BRANCH OF CWL** will be held in the Parish Hall 1.30pm on **Wed 1st August**. New members most welcome. Transport/information ph Jeanette Sheahan on 5278 2063.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - *Thoughts on Giving:*

"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; But what good are these for so many?" (John 6:9)
The miracle of the Loaves and Fishes is the only one of Our Lord's miracles which is recorded six times in the Gospel. It carries two important messages. First, no matter how little we have, we always have enough to share. Second, Christ can take our humble gifts and do great things with them if we are just willing to let him.

A VOCATION VIEW:

Today we are reminded by St Paul that there is one body, one Lord, one faith, one baptism. The challenge before us is to "bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience." That is an essential part of our vocation: to lead a life worthy of these attributes.

Community News:

- Aug 2...** **VOCATIONS EXPO:** All you need to know about the life you are being called to - 7.30-9.30pm at the Cardinal Knox Centre (enter from St Patrick's Cathedral carpark).
- Aug 10-12...** **MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND:** Information/bookings ph 9733 0997 or email vicbookings@wwme.org.au
- Aug 11...** **RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) REGIONAL SEMINAR:** St Bede's Church, 1 Severn St Balwyn North, 9am-3.30pm.
- Aug 15-19...** **GRACE FEST:** Beginning on the Feast of the Assumption you are invited to contemplate the face of Christ and explore the meaning of 'grace' in prayer, the arts, music, social justice and popular culture. For full details and more information visit cam.org.au/evangelisation
- Aug 17...** **LETS TALK JUSTICE:** Free forum on Family Violence and Violence against Women and their Children - 7-9pm at Wesley Church Hall, 100 Yarra St. Light supper provided. Hosted by SVDP Society.
- Aug 25...** **GEELONG IRISH SOCIETY PRESENTS - MONGOLIAN FISHMONGER:** 7.30pm at Bell Park Sports Club, Midland Hwy Batesford. Details/bookings ph Julie on 0417 365 614. Members \$25, non-members \$30.
- Oct 12-14...** **MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND:** Information/bookings ph 9733 0997 or email vicbookings@wwme.org.au

ANAM CARA HOUSE QUALITY FURNITURE AND HOMEWARES SALE:

Looking for quality furniture and homewares at sensible prices? Come to the Anam Cara House Quality Furniture and Homewares Sale at the former St Mary's Hall on **Saturday Aug 4 9am-3pm**. Items from numerous sellers available at either fixed "Buy it now" prices or by "Silent Auction". All items will be in very good condition, with 25% of receipts to be retained by Anam Cara House to continue its important work of "caring for carers", and for those suffering a life-threatening illness. A few spots are still available for potential sellers (eg downsizers, deceased estate sellers) with quality items (not 'bric-a-brac') for sale. Interested sellers ph Anam Cara House for full details on 5222 5831 or h.hunter@achg.org.au

CLERGY CONFERENCE 2012: *The Parable in the Year of Grace* - Monday-Thursday Aug 6-9

Both Frs Mick and Gerard will be attending this annual Clergy Conference. The theme is **The Parable in the Year of Grace**. It will continue the broad theme of past Clergy Conferences, in that we are asked by the Church to focus on ways to constantly transmit the Good News in our contemporary situation. The absence of Frs Mick and Gerard means there will be **NO morning Masses on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday**, however there will be a **Communion Service at Holy Spirit 9am**.

Given that it is entirely unnecessary for 29,000 people, on average, to die each day because of lack of food and water and the diseases this brings, guilt on our part seems a reasonable response. It becomes a healthy moment in our lives when we decide to change our priorities, and call for similar changes in a nation's priorities which spends more on bombs than starving babies.

I often wonder what God thinks when he hears wealthy nations say that the reason they refuse to share more with the poor is

because these poorer nations often have unelected despots who divert their country's wealth into Swiss bank accounts or nuclear and conventional weaponry programmes. Even in the face of these complex issues we could find a way to feed the hungry who might, one day, be empowered to take charge of their nations.

'What starving people do you want me to send these vegetables to?', the 13 year old asked. To which I wanted to reply, 'Put your own name on the envelope because

your own comfort makes you the neediest person in the world'.

May this Eucharist enable us to do on earth what is done in heaven, where the hungry are welcomed and fed, the leftovers are gathered together and nothing is wasted.

