



# 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](mailto:gerard.keith@cam.org.au))  
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:** Trish Stickland - Phone 5278 1343 (email: [trish.stickland@cam.org.au](mailto:trish.stickland@cam.org.au))

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**THANKSGIVING CO-ORD:** Helen Brislane - Phone 5278 1343 (email: [helen.brislane@cam.org.au](mailto:helen.brislane@cam.org.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

During World War II, Mary was one of hundreds of Australian women who fell in love with an American soldier. She married her Episcopalian Army Major at the side altar in a Catholic Church in 1945. He was dashing and handsome and by the time it came for him to return to Philadelphia in 1946, they were expecting their first child.

Upon arrival at her new home Mary found that her brave soldier was not as fearless as she thought. He was completely dominated by his aristocratic, wealthy mother who made it clear from the beginning that she opposed the marriage. Mary's life in the family home was a nightmare. The tensions boiled over when Brendan was born. Regardless of the promises his father had made in Australia to have their children baptised Catholics, the soldier waged no war against his mother who declared that if any grandchild of hers was baptised a 'papist' she would disinherit the three of them. The Major buckled under the maternal pressure and demanded that Brendan be baptised an Episcopalian. Mary was

devastated. She gathered her few possessions together, had her son baptised a Catholic and fled home.

In 1950, by now a divorcee, she met Maurice, a wonderful man who wanted to marry her and be a father to Brendan. When they went to see the local parish priest, he told them they could not be married in the Church and if they contracted a civil marriage they ran the risk of going to hell for eternity. They were tough days. Catholicism was one of the reasons Mary left the USA. In turn, the very Church she defended shut her out.

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks directly about marriage and divorce. In Jesus' day only a few women had rights before the law. These were wealthy women from the priestly families. They could divorce their husbands. The vast majority of women, however, were seen as possessions of their father, husband or son. A husband could draw up a divorce writ for any reason he wished and so force his wife out of their home into destitution or humiliate her by sending her back to

her own family. No wonder Jesus lays down the law so strongly about fidelity and commitment. His new interpretation of the Law of Moses defended women's rights to dignity and security.

Every Catholic parish today has parishioners who are divorced and remarried; no doubt some are here at this Mass. In the face of the negative messages you hear, I want you to know how much we admire your often heroic faith, how much God loves you and how grateful we are that you hang in here with us. The problem for the Church is that, on the one hand, we want to keep affirming the permanence of married love, and yet, on the other hand, we have an increasing number of Catholics who are divorcing. We are caught between the fine ideal Jesus teaches and the frail human condition we all carry in different ways. We have not got the balance right yet.

*/Cont'd P4*

## 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Year B - October 7, 2012.)

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

If we love one another,  
God will live in us in perfect love.  
**Alleluia!**

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

**28th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Wis 7:7-11  
2nd Reading: Heb 4:12-13  
Gospel: Mk 10:17-30



### 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)

Croatian... 11.30am (1,3,4,5th Sunday), 12.30pm (2nd Sunday) - Slovenian... 11.30am (2nd 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

## 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: Oct 8:** Baum family, 96 Heytesbury 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.

## AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

**RECENT DEATHS:** Hazel Stapleton, Wladyslaw (Wally) Wasic

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Stan Gdak, Margaret Donnellan, Albert Piccirilli, Anne & Harry Wallace, Ernest, Ellen & Greg Thompson, Marjorie & Irene Depsey, Margaret Donnellan, Mary Dacre, Les Casey, Iole DiCristoforo (1month), Sr M Magdalene, Michael, Vincent, John & Leo Green, Carmel Waugh, Hal Hancock, Francis, Mary Ellen & Leo Glynn, Margaret Mary Granbourne, Vlado Zanic, Antonio Palana Jnr, John Bohan

**BAPTISMS:** Henry Groves, Tomi Prusac (HS), Ruby Hase (P&P)

**PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Heidi Maguire, John Consedine, Gillian Henry, Yvonne Seales, Margaret Donaghy, Rita Duggan-McDonald, Maria Modica, Margaret Straughan, Pat Baum, Ken Gallagher, Theo DaCosta, Jela Perse, Andrew Stocks, Veronica Duffy, Winifred Atkinson

## **ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, OCT 14, 2012.**

(2nd Sunday of the Month)

### HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

### 8.00AM

R Allum

F O'Neill

I Vanjek, R Allum, J Genova

C Marcantonio, P Walsh

### 9.30AM

C Simpson

D Lunn, A Negro

H Verdnik, M Modica, E Glynn, M Baird, J Sheahan

V Resciniti, G Cracco

### HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

### 6.00PM

M Lacy

G Harrison

B Murphy, R O'Neill

M Brown, P Ryan

J Lynch

### Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

### 5.00PM

A Hubbard

P Power, P Hubbard

P&A Hubbard, P McGlinchy

R&K Maddalena

### 11.00AM

E Strzelecki

M Martin

L Strzelecki, A/L Fossey, M Sleeman

M&H Broekman, D Dougherty, L Fossey

T Martin

## 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.pastoralclusterqeelong.org](http://www.pastoralclusterqeelong.org)**

## **Liturgy in the Pastoral Cluster:**

- Oct 7... **Special 11am Mass at Ss Peter & Paul's to begin our celebration for 80th birthday of Fr Mick and Friends.**  
(There will still be normal 11am Mass at Holy Spirit.)
- Oct 13... **Confirmation St Patrick's/Parish Group - 5pm - NB: At Holy Family Church**
- Oct 21... **Confirmation Holy Family School 2pm, Holy Spirit/Parish Group 5pm - NB: Both at Holy Family Church**

### **BAPTISM PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN:**

This program is run by the Cluster and Corio parishes twice a year. The second program will be at St Francis Xavier Parish on the following dates. **For enrolment contact Anna at St Francis on 5275 4120.**

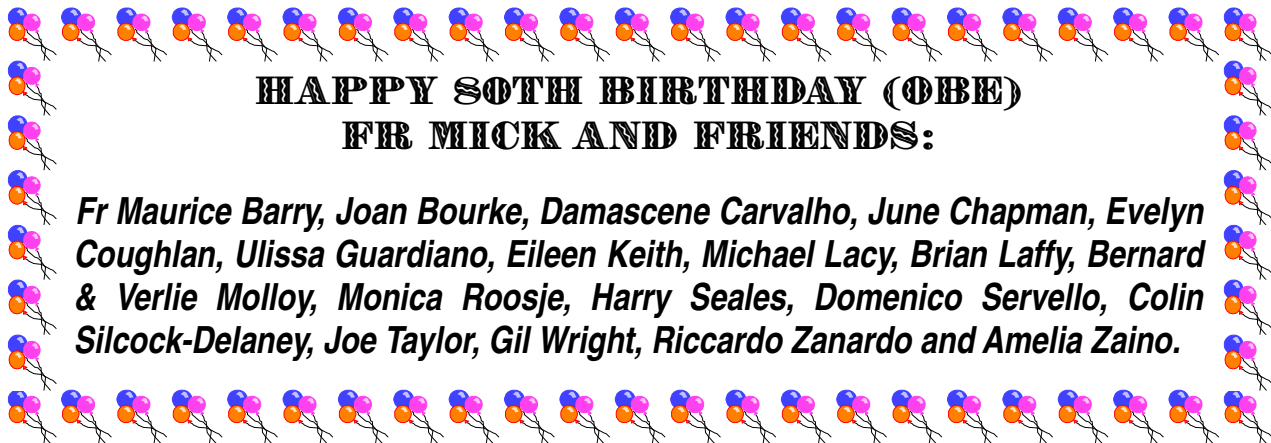
## **Cluster News:**

### **PARISH CELEBRATION - FR MICK AND FRIENDS TURNING 80:**

- Date... Sunday October 7th
- Mass Time... **The Celebration begins with a Mass at 11am at Ss Peter & Paul's Church. Please note, the normal 11am Mass at Holy Spirit will also be held that day.**
- Luncheon... 12noon at Ss Peter & Paul's Church Hall. As part of the celebration, Ron Sudden will present good old-time music.

**Fr Mick has indicated no PRESENTS but PRESENCE!**

There will be a collection at the 11am Ss Peter & Paul's Mass to assist with the defraying of costs, and any extra will go towards supporting the Columban Partnership.



**OPEN DAY AT Ss PETER & PAUL'S PRESBYTERY:** The "plan" is that on the weekend of Sat/Sun 27/28 at Ss Peter & Paul's Church there will be a small ceremony with representatives from the Catholic Super Fund (the tenants of the ground floor of the Presbytery). After each Mass the Presbytery will be open for everyone to see the newly renovated premises.

## Community News:

- Oct 10...** **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Monthly meeting 7.30pm at Clairvaux Meeting Rooms Belmont. Members please attend and bring a plate.
- Oct 11...** **SACRED HEART COLLEGE FASHION GALA EVENT:** Costa Centre for the Performing Arts, 7pm, Tickets \$30/ bookings essential. Contact College Reception for bookings and further enquiries ph 5221 4211
- “ **FREE TALKS ON MENTAL HEALTH:** 11am-12.15pm (note daytime talk) on Complex Trauma and Dissociation. Venue - Geelong West Town Hall Supper Room.
- “ **JOURNEY OF THE RELIC OF ST FRANCIS XAVIER TO THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE:** The program is - *St Francis Xavier Parish, 143 Bacchus Marsh Rd Corio - 7.30am Mass, 8.45am Rosary, 10am Liturgy of the Hours; St Mary's Geelong - 12.15-3pm Prayer and Veneration.* To learn more about the national journey please visit [pilgrimageofgrace.org.au](http://pilgrimageofgrace.org.au)
- Oct 13...** **PROTECTING THE UNBORN:** March for the Babies commencing 1pm from Treasury Gardens in Melbourne. The March is in response to the Abortion Law Reform Act passed in 2008 in Victoria, which makes abortion available for any reason up to birth. More information on [marchforthebabies.org.au](http://marchforthebabies.org.au)
- Oct 14...** **ANTI-POVERTY WEEK:** A workshop for *The Challenge of Poverty and St Vincent de Paul Society's Response* will be held at Vinnies Centre, 162 Fyans St 1.45 for 2pm start. RSVP 5229 0911 or email [geelong.centre@sudp-vic.org.au](mailto:geelong.centre@sudp-vic.org.au) The program will be a brief history of the Society; local challenges and responses; Vinnies Centre - an integral part of the support; the way forward. Refreshments to follow.
- Oct 12-14...** **MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND:** Information/bookings ph 9733 0997 or email [vicbookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:vicbookings@wwme.org.au)
- Oct 17...** **PLANNING FOR RETIREMENT SEMINAR:** Ashby House (Ss Peter & Paul's Presbytery) 1 Malone St Geelong, 4.30pm. Catholic Super invites you to attend a free Planning for Retirement Seminar. To Register go to [csf.com.au](http://csf.com.au) or ph 1300 655 002.
- Oct 18...** **ANNUAL ST THERESE GOLF DAY:** RACV/Torquay Golf Club Mens & Ladies Individual Stableford, shot gun start 12.30pm, lunch 11.45am, entry \$20/player. To enter please ph Bob Darby 5261 9035. Entries close **Sunday Oct 13.** Proceeds go to SVDP Society.

## CONGRATULATIONS! Local Boys Make Good:

- ◆ **Australian elected as Columban Superior General:** We congratulate **Fr Kevin O'Neill**, a parishioner from Holy Spirit, who has been appointed the Superior General of the Columban Order. This appointment has even greater significance because of our Partnership with the Columbans and the great work they are doing in the Philippines. The parishioners of the Pastoral Cluster, especially from Holy Spirit parish, congratulate Fr Kevin and wish him every blessing and success in this important leadership role.
- ◆ **A GREEN PARK FOR A MUCH-LOVED MORELAND PRIEST:** We congratulate Fr Mick and his family for the recognition the local Moreland community bestowed on their deceased brother, Fr Gavan Fitzpatrick, by naming a park in his honour.

## RELAY FOR LIFE:

- ◆ **DISTRIBUTION OF RAFFLE BOOKS:** The weekend of Sat/Sun 13/14 we will be distributing books of raffle tickets after all Masses with all funds going to Fr Mick's Mates.
- ◆ **MELBOURNE CUP DAY LUNCHEON:** Holy Spirit Hall for Fr Mick's Mates - \$20/head Chicken Luncheon provided with a glass of champagne. Please contact David Lunn 0408 378 982, Amy O'Brien 5229 9911 or Desma Dougherty 5278 2712.
- ◆ **LADIES CAKE AND HOME PRODUCE STALL AFTER Mass:** **Holy Family Oct 14** after 8am and 9.30am Mass, **Holy Spirit Oct 21** after 11am Mass and **Ss Peter & Paul's Oct 28** after 11am Mass.



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The Church's remedy to marriage breakdown is an annulment. An annulment is not a Catholic divorce. A civil divorce says the parties that were married are not now. An annulment says that there were factors, often unknown to the couple on the day, which meant that there was never a full and true Christian marriage in the first place. The sacrament is therefore null and void.

Some Catholics, and certainly people who are not Catholic, cannot face up to the long, complex and legal process involved in an annulment. It can be a traumatic experience.

Others argue that the Church might step away from the more recent legal approach to dealing with marriage and, like the Orthodox Churches, use the Sacrament of Penance to nullify the Sacrament of Marriage. Whatever of the process, Christian teaching on this issue must always be metered with compassion.

From 1951 until 1993 Mary and her second husband did not receive the Sacraments. At my encouragement, she instigated annulment proceedings in 1990. In 1993 they received communion for the first time in 42 years. God had never moved away from them, embracing

them in his arms, laying his hands on them every day and blessing them.

At that Nuptial Mass in 1994, Maurice's best man was Brendan, born in Philadelphia in 1946. Maurice had legally adopted Brendan the day after he married Mary. And as we all received communion, with tears streaming down our faces, we understood that it is to human, frail and open hearts that the Kingdom of God belongs.