



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)
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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)

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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

One Monday, three priests, a Franciscan, a Dominican and a Jesuit were having a hard time on the golf course. The golfers in front of the priests were the slowest and worst they had ever seen. Golf balls were going everywhere. Against golfing etiquette, the group never asked the priests to 'play through'. By the 18th hole the priests were furious. At the clubhouse, just as they were going over to blast the group, they were told that the men were blind.

The Franciscan, moved with remorse at how they had spoken about the group, said to the Dominican and the Jesuit, 'I am going to say Mass every day that God may grant them a miracle and restore their sight'. The Dominican, equally filled with regret, told the Jesuit and the Franciscan that he was going to get the blind men an appointment with the best eye surgeon in town. The Jesuit,

however, looked at the Franciscan and the Dominican and declared, 'I can't see why they don't play at night!'

To have any type of disability in first century Palestine not only meant financial hardship, but social segregation. Because Jesus' contemporaries did not understand the causes of disability and illness they assumed it was, to some degree, a curse sent by God in punishment for sins. They also thought the curse could be caught. So the blind, the lame, the crippled, the leper and the bleeder were desperately poor and socially outcast. Incredibly in our day, with all our supposed sophistication, some Christians have made similar statements about God cursing gay people with AIDS. Given the way Jesus acts toward those he encounters with illness, we know that God never sends disease as a curse for sin.

Bartimeus is, however, a desperate man and in the story he acts desperately, calling out until he is heard. And in one of the strangest questions in the Gospel, Jesus asks a blind man what it is he wants. Maybe Jesus wants Bartimeus to name his deepest desire. Maybe Jesus knows that it is, often, the unseen hurt that is the most diseased and needs healing first. Whatever of his motives, Jesus' question gives the man dignity.

American dramatist, Michael Moynahan, has written a moving play entitled *Bartimeus* which centres around that pivotal question, 'What do you want me to do for you?'. The action of the parable, as we have it in the Gospel, freezes when Jesus puts the question.

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30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Year B - October 28, 2012.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;
turn to the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done
away with death,
and brought us life through his Gospel.
Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Deut 6:2-6
2nd Reading: Heb 7:23-28
Gospel: Mk 12:28-34



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 29-Nov 5: Trinder family, 20 Downie Place.

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: John Consedine, Marija Sos, Francis McGeady

ANNIVERSARIES: Jose Medeiros, Nicholas Destefano (1month), Michael, Eileen, Basil & Bernie Haberman, Tom Cleary, Raffaele & Giovanni Gulli

BAPTISMS: Alice & Maeve Beasley, Jamie Dragicevic, Ryan McGowan, Hudson Teplyj (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, Theo DaCosta, Jela Perse, Andrew Stocks, Veronica Duffy, Winifred Atkinson

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, NOV 4, 2012.

(1st Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

8.00AM

R Allum

A Vanjek

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:

- Oct 27/28...** **Welcome to Catholic Super Fund Representatives** - At the 5pm Mass on Saturday and 11am Sunday at Ss Peter & Paul's there will be a short talk and presentation by Catholic Super Fund, the new tenants at 1 Malone St Geelong West. Afterwards there will be the Open House.
- Oct 31...** **School Mass at St Patrick's** - Gr1/2 at 10.15am
- Nov 1...** **School Mass at Holy Family** - Gr3/4 at 9.15am
- Nov 3/4...** **Bereavement Masses** - At all the Masses on this weekend there will be an opportunity for the community to remember and pray for all deceased. There will be a special focus on those who have been buried from one of our three Churches in the last 12 months. The names of those people will be placed on a Powerpoint and shown at the start of each Mass. This year the names will not be read out. Small cards will be available next week for parishioners to fill in with names of deceased people they would like to be remembered in our Bereavement Masses. These small cards will then be placed at the foot of the Cross at each of the three Churches and remain there for the duration of November.
- Nov 8...** **School Mass at Holy Family** - Gr5/6 at 9.15am
- Nov 10/11...** **Grandparents Mass** - Focus on the vocation and contribution of Grandparents. Schools involved in the 6pm Holy Spirit, 9.30am Holy Family and 11am Ss Peter & Paul's Masses.
- Nov 18...** **Remembrance Mass for Past Members of Knights of Southern Cross** - 11am Holy Spirit
- Nov 29...** **School Mass at Holy Family** - Gr1/2 at 9.15am

Preparation for our Advent Liturgies and Reconciliation Services:

The focus will be on the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement with the theme of FAMILY IN DIFFICULT TIMES. The Advent Liturgies and Reconciliation will be an opportunity to acknowledge and affirm those groups within our community, the St Vincent de Paul, Ministers to the Sick, those committed to the Columban Partnership in the Philippines, who support families who are experiencing difficulties. Also in this Year of Grace at Advent we will show an image of Christ after Communion with a quote attached accompanied by one minute of **silent** contemplation. After the minute's silence we will recite the Year of Grace Prayer.

Christmas Mass Timetable:

At the recent Liturgy Committee meeting it was recommended that for Christmas we have either the Christmas Eve Midnight Mass at Holy Family, **OR** the 8am Mass on Christmas Day at Holy Family, but not both.

This weekend there will be a survey to gauge people's response to the above proposal. Please fill in the clipboard **only if you would like to attend one of these Masses.**

In the Cluster we want to provide a generous amount of service at Christmas time, but at the same time it needs to be sustainable, hence the survey.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD will be offered for the rest of the year at:

Ss Peter & Paul's - 11,25 Nov & 9 Dec - 11am Mass

Holy Family and Holy Spirit - 18 Nov, 2,16 Dec - 9.30am Holy Family and 11am Holy Spirit

We encourage families to make use of this service.

VCE STUDENTS: Over the coming weeks we have many young people in our parish families preparing for VCE examinations. This is a stressful time for the students (and their families) and we ask you to keep them in your prayers.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS: Next week the Christmas edition of Australian Catholics will be made available. This fine magazine which focuses on Faith and Living for Contemporary Catholics focuses in this edition on **Faith as a Journey**. The magazine is free!

Cluster News:

- ♦ **OPEN HOUSE AT Ss PETER & PAUL'S PRESBYTERY:** After the Masses on Sat/Sun 27/28 at Ss Peter & Paul's Church people will be welcome to see the new renovations of the premises.
- ♦ **MANIFOLD BRANCH OF CWL:** Note for your Diary - **Blume's Fashion, Holy Spirit Hall Wed 28th Nov 1.30pm.** For information contact Tricia Joyce 5221 1986 or Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063.
- ♦ **PLEASE NOTE:** The Parish Office will be closed on Tuesday Nov 6 (Melbourne Cup Day)

RELAY FOR LIFE:

- ♦ **MELBOURNE CUP DAY LUNCHEON - Tues Nov 6:** Holy Spirit Hall for Fr Mick's Mates at midday - \$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: Ss Peter & Paul's Oct 28** after 11am Mass.



THANKYOU:

My sincere thanks to the members of the St Patrick's Centenary Choir and Ensemble who reunited to make the music for St Patrick's PS and Parish Confirmation on Oct 13 such a prayerful and special occasion. The Choir and Ensemble consisted of parents, former students, parishioners, a grandparent and friends of St Patrick's PS, together making up a harmonious and talented group. The Ensemble led by our talented accompanist Patrick McDonald, drew much astonishment from Bishop Long at the quality of music provided. I would like to personally acknowledge the Choir: Kathleen & Connor Rawson, Jo, David & Jessica Senftleben, Elfi Vagnoni, Georgia VanEtten, Laura Doherty, Kevin Harbison, Bernard Ryan and Patrick Wig. Our Ensemble: Patrick McDonald, Sara Senftleben, Rebecca & Laura Zarb and Sarah Nelson. I thank this wonderful group who so willingly gave of their time, talent and dedication to provide music for our Sacraments and special Masses, most of whom have done so for the past nine years. (Lisa Zarb)

Community News:

- Nov 7... **SISTERS OF THE HOLY ANGELS LUNCHEON:** 12noon in Holy Spirit Hall, cost \$8. All welcome!
- Nov 8... **FREE TALKS ON MENTAL HEALTH: Where is Positive Psychiatry?** Come to Geelong West Town Hall, Supper Room, 7.30-8.45pm.
- Nov 11... **MASS FOR DECEASED STUDENTS & STAFF OF ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE** will be held in the College Chapel at 2pm. All welcome!
- Nov 13... **2012 RERUM NOVARUM ORATION: Labouring for the Common Good** by Senator John Madigan and Dr Matthew Tan - Lecture Theatre, Daniel Mannix Building Australian Catholic University, 15 Young St Fitzroy (off Victoria Pde). 7pm for 7.30pm, light refreshments from 7pm. RSVP to Mark Clarke on 9926 5727 or justice@cam.org.au All welcome!
- Dec 1... **THE ORDER OF MALTA INVITES YOU TO LOURDES DAY MASS 2012:** 10.30am in St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne. Principal Celebrant Most Rev Denis Hart DD. A blessing of the sick will follow the celebration of the Liturgy with water brought from the spring at the Shrine of Lourdes.

ST MARY'S PARISH COMMUNITY DERBY DAY FETE:

Time: Saturday Nov 3rd 9am-4pm

Place: St Mary's Parish Centre & Primary School, cnr Yarra & Lt Myers Sts

Rides including Cup & Saucer Ride, Giant Slide; Great Auction items including Geelong Gym 12 month membership, Mountain Bike, Lunch at the Races, Entertainment - Guest appearance of Greg Champion and Ian Cover of the ABCs Coodabeen Champions at 11.15am, plus lots more!!!

Brochure included in bulletin.

As Bartimaeus considers his options, he hears the voices of those he might have to look at if he regains his sight. The poor remind him that, 'once before you could see and what you saw disgusted you'. The hungry ask, 'do you have the courage to experience and share my hunger?'. The elderly inquire whether he wants to see those 'put away because we remind you of the frailty of life'. The captives challenge him to see those 'unjustly bound and oppressed'. And finally the Self wants to know, 'Are you willing to look inside yourself to see your beauty and ugliness, darkness and light?'. It's a gripping scene.

It reminds us all that sight, and the insight that can come from what we see, bestows on us the dignity of having options and the responsibility to do something about what we behold. We are in the position of making choices about what we look at. Not everything in the world needs to be seen. There is enough violence and abuse of human dignity in real life to discourage us from seeking out most fictionalised portrayals of it. We cannot, however, let ourselves off the hook in regard to seeing the world as it is and doing something about creating a better vision of humanity for everyone, everywhere.

Michael Moynahan's play finishes, like the Gospel story, with Bartimaeus requesting from Jesus the gift of sight. But in the play, in a powerful twist, as Bartimaeus follows Jesus on the path, he stops, turns and sees the human faces behind the challenging voices. He goes back, embraces them and together they walk the Christian path.

In this Eucharist, then, the same question is put by Jesus to us, 'What do you want me to do for you?'. And if our answer is to have sight or insight, then let's also pray for the courage to shoulder the responsibility that comes with every gift.