



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: 147 Separation St Bell Park 3215
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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)

LITURGICAL CO-ORDINATOR: Frank Kearney - Phone 5278 1343 (email: frank.kearney@cam.org.au)

THANKSGIVING CO-ORD: Helen Brislane - Phone 5278 1343 (email: 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

The visitation is one of the moving scenes in the Gospel. On a human level, here are two cousins, unexpectedly pregnant in the most extraordinary circumstances, meeting and offering each other greetings and support. We can see the scene and feel the bond.

In the Gospel of Luke this moment is pivotal. These women meet in the mountains where God has always been manifest to the Israelites. Elizabeth is the Old Covenant made to Israel and she carries John who will be the herald of the Messiah. Mary, literally, embodies the new, and final, covenant in Jesus.

Elizabeth recognises what is happening here

and she embraces all that God is doing for the world. She has tasted the promise of God and now sees its fulfilment.

On a more mundane level, however, a meeting like this would have occasioned much comment and speculation from those outside the inner circle. We only have to imagine it happening today in any small suburb or country town for us to appreciate the human scale of the unfolding drama.

The Iona Community has explored the unwritten history in their story of Mmes Matthew, Mark and Luke, 'The village gossips'.

Narrator: In any small village, news travels quickly. Therefore it is only to be expected that the strange changes in the lives of Mary

and Elizabeth might have been food for other people's thought.

Mrs Matthew: Well, ladies, you know how I'm not one for gossip, but wait until you hear this. You know that old woman Elizabeth, with the man who has not spoken for nine months.

Mrs Mark: Yes, what about them?

Mrs Matthew: They say she's had a little boy.

Mrs Luke: At her age? She's 88 if she's a day!

Mrs Matthew: Well, that's what I heard and it was on very good authority!

Mrs Luke: Are you sure you've got the right woman? You're not mixing her up with her cousin? /Cont'd P4



Fr Gerard, Fr Mick and the Pastoral Cluster Staff,
wish you a happy, holy and safe Christmas



Fourth Sunday of Advent

(Year C - December 23, 2012.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see
your face and we shall be saved.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Feast of the Holy Family

1st Reading: Sirach 3:2-6,12-14
2nd Reading: Col 3:12-21
Gospel: Lk 2:41-52



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: Dec 24-31: Montalto family, 2 Grayle Ave; Jan 7-14: Wilson family, Gladestone Ave
Jan 21-28: Johnson family, 63 Ruhama Ave; Feb 4-11: Lynch family, 13 Girton St.

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS: Heidi Maguire, Ellen Taylor, Antonio Grus (Italy), Giuseppa Barbagallo, Giuseppe Pitaro, Kevin Murray (Mons Murray's brother)

ANNIVERSARIES: Maria Pino, Joseph, Catherine & Felix Capicchiano, Charles & Marjorie McShanag, Zlatko Velcek, Brank Vuckovic, Angelo Valitutti, Eva, Boris & Andrew Uroda, Raimondo, Rosa, Teresa, Giuliano, Angelino, Maria, & Amirando Zanardo, Francesca & Domenico Romano, Stanislaw Niekrasz, Peter Bahl, Pilar Garbia-brion, Raymon Coscoya, Jose Gonzales, Catherine Masie Gibson, Michael Calafiore, Tony & Lou Past, Giovanni, Sylvana & Gabriella Rondi

BAPTISMS: Henry Griffiths, Alannah Heagney, Aliya Stephenson, Phoenix Travan (P&P)

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Rainer Benning, Margaret Barry, Gillian Henry, Yvonne Seales, Margaret Donaghy, Rita Duggan-McDonald, Maria Modica, Margaret Straughan, Theo DaCosta, Jela Perse, Andrew Stocks, Veronica Duffy, Winifred Atkinson, Provvidenza Rinella, Alex Sokoloff, Caroline Mann, Peter McPartlan, David Rhodes

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, DEC 30, 2012.

(5th 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

J O'Neill

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

- Christmas in the Pastoral Cluster -

Christmas Masses:

Outlined below are the Mass times for Christmas, as well as the Roster. **** marks the place where we still need assistance. If you can help please phone Frank on 5278 1343 on Monday.

Christmas Eve, Dec 24:

5.00pm Ss Peter & Paul's

Lectors...	G Tolan, C O'Brien
Commentator...	A Henderson
Special Ministers...	G Tolan, A Henderson, D Dougherty
Projectionist...	R Sims

5.30pm Holy Family

(Focus on the children)

Lectors...	L Kelly, ****
Commentator...	F Kearney
Special Ministers...	L Sells, B McFarlane, E Kelly, ****, ****.
Projectionist...	F Kearney

7.00pm Ss Peter & Paul's

Lectors...	B Middleton, M Martin
Commentator...	M Gifford
Special Minister	B Middleton, M Gifford, P McGlinchy
Projectionist...	R Martin

8.00pm Holy Spirit

(Focus on the family)

Lectors...	G Brown, M Kroger
Commentator...	E Cotter
Special Ministers...	E Cotter, L Stalio, G Harrison
Projectionist...	D Brown

Midnight Holy Family

(Carols from 11.30pm)

Lectors...	M Baird, J Taylor
Commentator...	D Lunn
Special Ministers...	M Baird, C Taylor, V Resciniti, L&A Fossey
Projectionist...	C Resciniti/J Gdak

Christmas Day, Dec 25:

8.00am Holy Family

Lectors...	F O'Neill, A Vanjek
Commentator...	K Saunders
Special Ministers...	I&A Vanjek, C Marcantonio, J Genova, ****
Projectionist	F O'Neill

9.00am Holy Spirit

Lectors...	J O'Neill, ****
Commentator...	P Joyce
Special Ministers...	C Laffy, R O'Neill, J Sheahan
Projectionist...	****

9.30am Holy Family

Lectors...	P Gizycki, T McMahan
Commentator...	M Lukesic
Special Ministers...	J McMahan, ****, ****, ****
Projectionist...	C Resciniti/J Gdak

Cluster News:

- ◆ **WEEKDAY MASSES AFTER CHRISTMAS:** The Masses will be as normal. That is, Wednesday 9am at Holy Spirit, Thursday 9.15am at Holy Family, Friday 11am at Holy Spirit, Saturday 9am at Holy Spirit.
- ◆ **THANKYOU, THANKYOU, THANKYOU!!!** To all those generous people who assisted with the preparation of the invitations to our Christmas Mailout and to the "walkers" who delivered them. Your efforts are very much appreciated.
- ◆ **BAPTISM FOR SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN:** The Pastoral Cluster is offering a Baptism Program for children of Catholic parents who are already attending school. The next program will begin on **Sunday February 10th 2013** and you need to be enrolled by **Wednesday February 6th, 2013**. Please ph Frank Kearney (5278 1343) on his return from annual leave at the end of January. (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday)
- ◆ **PHILIPPINES PARTNERSHIP:** This year again our three parish communities, with the three parish schools, will be forwarding **\$18,000** to our friends and partners in the Philippines. The Malate parish in Manila who provide extraordinary services to the sick, the poor and the vulnerable of Manila will receive **\$12,000** and **\$3,000** each to Kuya Centre, a refuge for homeless boys in Manila and the Sisters of the Mission. Sr Kate O'Neill and Bro Paul Murphy, a former Director of Kuya Centre, recently sent their Christmas best wishes and blessings to all in the Pastoral Cluster and with a heartfelt sense of gratitude for the generous support for their project to rebuild a street children's home which is not only complete, but has now been paid for!!

Please Note:

Office hours during Christmas and January will follow the customary school holiday program. If no one is in the office please leave message on the answering machine.

Community News:

- ◆ **GEELONG SERRA CLUB:** The Serra Club encourages Church vocations. They meet (normally) twice a month at the Sri Lankan Convent in Bell Park at 12.30pm on Thursdays. Fr Rafter celebrates Mass followed by light lunch and meeting. If you are interested in being a member please contact Bernard Jordan on 5243 6931 (jordanbh@ncable.net.au)
- ◆ **ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED:** A mother and her Yr7 (12 year-old daughter) have moved from Sri Lanka to Geelong. They are seeking accommodation, preferably close to Clonard College. For further enquiries please contact Sr Concepta on 5277 3620 (mob 0421 470 490).
- ◆ **CHATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE:** *One God. One Spirit. One Church.* Fri 18 January 2013 7.30-10.30pm at Central Hall, 20 Brunswick St Fitzroy. For more details contact ccrmelbourne@gmail.com
- ◆ **A CHAIR FOR MARYVILLE:** Maryville Nursing Home is replacing residents' chairs in its "Day Room" and would be grateful if parishioners (especially those with links with Maryville through past care of loved ones) might consider donating a chair. Required are 3 Wingback Chairs (\$750 each), 6 Tub Chairs (\$520 each) and a 2-seater couch (\$1,050). Please phone Maryville's Director of Nursing, Cheryl Conder on 5221 5299 if you are able to assist or want further information.

YEAR OF GRACE PRAYER

Gracious God,

You have blessed this ancient land with many gifts, especially its people.

We thank you for the Year of Grace, a time to start afresh from Christ.

You invite us to contemplate the face of Jesus your Son, that we may experience a new wave of grace, and that the light of Christ may burn more brightly in our lives.

Attune our hearts and minds to the presence of your Holy Spirit, that our Church may be transformed, our relationships be healed, and our nation grow in compassion and justice.

We make our prayer through the intercession of St Mary MacKillop, who showed us new ways of living the Gospel.

Mary, Help of Christians, pray for us.

Mrs Mark: Who? Mary?

Mrs Luke: That's her! Now, I'm not one for talking about anybody but wait until I tell you this. She's pregnant!

Mrs Mark: Never! How do you know?

Mrs Luke: You can tell. You can just tell.

Mrs Matthew: Oh yes, you can tell all right. I heard her in the store last week asking for a dress eight sizes too big for her.

Mrs Luke: There you are. Draw your own conclusions. Now, I know that this will not go any further, but I hear that she and a certain young man are planning to leave the district.

Mrs Matthew: Who is the young man?

Mrs Luke: The joiner's boy, Joseph.

Mrs Mark: Never!

Mrs Luke: Well, that's what they say and I'm not one for gossip.

Mrs Mark: So, have you heard what they're saying about the so-called census?

Mrs Matthew: No. Tell us.

Mrs Mark: Well, I happened to hear that the reason the Romans want our names is not to send us birthday cards.

Mrs Luke: Well, why are they having a census?

Mrs Mark: To register us for a 'poll tax'.

Mrs Matthew: I heard it was a 'community charge'.

Mrs Mark: 'A rose by any other name.'

Mrs Luke: They wouldn't do that, would

they?

Mrs Mark: Well I'm just warning you. Mind, I'm not one for gossip.

Mrs Luke: Nor me.

Mrs Matthew: Nor me.

The story of the visitation keeps the rumour going that just when we think we can figure God out, predict how God will enter our lives and our world, he does something none of us can imagine. And the best thing about this rumour is - it's true.

As we wait for Christmas to come again into our lives, let's make room for Jesus Christ who turns our expectations upside down and always gives the gossips plenty to talk about.