PARISH PRIESTS: Fr Gerard Keith (email: gerard.keith@cam.org.au)

Fr Mick Fitzpatrick

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OFFICE: 147 Separation St Bell Park 3215

Phone: 5278 1343 Fax: 5278 4618 Email: cluster@cam.org.au

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)

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

Pright and early on a Monday morning, in times that were much less ecumenical, Mick and Paddy, a pair of Irish ditch diggers, were repairing a Dublin road directly across the street from a house of ill repute.

Soon, they saw the Protestant Minister lurking about the place and then ducking into the house.

'Would ya look at that Mick!' said Paddy. 'What a shameful disgrace. That Protestant Minister sinning in the likes of that place!' 'Well', said Mick, 'he's got a ticket to hell anyway Paddy, so that's only getting' him an upgrade on the seat.'

A short time later they watched as a Jewish Rabbi looked around cautiously and, when he was satisfied no one had spied him, darted into the house. 'Did ya see that Paddy?', Mick asked in shock and disbelief. 'Is nothing holy to those Jewish people?' 'God in heaven

above', Mick replied, 'Do they have "half price Monday" for the clergy at that sinful place?' 'Well, all I know Paddy is that a man of the cloth indulging himself in sins of the flesh is a terrible shame. I tell ya!'

Not long had passed when they saw a third man, Fr O'Donovan, their parish priest, lurking about the house looking around to see if anyone was watching and then quietly sneaking in the door. 'Mick, look it's Father O'Donovan', said Pat removing his cap. 'Ah Mick', said Paddy, taking off his own cap, 'one of the poor girls musta died ...' Often our history colours everything about us, even those toward whom we can give the benefit of the doubt, be compassionate and forgive.

What is so shocking about Jesus' parable of the prodigal son is, that as the story goes, everything about the Jewish culture of first century Palestine set the boy up for a fall: he was greedy for his father's inheritance; we can assume he left the chosen land for the far country where he squandered his inheritance recklessly; he ended up eating with the unclean pigs; and then he had the temerity to return and ask for forgiveness.

This was the least likeable kid in town. He did not deserve to be treated better than a slave. That's what makes the boy's father so magnificent in love. He was derided by his faithful older son for this folly of the heart and he would have been considered a fool by his neighbours. And this is the model of compassion Jesus gives us to emulate.

The context for this story, however, matters. The author of Luke 15 has Jesus responding to charges about the company he was keeping and especially those with whom he dined. In Jesus' day, one only ate with intimates and Jesus shared his table with losers. Three parables are given as an explanation for this practice: the lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son. In each case the shepherd, the woman and the father go to ridiculous lengths to save that which is lost. /Cont'd P4

4th Sunday of Lent

(Year C - Mar 10, 2013.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!

I will rise and go to my father and tell him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Mar 17 - Fifth Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Is 43:16-21 2nd Reading: Phil 3:8-14 Gospel: Jn 8:1-11



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: **Holy Spirit, Manifold Hts:** Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West:

English... 8am and 9.30am (Sunday) 6.00pm Sat 5.00pm Sat

> 11am - 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays 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 Holy Family Community Centre 5.30pm

Wed... Prayer of the Church Before 9am Mass Holy Spirit Church

Wed... Holy Family Women's Prayer Group 10.00am Holy Family Community Centre

St Patrick's Chapel Thurs... Italian Prayer Group 10.00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament After 11am Mass Holy Spirit Church Fri... Fri... Divine Mercy 3.00pm Holy Spirit Church Sat... Rosary After 9am Mass Holy Spirit Church

Mar 18/25 - Hennessy family, 4 Hennessy Ave; **OUR LADY'S STATUE:** Mar 11 - Smith family, McCurdy Rd;

April 1/8 - Cawthray family, 66 Drysdale Ave; April 15/22 - lozzo family, 21 Manifold St.

As a Community We Pray For:

RECENT DEATHS: Dolcie Wickham, Fr John Daly, Pal Karacsonyi, Tommy Doherty

ANNIVERSARIES: Vanuta Augustijn, Vjekoslav Iskra, Les Moloney, Joan Booth, Margaret Bourke, Bridget Griffin,

Giuseppe & Chiara Gulli

BAPTISMS: Peppa & Ryder Kearney, Felicity & Gus McColl (HF), Julian Bogovic, Paris Findlay, Flynn & Ella

Harding (P&P)

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Margaret Donaghy, Rita Duggan-McDonald, Maria Modica, Margaret Straughan, Theo DaCosta, Jela

Perse, Veronica Duffy, Winifred Atkinson, Providenza Rinella, Caroline Mann, Francis Remedios, Ida

DaCosta, Doug Boyle, Margaret Dyson, Sheryl Lambert, Craig Cole

Please note: After approx five weeks names will be deleted from the sick list - please phone the office if you wish names reinserted.

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, MAR 17, 2013.

(3rd Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY MA00.8 9.30AM K Saunders A Scaddam Commentators

H Verdnik, T McMahon Lectors B Rainbow

Special Ministers A Vanjek, C Marcantonio, P Walsh C&J Taylor, E Glynn, M Fiorillo, I Raj Welcomers

R&L Allum E Dalton

HOLY SPIRIT: 6.00PM 11.00AM Commentators Sr J McGonigal J McCarthy

G Brown, M Kroger Lectors J McKenzie

Special Ministers G Wright, E Cotter, D Kosmetschke C Laffy, L Fossey, L Stalio Welcomers V Logan I Cleary, L Coles, V Trinder

B Stocks D Brown Projectionist

Ss PETER & PAUL'S: 5.00PM Commentators D Maddalena Lectors K Maddalena Special Ministers K Maddalena

Welcomers Proiectionist

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 St Vincent de Paul First Monday evening of each month at the Community Centre 7.00pm
 Holy Family meet 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at the Community Centre, 7.30pm

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

Cluster News:

EASTER MAILOUT: Calling all Pastoral Cluster "Posties"! Your assistance is again required to help with the delivery of invitations to our Easter Ceremonies to all known Catholics within our cluster. The envelopes are organised alphabetically by street. If you can take your own street as well as those close by, your efforts would be much appreciated. Special thanks to those who have helped prepare the invitations for mailout.



Ss PETER & PAUL'S FURNITURE RE-ARRANGEMENT: As you enter the Church this week you'll notice that the pews have been joined together with the aisles down the centre and by the walls. This was the original outlay of the pews. The pews will remain in this configuration for the next couple of weeks and over this time I would appreciate your feedback.

LENTEN REFLECTIONS: "We Wish to See Jesus"

1. Those who wanted copies for personal use please collect a copy with your name on it from the Sacristy of the Church where you signed up.

2. Those wanting to be in groups have the choice of three groups - **Monday 10am, Wednesday 10am or Thursday 7.30pm**. All groups to meet at the Cluster Centre, 147 Separation St Bell Park, commencing this week.

RCIA (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS): This Saturday at the 5pm Mass at Ss Peter & Paul's, the Second Scrutiny will be celebrated (Readings Year A). The Third Scrutiny will be celebrated at 6pm Mass at Holy Spirit on Saturday March 16th (Readings Year A). Please pray for our elect Chris McWaters, Jude Moar, Anna Penn, Thea Penn, Shea Rigg, Samantha Rundle and our baptised candidates Fiona Chisholm and Jo McWaters.

Fr Mick's Mates - Geelong Relay for Life:

12noon Saturday March 16 - 12noon Sunday March 17 Deakin University Waurn Ponds Campus, Pigdon's Rd, Highton (Melways Ref: 464 J5)

Program for Saturday March 16: 11am Registration, 11.45am Opening Ceremony, 12noon Survivors & Carers Lap, 1pm The 2nd Lap and Refreshments, 7pm Soup Kitchen, 8.30pm Candlelight Ceremony. All Fr Mick's Mates are invited to join the team for a BBQ at 7pm. Please bring a salad to share. Please note our tent site is the same as last year - Tent Site Nos 71 & 72.

Anyone available to assist in setting up of our site at 9.00am Sat Mar 16, please contact David on 0408 378 982.

MINI RELAY FOR LIFE: To engage the children of our three parish Primary Schools in this parish and community event of Relay for Life, there will be a **Mini Relay for Life** event on Friday March 15th at St Patrick's and Holy Family School Campuses.

SS PETER & PAUL'S CENTENARY AS A PARISH:

As part of the celebrations of this milestone there will be a Mass with the Archbishop as the main Celebrant on **Saturday April 20th at 5pm at Ss Peter & Paul's**. Prior to the Mass there will be 'High Tea' at the Ss Peter & Paul's Hall with entertainment. If you can, please keep this day free!!!

Also, if there are former parishioners you know who were once actively involved in the Parish but no longer living here, please forward this invitation onto them.



COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES RAFFLE:

Please return "Butts" and monies by **Sunday 10th March.**

MANIFOLD CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE will continue to do after funeral catering services at Holy Spirit Church. They are looking for more food contributors and those who can assist on the day. If you would like to be involved please contact Tricia Joyce 5221 1986 or Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063

Liturgy in the Cluster:

Mar 9/10... Reconciliation Commitment Masses: 9.30am Holy Family, 11am Holy Spirit

Mar 20... Whole School Mass - 10.15am St Patrick's Chapel

HELP NEEDED: For Reading at the 6pm Saturday night Mass on the fourth week of each month. If you are comfortable reading in public and able to help please phone Frank Kearney at the Office on 5278 1343 (Mon-Wed)

FESTA DI SAN GIUSEPPE: Domenica 17 Marzo nella chiesa di St Patrick in Britannia St Geelong West - alle ore 9.30am. La messa sara celebrate da Mons James Murray. Tutti siete Benvenuti.

Community News:

- Mar 13... KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS: Monthly meeting 7.30pm Clairvaux Meeting Rooms Belmont. Members please attend and bring a plate.
- Mar 16... GEELONG ST PATRICK'S DAY RACE MEETING CWL Fundraiser for Ovarian Cancer Media Puzzle Room. \$80/ person incl entry, race book, 2-course lunch and a'noon tea, entrance prize. \$5/ticket donation to Ovarian Cancer. Guest speaker, access to stand. For information/tickets ph Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063.
- Mar 17... ST PATRICK'S PAST PUPILS REUNION: Sphinx Hotel, Thompson Rd North Geelong. RSVP Shirley 5248 3347.
- Mar 24... SACRED HEART COLLEGE ALUMNI AGM: Annual Reunion and AGM at the school from 1pm. All former students welcome contact Gael Parry on 5221 2803.

OPEN DAYS FOR CATHOLIC SECONDARY COLLEGES:

- Mar 22... CLONARD COLLEGE OPEN DAY: Info session followed by tours 1pm & 4.30pm. See the school at work Monday 25th 9.15am. For a prospectus ph 5278 2155, office@clonard.catholic.edu.au, www.clonard.catholic.edu.au
- Mar 24... ST IGNATIUS COLLEGE OPEN DAY: 11am-2pm, Information sessions 11am and 12.15pm. See the College at Work Wed May 1 9am-12noon. Applications for Yr7 enrolments close Friday May 17th. For details ph 5251 1136, info@ignatius.vic.edu.au, www.ignatius.vic.edu.au
- Mar 26... SACRED HEART COLLEGE OPEN DAY: Option 1 Tour 3.45-4.45pm followed by information sessions 5-5.45pm. Option 2 Tour 5.30-6.30pm followed by information session 7-7.45pm. For more information ph 5222 0490. Closing date for enrolments is Friday 17 May 2013.

GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS' CLUB: Come join us for a 2-course meal, stimulating guest speakers and the opportunity to meet new friends, all for only \$28. We meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Dromoland House on Pakington St. For more information and reservations, please ph Terry on 5221 7339.

FINAL CALL - WORLD YOUTH DAY: Get on board as we head to Rio de Janeiro. Visit wydtours.com to join the Victorian Pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil! Final Registration and payment due on **Sunday 31st March**. Further enquiries ph 9412 3306 or email wyd2013@cam.org.au

PASTORAL CARE VOLUNTEERS WANTED: Expressions of interest are sought for people who would like to apply to be a Pastoral Care Volunteer with Southern Cross Care, a leading aged care organization in the Geelong region. Further information contact Michael Taylor, Manager Pastoral Care & Chaplaincy on 8564 1872.



TRISH FOLK FESTIVAL - MARCH 17:

St Patrick's School Grounds - A great family and community event which includes art show, all-day rides, 'Leprechaun Drop', stalls of all kinds, raffles, etc. All warmly welcomed!



PROJECT COMPASSION: Open the Doors to the Future by building self-reliance programs that enable communities to help themselves out of poverty, respond to emergencies by providing shelter, nutrition and healthcare, and raise awareness in Australia of the reality and causes of poverty, hunger, oppression and injustice.



Your donations to Caritas Australia's Project Compassion help create the just and compassionate world that God desires. This week we meet Vannak, 17 who lives in the largest slum in Cambodia. With help from Youth for Peace, Vannak is receiving an education and learning livelihood skills.

Please donate to Project Compassion so women like Salma can give their babies the best start in life. *Project Compassion boxes are available at the entrances of each of the Churches.*

/From P1...

Who was admitted to the table of Luke's community was a huge issue. It seems some things never change. The action and words of Jesus, however, lead us to conclude the table is here for those of us who know the frailty of our lives enough to recognise our hunger and thirst for the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation. Today's Gospel is not just about each of us

being welcomed into the arms of our compassionate God, it is also a challenge for us to defend the right of the outcasts, the public sinners and the losers who seek to turn their life around to be welcomed here as well.

This is not just about the table of the Eucharist, either. To the degree that we help our country be more hospitable to the most

defenceless, the poor and the displaced then we live out the power of this parable.

May this Eucharist then, help us live beyond our history, which so often colours those toward whom we can give the benefit of the doubt and show compassion and may it give us the courage and faith to be ridiculously generous, and magnificently loving.