



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:

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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 -

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LITURGICAL CO-ORDINATOR:

Frank Kearney -

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THANKSGIVING CO-ORD:

Helen Brislane -

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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

A teacher told me recently that when she asked her grade fours to draw a picture of the Ascension, not unsurprisingly most of them did a fairly conventional portrait of Jesus rising up on a cloud. One of her students, David, who is a particularly gifted artist, had Jesus blasting off into the sky. Down the side of Jesus' pure white garment was the word NASA and David provided all the sound effects for how he imagined the scene of the first Ascension. He concluded, without a hint of irony, that, 'the Ascension must have been a real blast!'

None of us can blame David for marrying our

modern culture with an ancient story. In fact if some of us are honest, David's 'space shuttle Jesus' is not far from what we think as well.

The Ascension stories, however, are not primarily interested in how or when Jesus got back to heaven. John and Paul never mention it at all. Mark and Matthew have it happening on the same day as the Resurrection and Luke has it occurring 40 days after Easter on the same day as Pentecost. The one thing, on which all the New Testament writers agree, is where in heaven Jesus went and where he is presently – at God's right hand.

Even to this day, being on someone's right

is a place of honour. In the Old Testament being on the right hand of David, Samuel or Elijah was to be the anointed and favoured one, the true son or daughter. In telling us, then, that Jesus is now at God's right hand, the Gospels use a formal phrase to announce that God affirms everything Jesus said and did on earth and that he is the way for us to follow.

That can be all well and good, but Jesus goes one step further and that's why this feast is so important. Jesus taught us that where he is, so shall we be, that he was going to prepare a place for us and that, in and through him, we will have life and have it to the full. /Cont'd P4



Happy Mother's Day!



The Ascension of the Lord

(Year C - May 12, 2013.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?
This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will
return as you saw him go, alleluia.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.
I am with you always, until the end of
the world. **Alleluia!**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**Pentecost Sunday**

1st Reading: Gen 11:1-9
2nd Reading: Rom 8:22-29
Gospel: Jn 7:37-39

**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

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: **May 13/20:** Kolotelo family, 23 Bostock Ave.

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: Mary Andannat (Sr Concepta's sister), Therese DeBeen, Ken Gallagher, Pat Magher

ANNIVERSARIES: Mary O'Neill, Nick Hoare, Marjorie Hill (1year), Shirley Sexton (1st Anniv), Teresa Hogan, Marcello Carfenetti, Antonio Grus, Bruno & Aldo Pollo, Carmella Bisinella, Baby Alison Carmody, Claude Carmody

BAPTISMS: Elsa & Sienna Grgic, Olivia Hitchings, Mitchell Leith (P&P)

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Margaret Donaghy, Rita Duggan-McDonald, Maria Modica, Margaret Straughan, Theo DaCosta, Veronica Duffy, Winifred Atkinson, Providenza Rinella, Francis Remedios, Ida DaCosta, Margaret Dyson, Cheryl Lambert, Craig Cole, June Bongiorno, John & Mary McMahon, Patrick Duffy (Ireland), John Bohan, Craig Leite

Roster for Next Sunday, May 19, 2013

(3rd Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators K Saunders
Lectors B Rainbow
Special Ministers A Vanjek, C Marcantonio, P Walsh
Welcomers R&L Allum

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators Sr J McGonigal
Lectors J McKenzie
Special Ministers G Wright, E Cotter, D Kosmetschke
Welcomers V Logan
Projectionist P Eastman

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators D Maddalena
Lectors K Maddalena
Special Ministers K Maddalena
Welcomers
Projectionist

9.30AM

A Scaddan
H Verdnik, T McMahon
C&J Taylor, E Glynn, M Fiorillo, I Raj
E Dalton

11.00AM

J McCarthy
G Brown, M Kroger
L Fossey, L Stalio
I Cleary, L Coles, V Trinder
D Brown

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
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)
 - Holy Spirit School - Monday 9.30am-11.30am. 0-3 years Indoor/outdoor play. Ph 5229 8298
- **Playgroup -** Holy Spirit Hall, First Wednesday in the month
- **Manifold CWL -** First Thursday of the month in St Patrick's Chapel
- **Italian Mass -** Dinner at Desma's every 1st Tuesday of the month at 6.30pm. Bookings phone 5278 2712.
- **Catholic Deanery Solo Group -** Second Sunday of each month, 12noon in the small Hall.
- **Ss Peter & Paul's Luncheon -** Second Tuesday of each month, 6pm at Dromoland. Dinner & Guest speaker. Ph Terry on 5221 7339
- **Catholic Diners' Club -**

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:



WARM WELCOME...

*Last week the Archbishop of Melbourne confirmed the nomination of **Fr Luka Pranjić** as a Croatian Chaplain in Geelong. Fr Luka was Croatian Chaplain in Adelaide and will be transferring to Geelong where his appointment will begin on 13th June, 2013. We wish Fr Luka a very warm welcome as he administers primarily to the Croatian community of Geelong. He will build on the fine pastoral and spiritual care of Fr Stjepan Gjnc.*
(Fr Gerard)

PASTORAL CLUSTER APPOINTMENTS:

I'm delighted to announce the appointment of Melissa Thomson as the Pastoral Cluster's new Parish Secretary. Melissa brings to the position a wealth of experience as a Receptionist and Office Manager from a variety of service industries. I am sure Melissa will make a valuable and positive contribution to the life of our community and I thank her for accepting the position. I am also sure that, as a member of the community, you will make Melissa feel very welcome.

The role of Parish Secretary includes

- ◆ Front-of-house reception
- ◆ Administrative and management support for the variety of liturgical, sacramental and pastoral needs
- ◆ Financial administration including payment of accounts

In the interviewing process we had five very good candidates present, however only one could be chosen. I thank the unsuccessful applicants for their time and participation in the interview process.

The employment of Melissa as Parish Secretary will now enable Trish Stickland to be engaged full-time as a Parish Manager. As you know, over the years Trish has done an excellent job in a variety of refurbishment undertakings, eg Holy Family Church and Ss Peter & Paul's Presbytery, as well as organising parish social events, eg the Dinners at Capri and, more recently, the High Tea at Ss Peter & Paul's.

As Parish Manager Trish's role will include -

- ◆ The Project Management of the properties of the Pastoral Cluster - the next property undertakings will be the second stage of the restoration of Ss Peter & Paul's Church, as well as some restorative work at Holy Spirit Church
- ◆ Maintenance management of the Pastoral Cluster properties
- ◆ Events management - these will include social events related to our Pastoral Outreach through Fr Mick's Mates, the Columban Partnership, etc.
- ◆ Overseer of the administration of the Pastoral Cluster.

On your behalf I offer heartfelt thanks to Trish for all the great work she has done in the past in relation to the above and thank her for taking this role to a higher level.

(Fr Gerard)

PLEASE NOTE:

- ◆ The organising group for the regular monthly Luncheon at Ss Peter & Paul's have decided that there be NO luncheon at Ss Peter & Paul's Hall on Mother's Day.
- ◆ Third Sunday Holy Family BBQ in May will not be held.
- ◆ Thankyou for your generous support of Caritas - Project Compassion. Together we raised \$5,850.

Liturgy in the Cluster:

MOTHER'S DAY LITURGY:

A special focus of the Masses on this weekend of May 11/12 will be **Mothers' Day**. This is an opportunity to honour and celebrate that very important vocation of Motherhood. To assist in our celebrations the children from -

St Patrick's School...

Gr 1/2 will be involved in the 5pm Mass at Ss Peter & Paul's Church

Holy Spirit School...

Gr 3/4 will be involved in the 6pm Mass at Holy Spirit Church

Holy Family School...

Gr 3/4 will be involved in the 9.30am Mass at Holy Family Church

CONFIRMATION COMMITMENT MASSES:

As part of the preparation for Confirmation, the candidates and their parents will make a short commitment at the Masses on May 18/19 (Pentecost Sunday) and May 25/26 (Holy Trinity Sunday). We pray for the young candidates as they continue on their faith journey towards Confirmation.



Thank you to all who contribute regularly, to support our parish.

- ♦ For those who give **WEEKLY** or **MONTHLY**, the next set of Thanksgiving envelopes are ready to collect today.
- ♦ Letters are in street order, regardless of suburb
- ♦ If you would like to begin contributing regularly, please take a pink sheet.

Community News:

May 19... **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Social Luncheon Gathering 12.30pm in Ashby Small Hall, cost \$10/head. Bring a casserole or sweet, drinks provided. Ph Joe Lambert 5229 8442, proceeds to Overseas Missions - all welcome!

May 26... **CULTIVATING THE CONTEMPLATIVE FAMILY:** Join us for a family experience of **Christian Meditation**, a way of prayer that is accessible and possible for families with children. Donation of \$10/family, BYO picnic lunch, tea/coffee provided, RSVP 12th May to mirellapace49@gmail.com, mob 0408 470 114, www.christianmeditationaustralia.org

June 13... **FREE PUBLIC TALK:** Chris Mackey will talk on **Positive Parenting - Teenagers** 7.30-8.45pm at Geelong West Town Hall in the Supper Room. All welcome!

June 14-16... **MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND:** Forget life's tensions and interruptions and rekindle the closeness, intimacy, love and romance that brought you together in the first place. Starts 7pm Fri, ends 5pm Sun. Accommodation and all meals provided. Information/bookings ph 9733 0997 or vicbookings@wwme.org.au

RETAIL FOOD & BEVERAGE POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

Michael O'Brien Catering is one of the leading venue caterers in Australia. Situated at Simonds Stadium Geelong, MOBC is providing the retail catering at all Geelong home games this year. The Geelong Cats have 7 games this year and we're looking for Supervisors, Food Servers, Bar staff, Deep fry cooks, Stock runners. Please email your application geelongstaffing@mobc.com.au or fax 9426 9688. **Applications close Friday May 17th.**

A Blessing for Mothers

*Loving God,
As a mother gives life and
nourishment to her children,
so you watch over your Church.
Bless these women,
that they may be strengthened as
Christian mothers.
Let the example of their faith and
love shine forth.
Grant that we, their sons and
daughters,
may honour them always
with a spirit of profound respect.
Grant this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.*



/From P1...

The feast of the Ascension is the day, each year, where we remember and we celebrate that, just as Jesus was welcomed to God's right hand, so, too, shall we be welcomed to the right hand of Jesus. This is his promise, this is our faith and this is the hope we are called to proclaim to the world. And let's be clear about the invitation. There is nothing we have ever done, are doing, or will do, that will get our name removed from the invitation list to the feast of Christ's

kingdom. The challenge is accepting that we have a standing invitation and living lives worthy of the love that places our name on the list. The feast of the Ascension announces that Jesus will faithfully accompany us no matter how far we lose our way and that by our fidelity to Christ we accept or reject the standing offer.

And because the Ascension is an Easter feast it develops even further that there is nowhere, bar evil, where God does not

dwell. Because of the Resurrection and Ascension we can find God everywhere we want to: in our homes, our work, our suffering, our old age, our emotional, sexual or financial turmoil – and even in our death.

Even though the writers of the New Testament are not too clear on the details of how the Ascension happened, what we initially see in this wonderful feast is not what we get. Thanks be to God, it's so much more.