

# Reflection ... by Richard Leonard

Margaret Thatcher once claimed that the Parable of the Good Samaritan showed Jesus' endorsement of the benefits of capitalism! The Baroness' logic ran that the hero of this famous story is the one who could afford to pay for the victim's care. She surmised that the reason the Samaritan had the wherewithal to do such a charitable act was because he worked hard and saved his money wisely. Her Ladyship said this central Christian parable was a justification of her government's policies demanding that unemployed people work for social security and be educated about saving their pennies.

Politicians should stay away from biblical interpretation and theology. It has a habit of saying the opposite of what they think or want it to. Like many people, Lady Thatcher reads this parable in terms of charity and even then she is not really right. Jesus, however, says it is a lesson in mercy. The difference matters.

It is not by accident that the phrase 'as cold as charity' is still current. Deciding on whom we will be kind to, just based on our 'warm fuzzies' and the glow of our purses, may make us feel good; but it will result in a very wintry experience for the not-solucky recipient. When we 'do' charitable things, we can often remain powerful and untouched by the situation of those our money helps.

St Thomas Aquinas, however, calls charity the mother of all virtues. He argues it is more concerned with the feelings of the heart than external action. Aquinas maintains that charity enables us to sort through our desires, to see what we really want – whom we actually love; it helps us use the other virtues to act accordingly. Christian charity is not a feel-good moment; it is a life-changing experience. Understood this way, the Good Samaritan can be a great example of charity, but quite differently from that outlined in the Gospel according to Margaret!

For Jesus, nonetheless, he is a model of mercy. The Good Samaritan is not 'good' because he has the money to act on what he sees. His greatness is that he has eyes to see it at all. To really see it. The priest and the morality-teaching levite pretend it's not happening and walk on the other side of the road. But the most unlikely, the least liked person in Israel – a Samaritan – has the view of mercy.

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# 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Year C - July 14, 2013.)

#### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

# GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life. **Alleluia!** 

#### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time			
1st Reading:	Gen 18:1-10		
2nd Reading:	Col 1:24-28		
Gospel:	Lk 10:38-42		



### **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	n Sat. Reconciliation after S	aturday 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
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#### **OUR LADY'S STATUE:**

July July 15: Bourke family, 24 Sycamore 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:** 

Noel Imbrogno, Maria Costa, Patricia Bongiorno

ANNIVERSARIES: Rocco & Domenico Maraffioti, Anna Rinella, Lucy Murphy, Anne Gallagher, Mario Rusciti, Cosimo Nadile

**1st ANNIVERSARY:** 

BAPTISMS: Macy Brdar, Gabriel Ellul, Jobe Trenerry (P&P)

Ivan Lynch

**PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Cheryl Lambert, Craig Cole, Patrick Duffy (Ireland), John Bohan, Craig Leite, Juliette Isla Kotarac, Anthony Continho, Colleen Laffy, Anthony McCullough (Ireland)

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

### Roster for Next Sunday, July 21, 2013 (3rd Sunday of the Month)

#### HOLY FAMILY

Commentators Lectors **Special Ministers** Welcomers

#### **HOLY SPIRIT:**

Commentators Lectors **Special Ministers** Welcomers Projectionist

#### Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators Lectors **Special Ministers** Welcomers Projectionist

8.00AM K Saunders **B** Rainbow A Vanjek, C Marcantonio, P Walsh **R&L** Allum

# 6.00PM

Sr J McGonigal J McKenzie G Wright, E Cotter, D Kosmetschke V Logan P Eastman

### 5.00PM

D Maddalena K Maddalena K Maddalena

### 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:**

Holv Family Luncheon -Third Sunday of each month at the Community Centre from 12noon. BYO food and drink to share. . Holv 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 -1st and 3rd Sunday at 9.30am Mass (during school term) Holy Family -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 Serra Club of Geelong -First Thursday of each month, 12.pm at Sisters of the Holy Angels, Bell Park, 15 McClelland Rd Bell Park. Ph Bernard Jordan 5243 6931.

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:**

WORLD YOUTH DAY PILGRIMAGE: I have had the privilege of being appointed by the Archbishop as one of the Chaplains for the World Youth Day Pilgrimage in Rio de Janeiro this year. The group I am responsible for will begin the pilgrimage with a week's immersion experience in the shanty town of Lima followed by the World Youth Day events and celebration, culminating in the high point of a Mass with the new Holy Father, Pope Francis. After the WYD I will be away for a further two weeks amongst other things trekking in Machu Picchu. I leave on July 13th and return August 16th. (Fr Gerard)



- RCIA (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS): Several people have indicated interest in inquiring into the Catholic faith this year. Any others who would like to join them will be very welcome. The Inquiry Period will begin on Wed 7th August at 7.30pm at the Pastoral Cluster Centre, 147 Separation St Bell Park. Meetings thereafter will take place on every Wednesday of the school terms up to Christmas from 7.30-9pm. There is a saying *"It takes a whole village to rear a child"*. Similarly it takes the whole Christian community to initiate adults into the Catholic Church. <u>A sponsor for each candidate is very important for the RCIA process</u> to do the above, and hopefully to receive some adult formation in the faith for himself/herself. Anyone who would like to be a sponsor, please contact Fr Mick.
- PARISH CONFIRMATION PROGRAM: This program is for Catholic children attending non-Catholic schools who wish to be confirmed. The program begins on Sunday Sept 8. <u>Enrolments close Wednesday August 21.</u> For enquiries phone Frank Kearney at the Cluster Office on 5278 1343 Mon-Wed.
- **FIRST COMMUNION:** On **July 21/28** about ten children each week from the Parish Eucharist Program will receive Communion for the first time at the 9.30am Mass at Holy Family. Please pray that these children with their families will often join the Eucharistic meal of the Church and receive Christ into their lives in the celebration of this Sacrament.

# TR MICK'S MATES: Dates for your diary



Sept 11... Nov 5... Feb 28, 2014... March 15/16... Movie Night Melbourne Cup Luncheon Bay Cruise (Friday evening) Relay for Life at Deakin University



Sr Kate O'Neill will soon be returning to Geelong and there will be an opportunity to extend to Sr Kate a welcome return. We are planning to have her address some of the Masses as part of Social Justice Sunday on Sept 21/22. Also there are plans afoot to organise a Cluster Social Event as part of our fund- and awareness-raising into the great mission work of Sr Kate as well as the Columbans in the Philippines.

# **Community News:**

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- July 28... 2013 ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY MASS FOR MARRIED COUPLES: The Mass will honour marriages of couples who celebrate 25th, 40th, 50th or 60th wedding anniversaries this year. The Mass will be celebrated at St Patrick's Cathedral 11am by Archbishop Denis Hart. To register visit <u>www.cam.org.aulifemarriagefamily</u> or ph 9287 5579. Registrations close Friday 12th July.
  - **ST JOSEPH'S MEREDITH:** Come and join St Joseph's Parish Meredith as we pilgrimage on country roads from Lethbridge to Meredith where Fr Herman will celebrate Mass followed by a bonfire and cookup. We will then watch the World Youth Day proceedings via the internet stream. We leave Lethbridge from 1pm onwards for details ph Diane Ritchie, <u>parishofmeredith@bigpond.com</u>
- Aug 9-11... MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND: This weekend is a time for you and your spouse to be alone together, to rediscover each other and focus on your relationship in a very positive way. There is no group sharing. It is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome. Starts 7pm Friday and ends 5pm Sunday, accommodation and all meals provided. For bookings/information ph 9733 0997 or email <u>vicbookings@wwme.org.au</u>. *This weekend will also take place on Oct 18-20*.

SAMARITAN HOUSE GEELONG LTD PRESENTS MOVIE NIGHTS: On the last Tuesday in the months of July, August, September, October and November 2013 at St Mary's Shirley Mills Theatre, 150 Yarra St - 7.30pm. Subscription \$50, total proceeds to Samaritan House: July 30th - *The Trouble with the Curve*, sports drama film revolving around an aging baseball scout (Clint Eastwood) whose daughter joins him on a scouting trip.

**SERRA CLUB OF GEELONG:** The objective of the Serra Club is to foster and promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life and its membership is open to Catholic men and women. They meet at the Holy Angels Convent at 15 McClelland Rd Bell Park on the first Thursday of each month at 12.30pm with Mass followed by lunch and a meeting.

**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.

**ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF VICTORIA & WAGGA WAGGA** will be held at the Mercure Conference Centre Geelong, 21st and 22nd August. Guest speakers include Prof Nicholas Tonti-Filippini, Fiona Basile, Sr Kim Harris OSB, Sandie McDonald, Michael Martinez. Full registration including Wednesday dinner \$180, daily rate available. Conference opening Mass at St Mary's Basilica 9am, main celebrant Bishop Vincent Long. For information ph Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063 or Tricia Joyce 5221 1986.

**BEING CATHOLIC:** BeingCatholic is a popular Australian website that provides a great range of articles, video and interviews to support Catholics on the journey of life and faith. Visit <u>www.beingcatholic.com.au</u> to read the latest article, *"How to become a Saint in one easy step"*.

#### CATHOLIC HOMES - Enriching Lives with choices, harmony and community:

Catholic Homes has been the aged care agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne for over 50 years providing residential care, community care, community services in the home, respite care and retirement living accommodation to over 1,200 Victorian seniors. If you or someone close to you is interested in these services or in becoming a volunteer, please contact their office on 8862 9000 or email reception@catholic-homes.org.au (www.catholic-homes.org.au)

**MARYVILLE AGED CARE:** Residential aged care in a family atmosphere - 54 Western Beach Rd. For an appointment please ph Trish or Cheryl on 5221 5299. Email: <u>info@maryvillenursinghome.com</u>

#### /From P1...

Christian tradition teaches us that mercy and justice are intertwined. Thomas Aquinas says that mercy helps us hear, and justice calls for us to do something. The Samaritan does what he can at the scene of the crime and then he takes the victim with him. He not only sees, but judges and acts. In doing so, he breaks nearly every religious and social law in the book; but it doesn't matter. The virtues of mercy and justice enable us to see all sorts of things more clearly, even civil and religious laws that inhibit the justice of God.

This entire episode in Luke's Gospel is about the movement from an individualised faith, which can think that it is just 'me and Jesus against the world', to a faith that goes out to the world acting mercifully and justly. This parable is about what we see, whom we love, and what we want to do about it.

The example of the Good Samaritan should enliven our charity, mercy and justice; and it should challenge us to see clearly who needs to be carried with us on the Gospel road.

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