

Reflection ... by Richard Leonard

s offensive as the Monty Python film, \frown The Life of Brian was to some Christians, the scene in which several competing messiahs try to convince the market-place crowd that they are the real thing, brilliantly and humorously captures Jewish expectations in 1st century Palestine. Not unlike the fervour at the end of the last millennium, some religious people believed the end of time was close at hand. Far from selling his messianic wares at the market, however, Jesus crept in beside us and lived, suffered, died and was raised from the tomb in a way no one anticipated. Even after his resurrection the earliest Christians believed Jesus would return very soon, so they could afford to live as if they were, literally, in the last days. When this didn't happen there was crisis in the community. The earliest disciples, to whom much had been entrusted, had to hand on a faith in a more unpredictable God who does not fulfil all our expectations or run to our timetable.

Luke points out that the greatest gift we Christians have received is knowing that Jesus is the Messiah, the Christ. What a relief to know we do not have to shop around any more. From everyone to whom much has been given, however, much will be required and so knowing who Jesus is only goes halfway. Living out the reality of the Christian life is the other half. Today's Gospel teaches us that our Christian life should be marked by five characteristics, that we: willingly share with those in need; are ready to act justly; stay alert to the presence of God in the world: quard against those people or things that can rob us of our faith; not abuse others but live in peace. With or without a sense that Jesus is due back at any minute, the Christian life is meant to focus on the essentials.

Two thousand years later we are still waiting for Jesus' return and many of us live complicated lives that rob us of true happiness. Sadly, it often takes a tragedy for us to reassess what we have been given. A student at the Columbine High School, who was injured in the shooting, wrote this sombre reappraisal of how he sees the world and what he thinks we should be passing on to the next generation:

'The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings, but shorter tempers; wider freeways, but narrower viewpoints; we spend more, but have less; we buy more, but enjoy less.

/Cont'd P4

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Year C - August 11, 2013.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones forever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

Lk 12:49-53

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time 1st Reading: Jer 38:4-6,8-10 2nd Reading: Heb 12:1-4

Gospel:

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	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		
Tues	Meditation Group	5.30pm		
Wed	Prayer of the Church	Before 9am Mass		
Wed	Holy Family Women's Prayer Group	10.00am		
Thurs	Italian Prayer Group	10.00am		
Fri	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	After 11am Mass		
Fri	Divine Mercy	3.00pm		
Sat	Rosary	After 9am Mass		

Holy Family Community Centre Holy Family Community Centre Holy Spirit Church Holy Family Community Centre St Patrick's Chapel Holy Spirit Church Holy Spirit Church Holy Spirit Church

OUR LADY'S STATUE:

July 22 - Aug 10: Murray family, 37 Darriwill St; Aug 10: Montalto family 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: Janina Duraj, Sam Greco, Maria Sustar (Croatia), Kath Harrington

ANNIVERSARIES: John & Julie DaCosta, Nicola Palamara, Kevin & Beverley McFarlane, Vince, Julia & Liberato Dilullo, Luigi Fatone, Jozef Lichtenfelo, Alois Iskra, Rocco Resciniti, Bruno DiCristoforo

BAPTISMS: Jack Kemerer, Mila Reiffel, Hailey Stannard (P&P)

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Cheryl Lambert, Craig Cole, Patrick Duffy (Ireland), Craig Leite, Juliette Isla Kotarac, Anthony Continho, Anthony McCullough (Ireland), Ivanka Juran

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, August 18, 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

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

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

5.00PM

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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.		
Ι.	Holy Family Women's Group -	First Monday evening of each month at the Community Centre 7.00pm		
Ι.	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)		
.	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.		
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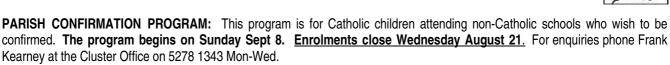
If you wish to know more about these groups, as well as about our Sacramental Program for children in non-Catholic schools, our Baptism and Wedding procedures, our Partnership with the Columbans in the Philippines and so on, please visit our webpage: www.pastoralclustergeelong.org

Liturgy in the Cluster:

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION: On Thursday 15th August there will be Masses celebrated in the Cluster at the

following times -

9.15am...Holy Family Church10.30am...Holy Spirit Church12.00noon...St Patrick's School7.00pm...Ss Peter & Paul's Church



FEDERAL ELECTION 2013:

The Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference has issued a statement encouraging Catholics to look beyond their own individual needs and consider the common good when deciding their vote. Catholic tradition holds that the common good is underpinned by the promotion and protection of human dignity. Implicit in seeking the common good is the desire to serve the poor, the marginalised, the sick and the forgotten in our community.

The bishops invite us to read and reflect on some issue statements that will be printed in the bulletin over the next four weeks - a few each week beginning this week.

Poor and Vulnerable

Any society is judged by how the weakest and poorest of its members are treated. The most vulnerable people are our greatest responsibility. We welcome and support the bipartisan commitment to the National Disability Insurance Scheme. We support and encourage Catholic social services, which serve more than one million Australians every year. Government priorities should focus first on the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable.

Marriage and Family

Families are the basic unit of society. There must be legal recognition of the unique nature of marriage between a man and a woman, and proper protection for the rights of children to relate to their natural mother and father. The Church acknowledges the many sad situations that mean one or both parents may not be present in a child's life. Single parent families need support in their important work, but children should not intentionally be deprived of their parents unless there is concern for children's safety. Tax arrangements, government payments and workplace relations laws should have as their primary aim the strengthening of families and the reduction of pressures on finances and family time.

Child Protection

As Catholic bishops and as individuals, we share the feelings of outrage that all decent people feel when they read the reports of sexual abuse. These are profound abuses of human dignity, contrary to the Gospel and are crimes. Over the past 20 years, there have been major developments in the way the Church responds to victims, deals with perpetrators and puts in place preventive measures. We will continue to co-operate with the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse both through the Church's new Truth, Justice and Healing Council and as individual bishops and dioceses, as the Commission requests. We will continue to work to eradicate the circumstances that enable abuse to occur and to seek to provide pastoral care and support for victims.

Community News:

- Aug 14... KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS: Annual Branch Meeting and Combined District Meeting next Wed 7.30pm, Clairvaux meeting rooms. Very important for members to attend.
- Aug 16... ELVIS SPECIAL FILM NIGHT: In memory 36 years since the death of Elvis Plaza Theatre, St Mary's Parish Centre. 'Loving You' plus highlights from his New York concert on 1972. Light supper, door prizes, raffles. Suggested donation of \$3/head would be appreciated. All welcome!
- Aug 25... BELMONT'S GRAND VARIETY CONCERT: Drop of a Hat Geelong Production A Concert of Fun and Fine Music with an all star cast of Geelong's finest performers on Stage 2pm at Belmont Seniors Theatre Hall, 52 Thomson St. Tickets only \$12 on sale now. Phone 5241 1776 proceeds to Knights of the Southern Cross charity work. Please support.
- Sept 11... MOVIE NIGHT: For Fr Mick's Mates.
- Sept 12... CHRIS MACKEY FREE TALK: *Improving Mental Health using Brain Science* 7.30-8.45pm at Geelong West Town Hall, Supper Room.
- Sept 19... ANNUAL DEANERY DINNER: An invitation to attend our Dinner at Samaritan House 'helping the homeless of Geelong', 6.30 for 7pm. Guest speaker Mr Ian Cover with entertainment from St Ignatius College. Tickets \$45 from Deanery Office, 150 Yarra St Geelong Ph 5222 1977 or ph Catherine Moon 0409 007 913. RSVP 3rd Sept.

Nov 5... MELBOURNE CUP LUNCHEON

Feb 28 2014... BAY CRUISE (Friday evening)

Mar 15/16... RELAY FOR LIFE AT DEAKIN UNIVERSITY

- THE 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 second Tuesday of each month at Dromoland House on Pakington St. For more information and reservations please phone Terry on 5221 7339.
- SAMARITAN HOUSE GEELONG LTD: Movie Nights Last Tuesday in the months of August, September, October and November at St Mary's Shirley Mills Theatre, 150 Yarra St 7.30pm. Subscription \$50. Total proceeds to Samaritan House. This month (August 27th) we present My Week with Marilyn. On Sept 24 Lincoln; Oct 29 Chicago; Nov 26 The Lady. For details ph Debbie Welsh on 5227 7218 or Debbie.welsh@bendigobank.com.au to secure your subscription and payments can be made at any branch of Bendigo Bank or sent to Samaritan House Geelong Ltd, 150 Yarra St 3220.

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When:	When: September 11, 2013					
Where:		ıza Theatre & Hibernian Hall	BEST EXOTIC-			
" Cost:	Cost: \$20 - All proceeds to Fr Mick's Mates					
- <u>Two Sessions</u> -						
Movie Session 1 at 4.00pm - BEST EXOTIC MARIGOLD HOTEL						
Movie Session 2 at 7.30pm - (Awaiting confirmation)						
" Finger food and refreshments served at 6.00pm. "						
A great opportunity to support Fr Mick's Mates and share a light meal together.						
	50 Tickets available for each session.					
I	Contacts: I	David Lunn 0408 378 982	н			
" Trish Stickland 5278 1343 / 0418 522 527 "						
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/From P1			··· ··· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
We have bigger hous		moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet our neighbour. We've	leisure, but less fun; more kinds of food, but less nutrition. 'These are the days of			
I families; more conveniences, but less the street to meet our neighbour. time; we have more degrees, but less conquered outer space; not inner			two incomes, but more divorce; of fancier			
sense; more knowledge, but less we've cleaned up the air, but polluted the houses, but broken homes. It is a tim						
judgment; more experts, but less soul; we've split the atom, but not our when the			when there is so much in the showroom			
solutions; more medicine	, but less health.	prejudice. We have higher incomes, but	window and nothing in the stockroom.'			
We have multiplied our	possessions, but	lower morale; we've become long on	We all know the world is not quite so neat,			
I reduced our value; we ta		quantity, but short on quality.	not so either/or, but these words focus the			
: too seldom, and hate t		'These are the times of tall men (sic), and short character; steep profits, and shallow	question well enough: what are the essentials of our life, or as Jesus puts it,			
l learned how to make a life; we've added years		relationships. These are the times of world	what is our treasure and where is our			
vears. 'We've been all		peace, but domestic violence; more	heart?			