



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:
www.pastoralclustergeelong.org

OFFICE:

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OFFICE HOURS:

Mon-Wed, Fri 9am-5pm, Thurs 9-2pm.

PARISH MANAGER:

Trish Stickland - Phone 5278 1343 (email: trish.stickland@cam.org.au)

PARISH SECRETARY:

Bernadette Bilogrevic - Phone 5278 1343 (email: cluster@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 Michael Tate

In the weeks before my ordination the Vicar General required me to swear an oath of loyalty to the Church and its teachings. I immediately thought of the least observed command of Our Lord in the Sermon on the Mount. Referring to oaths he taught, 'Do not swear at all ...instead let your "yes" mean yes and your "no" mean no. Whatever goes beyond these simple words is from the Evil One.'

The early Church took this prohibition extremely seriously. In fact, St James put it at the top of the list of practices to avoid. It was only when the Church and State

became entwined three hundred years later that that policy changed. The Church preferred to avoid tension with the political authority which required oaths as a supposed guarantee of truthful speaking.

I swore the oath, but it troubles me every year as the anniversary of my ordination comes up. I was weak. Whereas Our Lord was strong. When He was challenged by the High Priest to swear by the Living God whether He was the Christ, Jesus simply replied: 'The words are yours', refusing to invoke the Living God. (Matt 26:63-64). Aren't we meant to imitate Jesus? Yes or No. Our Lord tells us: '...anything more than this comes from the Evil One.' This is strong language. Why does Our Lord say

this?

In the same Sermon on the Mount, He teaches us the proper use of God's name: 'Our Father'. It is the beginning of the prayer which is Jesus' gift to his community. It is our privilege and right as adopted children of God to use that title in that way. That is the way in which Our Lord wants us to use the name of God. The use of God's name for oath-swearing is an abuse.

It is clear that Our Lord was trying to establish a new sort of society (The Kingdom) within which truth-telling was of paramount importance, where there is no two tiered way of speaking the truth.

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This weekend we extend a warm welcome to the Prep students of Holy Family and Holy Spirit Schools

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Year A - February 16, 2014.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

1st Reading: Lev 19:1-2,17-18

2nd Reading: 1Cor 3:16-23

Gospel: Mt 5:38-48



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 Saturday

11am 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays

Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West:

5.00pm Saturday

11am 2nd & 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

BAPTISMS:

1st & 3rd Sundays 12noon at Holy Spirit, 2nd & 4th Sundays 12noon at Ss P&P, 3rd Sunday 2pm at Holy Family

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:

Feb 17 - Stocks family, 22 Orr St; Feb 24-Mar 3 - Wright family, 42 Logan 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:

Brennan Houghton

ANNIVERSARIES:

Heather Brown, Bill Jess, Noel & Leon Kavenagh, Gerry Thornton, Patrick Hickey, Heather Rhodes, Fred Tuddenham Snr, Robert Neeld

1 MONTH SINCE DEATH:

Marisa DiBiagio

BAPTISMS:

Zoe Kent-Dirusso, Aliah Nolan, Sophia Scala (HF), Hope Fenske (HS)

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

June Bongiorno, Anna Alvaro, Francisca, Jesus & Kristopher Esperanza, Kath Leary, Terry Hart, Joe Vanjek, Rita Duggan McDonald, Celia Erfort, Theo DaCosta, Tanya Cervek, Kulandai Raj, Bob Ho, Monica Duggan

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, FEB 23, 2014.

(4th Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

8.00AM

F O'Neill

L Kelly

L Sells, E Kelly, B McFarlane

L&E Kelly

9.30AM

M Lukesic

M Baird, P Gizycki

D Lunn, P McBride, J McMahon, C Simpson, V Resciniti

E Glynn

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

6.00PM

M Lacy

C McShanag, G Harrison, E Cotter

M Brown

T McShanag

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

5.00PM

A Henderson

G Tolan

A Henderson, G Tolan, Dean Dougherty

R&K Maddalena

11.00AM

M Foley

J Fraatz

H&M Broekman, D Dougherty, J Gailius

M Broekman, D Dougherty, D Lipinski

R Zarb

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 Family Choir Practice -** Every Wednesday night at Holy Family Church, 7pm
 - **Manifold CWL -** Holy Spirit Hall, First Wednesday in the month
 - **Italian Mass -** First Thursday of the month in St Patrick's Chapel
 - **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:

- ♦ **ASHBY HALL:** The process for the lease of the Ashby Hall is well underway, albeit not finalised yet. The lease arrangement, if it succeeds will ensure that the Hall is now leased for market value. These additional funds will enable money to be set aside for the ongoing maintenance of the Hall, as well as other parish-based expenses. The tenant will have exclusive use of the Hall, consequently the monthly luncheons and funeral catering will now be held at Holy Spirit, Manifold Hts. (More details later).



RELAY FOR LIFE:

Fr Mick's Mates - Bay Cruise

\$20/person - Finger food provided, BYO drink.

When... Friday February 28th

Time... 7-9pm from Cunningham Pier, Geelong. All aboard!

Fr Mick's Mates Registrations will be taking place all through February - registration forms available (with an envelope attached) from the back of all Churches. Please place your form and money in the envelope and return through the collection plate.

Closing date - 3RD MARCH, 2014

PASTORAL CLUSTER REVIEW:

As part of our ongoing endeavours as a Pastoral Cluster, it is important to stop and reflect on the past and to prepare for the future. To that end a comprehensive review of the Cluster will be undertaken. An important element of the process will be an opportunity for you to express your own insights and reflections.

Step 1 - On Thursday 13th February we have engaged the services of a representative from the Office of Evangelisation to assist us in formulating a process for this Review.

Step 2 - Some of the Cluster staff will be attending the Beliefs and Practices of Australian Catholics Conference in Melbourne from Wednesday evening Feb 19 to Friday afternoon Feb 21. This conference will be strongly informed by research that has been undertaken and includes an impressive array of speakers who will provide insight on the issues and matters that are important to all Australian Catholics. This conference will hopefully assist in helping to get the 'big picture' which will give insight into our own particular situation.

Step 3 - Based on steps 1 and 2, a process yet to be determined will be implemented.

LENTEN PROGRAM - IN PREPARATION FOR EASTER:

This year the Pastoral Cluster will offer a 4-week program on Prayer which will explore different ways of listening and communing with God in prayer. This time of input, prayer and reflection will look at awareness exercises, imagination in prayers, use of scripture, centering prayer and walking meditation. Each session will be about 1¼ hours. Sr Jean McGonigal RSM will lead the session to be held in either Holy Spirit Hall or the Cluster Office, depending on numbers. Session will be during weeks beginning 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st March. Sign-up boards are in the Church entrances. Please give your name and preferred session times.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS MAGAZINE - FAITH AND LIFE, Summer 2014 Edition - There are still a few copies available for free at each of our Churches.

- ♦ **BAPTISM PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN:** The Pastoral Cluster will offer a Baptism program for children attending school and who have parent(s) who are Catholic. The 3-week program will begin on **Sunday 16th Feb** and finish on **Tuesday 4th March**. It is a mix of evening meetings for children and parents once per week and a lesson for the children during the first part of the 9.30am Mass at Holy Family Church on the Sundays of Feb 16, 23 and Mar 2. **Enrolments close Wed Feb 12 2014. Contact Frank Kearney at the Pastoral Office on 5278 1343 or email frank.kearney@cam.org.au**
- ♦ **PARISH FIRST RECONCILIATION PROGRAM:** This program is for children who are in Grade 3 or above and attend a non-Catholic school but have been baptized. The course will run over four weeks with a mixture of one hour evening meetings for parents and children (7.30pm Tuesdays) and Sunday morning lessons for the children during the first half of the 9.30am Mass at Holy Family Church. **Enrolments for this program close on Wednesday March 5 2014. Contact Frank Kearney at the Pastoral Cluster Office on 5278 1343 or email frank.kearney@cam.org.au**

Liturgy in the Cluster:

- Feb 16... Holy Family Welcome to the Preps and Teachers Mass - 9.30am
“ Holy Spirit Welcome to the Preps and Teachers Mass - 11am
Feb 17... Children's Liturgy Meeting - 4.30pm at the Pastoral Cluster
“ Liturgy Meeting - 7.30pm in the Pastoral Cluster Office

Liturgy in the parish is much better with strong involvement by the parish members. Ideally we would have two Readers, one Commentator and five Special Ministers at Holy Family and three Special Ministers at Holy Spirit and Ss Peter and Paul's for each Mass. We need people to stand up and help out, as over the last twelve months or so we have had a number of people unable to continue on the roster. If we could we would like to have a roster that involved volunteers only once per month. CAN YOU HELP? If you can, please let Fr Gerard, Fr Mick or Frank Kearney at the office know. Ph 5278 1343 or email cluster@cam.org.au

Community News:

- Feb 18... **PUBLIC FORUM:** "We are one, but we are many" - Working Towards a Humane Refugee Policy. 7.15pm at Geelong West Town Hall. All welcome, free entry and supper provided. Organised by the Combined Refugee Action Group and supported by the City of Greater Geelong.
- Feb 21... **ST MARY'S PLAZA - ELVIS NIGHT:** "King Galahad" 7.30pm - \$3 donation, light supper, raffles and prizes.
- Feb 22... **LITURGICAL MUSIC WORKSHOPS:** Conducted by Bro Michael Herry FMS at Nazareth Church Grovedale - gold coin donation. To book ph Sherry Watson 0417 259 735 (shezzawatto@gmail.com)
- Feb 23... **GET ORGAN-ISED:** The Society of Organists (Vic) will again partner with the City of Melbourne to host an Organ Day to promote the Pipe Organ and to encourage young players to perform. 11.30am-6pm at the Melbourne Town Hall, admission is free. Bookings for the guided Museum visits and Open Console session can be made at no charge on www.trybooking.com/EDEK
- Mar 15... **ST PATRICK'S DAY BALL:** The Geelong Irish Society invites you to its Ball at 6pm - 5 courses and entertainment, celebrating 50 years. Contact Paula on 0438 400 003.
- Mar 1... **BOOK FAIR:** Fete Stalls & BBQ 9am-2pm at Lumen Christi Church, Kensington Rd Leopold. CDs, DVDs, D'shire teas, cakes, jams, craft, plants, bric-a-brac, pre-loved fashion and children's activities.
- Mar 7... **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE:** Wesley Uniting Church, 100 Yarra St at 11am. Theme - *Streams in the Desert* written by the WDP Committee in Egypt, with guest speaker Pastor Joy Cassidy, Church of Christ, Latrobe Tce. Everyone welcome and light lunch will be served after the Service. For information/transport ph Jeanette Sheahan on 5278 2063.
- Mar 11... **SUICIDE PREVENTION WORKSHOP:** Wesley Life Force will be conducting this workshop at the Mercure Hotel, Otway Room, cnr Gheringhap & Myers St from 9am-4pm. No charge - the program helps participants recognize when a person may be having thoughts of suicide and provides a simple strategy to intervene and assist them. If you know of any individuals or groups who may be interesting in attending this workshop please ask them to register using this link - eventbrite.com.au/e/wl-3157-wesley-lifeforce-suicide-prevention-6hr-workshop-geelong-vic-tickets-10568938981
The training is open to community members aged over 18 years.

THANKYOU FROM DESMA: *We would like to thank Fr Gerard and Fr Mick for concelebrating the Requiem Mass for our beloved Damian. We would also like to extend our thanks to the Cluster Community for all the support and generosity we received through prayers, flowers, gifts, cards and food. Please accept this as our personal thanks - God bless you all. (Desma and Dougherty family)*

From P1...

Anything more by way of pious veneer devalues plain speaking. Straightforward, unadorned language will do.

Truth telling should issue simply from the character of the person – the truthful person truthes. We know this at the very private level of intimate relationships. Such relationships are easily fractured or soured by lying. At the community level, a society will soon break down if the words of its members cannot be relied on.

It is shocking, but true, to realise that in this respect, secular society is more in conformity with the Sermon on the Mount!

At least it allows for observance of Our Lord's injunction. For example, Parliamentarians are offered the choice of an oath or an affirmation in taking up their duties in the Chamber. The Courts offer the same choice, and if the accused makes the affirmation, no adverse inference can be drawn by Judge or jury.

And the Church? The Church needs to listen to the epistle of St James. It was written within living memory of the Sermon on the Mount and is astonishing in recalling this passage almost verbatim, urging it on to a new generation of disciples. St James writes, 'Above all, my beloved, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by

any other oath, but let your "yes" be yes and your "no" be no so that you may not fall under condemnation.' (James 5:12-13).

The Church needs to put itself under the authority of the Sermon on the Mount, or rather under the authority of the Divine Teacher. Then perhaps it will find itself able to teach the rest of the Sermon with greater credibility, a greater chance of being heard. The Church needs to hear for itself the final great imperative in this Gospel: 'Teach them to keep *all* that I have commanded you.'