



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

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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:

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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

Warfare and the Church

This passage of Scripture changed my life – completely. Revelation became revolution! I had always read 'Be perfect as your Heavenly Father is perfect' as advocating rather static anaemic fault-less-ness. Not very appealing! But, sitting in my room one day, I realised that the Greek word we usually translate as 'perfect' is closer to the idea of a perfect wine – one that has matured and has reached its full potential, everything it was capable of being.

Our Lord gives a striking example of God being everything God is capable of being. It is far from static or anaemic! '...our Father in Heaven ...causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike.' And then Our Lord commands us to be everything we are meant to be as human beings in exactly the same

respect.

This exploded in my consciousness like a bomb! We are to be gracefully mature adult disciples of Jesus by imitating God who does not withhold life-giving sun and rain from people because they are bad or dishonest. God does not extinguish the life of human beings because they are evil, because they are enemies. And we are to be the same as God in this regard. *That* is how we are to love our enemies.

To cut a short story short, I became a Christian Pacifist. I revered the Church of the first three Centuries, the Martyr Church which refused to bear arms. Dr Martin Luther King became my hero. He had practised active non-violence precisely in following the Sermon on the Mount, and had transformed a segregated and racist United States.

I purchased a black and white poster of King, hanging it on the wall above my desk. On my

return to Australia, I got involved in politics in order to pressure the Government to withdraw our troops from Vietnam. The rest is history. I was elected to the Senate and was Minister for Justice for six years. Everything was going swimmingly, and I had the satisfaction of a certain superiority. I knew what it was to be a true follower of Jesus Christ, and I was living the dream.

The dream was shattered in January of 1991. The Prime Minister required a vote in the Senate supporting the despatch of naval units for a UN Security Council-authorised military operation to expel Iraq's Saddam Hussein from Kuwait which he had invaded and occupied.

To cut a very long story short, after an anguished weekend I concluded that all the criteria for a Just War in defence of the innocent against aggression were fulfilled, and I voted for the motion. /Cont'd P4

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Year A - February 23, 2014.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord is kind and merciful.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Whoever keeps the word of Christ,
grows perfect in the love of God.
Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

1st Reading: Is 49:14-15
2nd Reading: 1Cor 4:1-5
Gospel: Mt 6:24-34



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 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:

Lola Arribas, Allan Golding, Bob Ho, Margaret Brain

ANNIVERSARIES:

George Finn, Domenico Mileto, Heather Osborne, David Rhodes, Patrick Hogan, Angelina DePalma, William Maher

BAPTISMS:

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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, 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, MAR 3, 2014.

(1st Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

8.00AM

R Allum

A Vanjek

J Bartolo, I Vanjek, B McFarlane

U Guardiano, K McArthur

9.30AM

T McMahon

C&J Taylor

P Carmody, D Farrar, R Zanardo, B Kline

M&E Hoffman

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

6.00PM

E Cotter

J O'Neill

C Laffy, M Abbott, D Torpy

B Stocks

11.00AM

B Middleton

P Joyce

V Trinder, P Joyce, R Pugh

D King, I Cleary, C Kelynack

L Coles

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

5.00PM

C O'Brien

D Woods

N Neeld, P McGlinchy

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.

On Feb 13th Lucy Carroll from the Office of Evangelisation, facilitated a meeting with the Parish Team about ideas and processes to assist in an appropriate review process. It was an informative and valuable session.

At the time the Bulletin was going to Press - Trish, Fr Mick and I (Frank was available for one session) were attending "The Beliefs and Practices of Australian Conference". The topics include: Engaging Young People in the Parish Life - what does the research say; Attendance and Identification - what difference do they make; Signs of Hope and Challenge - trends in the vitality of Australian Churches; Building Stronger Parishes - some practical ideas, etc.

Hopefully the Conference will, amongst other things, provide evidence based insights/strategies for our Pastoral Cluster Review.

(Fr Gerard)

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.

- ♦ **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**
- ♦ **Ss PETER & PAUL'S LUNCHEON:** 2nd March at Holy Spirit Hall. Please bring a plate to share - all welcome!
- ♦ **HOLY SPIRIT:** In response to the two terrible episodes of vandalism at Holy Spirit Church, a comprehensive security system has been installed.

Liturgy in the Cluster:

NEW MASS ROSTERS:

People are still volunteering, but we need more to fill all positions. Please give consideration to being a Commentator, Lector, Special Minister, Welcomer, Projectionist, Children's Liturgy Helper. Any training you like will be provided to ensure you "go in confidently". New Rosters will be completed in a few weeks and will become effective on the weekend of 6/7th April, 2014.

Community News:

- 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.
- 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.
- Apr 2...** **SAMARITAN HOUSE SPECIAL MOVIE NIGHT:** "The Great Gatsby" 4pm and 7.30pm. \$20 also includes a light meal (6.30pm). 20s dress optional for a fun night. Bookings: Bendigo Bank BSB 633000 Samaritan House a/c 144974029. Reference your name and session time, eg John Smith 4.30pm. Enquiries ph 5243 2870.

ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL REUNION: It has been 10+ years since we were there. I invite families, teachers and students from years 2000 to 2004 to this event. Meet at the school in Petrel St, Geelong West, at 11.30am where Jan Fagan will give us a tour of the school - there have been many changes. Afterwards you are welcome to meet for lunch at 12.30pm at the Telegraph Hotel, 2 Pakington St Geelong West. Looking forward to catching up with all. **RSVP by Sunday 16th March** to Sandra Courtney 0425 741 534 or Kathy Hunt in box on event.

GEELONG ST PAT'S CUP: If January and February were too hot to socialize, come to the Terindah Estate Geelong St Pat's Cup on **Saturday 15 March**. Buy a Lawn Picnic Pass for \$40 which includes entry x 2; picnic rug, picnic lunch box for 2 plus two 500g bottles iced tea - and watch the races from the lawn. Ian Cover will be entertaining you interviewing local personalities on the big screen between the races. Or dine upstairs in comfort with delicious 3-course meal and full waiter service. Or book a Marquee from as low as \$190. Children u/17 admitted free with lots of giveaways - yo-yos, pencils, sunscreen, bottled water, sunglasses, etc. Ph Catherine Moon 0409 007913 to book a Lawn Pass, Dining Package or Marquee, or just come to the St Pat's Races!

CATHOLIC SECONDARY COLLEGES OPEN DAYS:

- Friday Mar 21...** **Clonard College Geelong**, 225 Church St Herne Hill. Tours 1pm & 4.30pm, 'See the College at Work' Mon 24 March 9.15am
Ph: 5278 2155, email: office@clonard.catholic.edu.au
- Sunday Mar 23...** **St Ignatius College**, 27 Peninsula Dve Drysdale. 11am-2pm, Information Sessions 11am & 12.15pm.
Ph: 5251 1136, email: info@ignatius.vic.edu.au
- Tuesday Mar 25...** **Sacred Heart College**, Retreat Rd Newtown. Tour 1 - 3.45pm, Information session 5-5.30pm, Tour 2 - 5.30pm, Information session 7.30pm. Ph: 5221 4211, email: info@shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au
- Thursday April 24...** **St Joseph's College**, Newtown Campus: 135 Aphrasia St Newtown; Westcourt Campus: 31 Minerva Rd Herne Hill.
Pre-register for our Open Day online at www.sjc.vic.edu.au Ph: 5226 8100, email: sjcoffice@sjc.vic.edu.au

From P1...

I was and am sure that *that* Iraq war was justified by the teaching of the Church for the last sixteen hundred years. But my heart broke. I realised that I had betrayed the Divine Teacher of the Sermon on the Mount. I turned the photo of Martin Luther King to the wall. I could not bear his eyes gazing into my soul. I could not open Matthew's Gospel for fear of opening it at today's passage.

I am still not entirely at peace. I derive some consolation from the fact that Pope John Paul II, usually a Pope of great certainties, experienced the same turmoil of heart and mind in wrestling with this issue. No-one can read his Encyclical *Evangelium Vitae* without

seeing the struggle. He could not resolve the tension between natural just war principles and the injunction of Our Lord. (See especially *Evangelium Vitae* 55)

We need two things to happen. First, the Church as a whole has to keep wrestling with the issue. Jesus' command: 'You must be ...' is directed to *You* in the plural. It is communal, social. Conservative US commentators like to see Pope John Paul II's teaching on warfare as an idiosyncratic aberration. No, the Holy Spirit is moving the Church as the community of Christ's faithful in a direction not experienced since its first three centuries.

Second, Our Lord insists in this passage that

we pray *on behalf* of those who want to do us harm. If they are evil, if they are aggressors, if they are willing to harm the innocent, they *need* prayer. We have to pray on their behalf that they be rescued from the deforming, dehumanising, diabolical ideology which impels them.

To pray for such as these is to share in the perfection of 'Our Heavenly Father who causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike.' It is to move towards becoming *perfectly mature* followers of the Divine Teacher, those who might better hear His voice: 'Blessed are the peacemakers.'