



# Pastoral Cluster

Incorporating the Parishes of Holy Family Bell Park, Ss Peter & Paul's Geelong West & Holy Spirit Manifold Hts.

## PARISH PRIESTS:

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## SCHOOL PRINCIPALS:

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## Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ

Hearing the story of Adam and Eve in today's first reading reminds me of the little boy who opened the large family Bible with fascination, and looked at the old pages as he turned them. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible, and he picked it up and looked at it closely. It was an old leaf from a tree that had been pressed in between the pages. 'Mummy, look what I found', the little boy called out. 'What have you got there, dear?' his mother asked. With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered: 'I think it's Adam's suit!'

The Genesis story about the origins of sin in the world rewards very careful reading. The serpent promises Eve two things: that her eyes will be opened to know good from evil and that this will make her like God. Such a temptation was irresistible and nothing has changed.

Knowledge is a gift given us by God. I am always grateful for being a Catholic because, along with other long-standing Christian denominations, we highly value scholarship, rational thought and inquiry. As anxious as the Church has sometimes been about scientific investigations, our best traditions are to see God revealed in human thoughts and scientific achievements that ennoble our human family. It is the application of knowledge, or the way it is abused, that can be harmful.

On the domestic front, many families have a 'know-it-all', the relative who has an extraordinary ability to retain facts and figures and who seems to gain a sense of self-worth by correcting us mid-sentence when we get a number, place or fact wrong. He or she can be very irritating. On the world stage we have seen how

scientific knowledge can try and seduce us into believing that all scientific achievements are good no matter how unknown the consequences of these choices might be for future generations. Every new piece of knowledge brings with it wonderful potentialities and serious responsibilities.

As this story demonstrates, the temptation to know as much as God has never been more real than it is right now.

One day a group of scientists got together and decided that man had come a long way and no longer needed God. The scientists walk up to God and say, 'God we've decided that we no longer need you. We're to the point that we can clone people and do many miraculous things, so why don't you just go on and get lost.'

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## First Sunday of Lent

(Year A - March 9, 2014.)

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
king of endless glory!**

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
king of endless glory!**

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

#### 2nd Sunday of Lent (Year A)

1st Reading: Gen 12:1-4

2nd Reading: 2Tim 1:8-10

Gospel: Mt 17:1-9



### 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  
Croatian... 11am 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:

**Mar 10&17:** Romios family, 85 Sunderland Rd;

**Mar 24&31:** DeLuca family, 44 Fairy St;

**Apr 7&14:** Iannuzzi family, 17 Roxby 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:** Donald Richardson, Lilia Edwards

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Giuseppe & Chiara Gulli (Italy), Joan Booth, Joe Trinder, Reg McFarlane, Rebecca Martinez-Gyaltso, Vjekoslav Iskra

**BAPTISMS:** Sophie Powell, Ella Barclay (P&P)

**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, Graeme Allsop

### 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 16, 2014.**

(3rd Sunday of the Month)

### HOLY FAMILY

Commentators  
Lectors  
Special Ministers  
Welcomers

### 8.00AM

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

### 9.30AM

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

### HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators  
Lectors  
Special Ministers  
Welcomers  
Projectionist

### 6.00PM

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

### 11.00AM

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

### Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators  
Lectors  
Special Ministers  
Welcomers  
Projectionist

### 5.00PM

D Maddalena  
K Maddalena  
K Maddalena

## 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](http://www.pastoralclustergeelong.org)**

## Cluster News:

### A CALL TO MISSION - An Invitation to Review:

In last week's bulletin a section of Pope Francis' first Apostolic Exhortation - *Evangelii Gaudium, the Joy of the Gospel* - was quoted. In the quote the Holy Father wrote: "I dream of a 'missionary option', that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channelled for the evangelisation of today's world rather than for her self-preservation." The missionary call included renewal of structures and the parish was an important structure in the life of the Church. Again, quoting the Holy Father: "The Church living in the midst of the homes of her sons and daughters... The parish is the presence of the Church in a given territory, an environment for hearing God's word, for growth in the Christian life, for dialogue, proclamation, charitable outreach, worship and celebration."

In light of the missionary call of Pope Francis, as part of our Review during Lent there will be two surveys conducted. This week I will provide an overview of the rationale for the Review, looking particularly at the challenges that confront the Church at present. The surveys will be conducted over two weeks. Everyone will be invited to fill in the surveys during the Mass. The first survey will be to gauge your views on how the Pastoral Cluster is going. The second will be to gauge what you believe to be the most important things that we focus on into the future. Thanking you in anticipation - (Fr Gerard)

**LENTEN PROGRAM - IN PREPARATION FOR EASTER:** There will be a 4-week program on Prayer that explores different ways of communing with God in prayer. The sessions will begin the week beginning 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st March. Times of the sessions are: Tuesday 1.30pm, 7.30pm and Thursday 7.30pm at Holy Spirit Hall. We thank Sr Jean McGonigal RSM for leading these sessions.

**LENTEN MEDITATIONS:** Music at the Basilica Inc presents five Lenten Meditations at St Mary's Basilica on the Wednesdays of Lent - 12,19,26 March and 2,9 April from 5.15-5.45pm. Enjoy music, readings and quiet reflections at the end of a busy day. Enquiries Maureen Zampatti 0407 680 751.

### **PROJECT COMPASSION:**

One element of Lent is that it is a time of almsgiving, that is support for the poor and disadvantaged of our world. Over the coming weeks there will be stories of how your support for Project Compassion is a tangible and effective way of almsgiving.



*Project Compassion Boxes are available at all Churches.*



Your donation to Project Compassion is helping Caritas Australia end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. This week we meet 18 year old Maristely who lives in a favela (slum) in São Paulo, Brazil with her family. Thanks to the *Movement for the Defence of Favela Residents*, they have improved living conditions in their favela and a leadership program for young people means Maristely and her family are now enjoying a full life, and are proud of where they live. Please donate to Project Compassion today. Your solidarity means communities like Maristely's can enjoy a full life

**Please donate to Project Compassion today.**

**BAPTISM PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN:** Six children and their parents from the Cluster or Corio parish will complete this program on Tuesday evening. Together they explored the topics of *Jesus, The Rite of Baptism* and *What does it mean to be Church*. We welcome them into our Church and assure them of the support of their parishes as they join us to live out the Christian life and be the body of Christ in our world.

**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.

**DEANERY RAFFLE:** Proceeds to the Columban Partnership - 60 books still available. Please contact David Lunn on 0408 378 982 if you can assist.



## RELAY FOR LIFE - FR MICK'S MATES:

Geelong Showgrounds, Breakwater Road East Geelong - Enter via Gate 2

(Please note change of venue)

12noon Saturday March 15 - 12noon Sunday March 16

### Program for Saturday March 15

11.45 Opening Ceremony, 12noon First Lap - Carers & Survivors,  
1pm the Carers & Survivors A/noon Tea, 8.30pm Candlelight Ceremony.

All Fr Mick's Mates are invited to join the team for a BBQ at 7pm. Please bring a salad to share.

Anyone available to assist in setting up of our site at 9am Saturday March 15, please contact David on 0408 378 982.

**BAY CRUISE:** Last Friday's Bay Cruise was a pleasant and enjoyable outing in support of a good cause - Fr Mick's Mates. Thankyou to all those who supported the event and special thanks to all those who assisted with the catering.



**IRISH FOLK FESTIVAL:** St Patrick's Primary School Irish Folk Festival will be held on 16th March between 11am and 4pm on the grounds of St Patrick's Primary School, Britannia St Geelong West.

There will be plenty of entertainment including the Mongolian Fishmongers, thrilling carnival rides as well as face painting, show bags, animal farm, Silent Auction, and much, much more!



## Community News:

- Mar 12...** **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Monthly meeting 7.30pm, Clairvaux Meeting Rooms Belmont. Members please attend and bring a plate.
- Mar 13...** **GOOD WORKS/GOOD LIFE PROGRAM:** During Lent St Bernard's Parish is taking a close look at some of the good works that help make Geelong a better place to live. The first session is *Helping Newcomers and Migrants Settle Here*. Venue is at St Bernard's Church 7.30pm - all welcome.
- 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.
- "** **GEELONG ST PAT'S CUP:** The Terindah Estate St Pat's Cup - a variety of packages available to enjoy a fun day at the Races. For further details ph Catherine Moon 0409 007 913.
- Mar 17...** **ST PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS:** Mass 7pm at St Mary's Basilica with a social get together with Irish musicians, singers and dancers in the Pioneer Centre to follow. Phone St Mary's Office 5222 1977.
- "** **ST PATRICK'S PAST PUPILS REUNION:** Sphinx Hotel, Thompson Rd North Geelong. RSVP Shirley 5248 3347.
- Mar 18...** **GOOD WORKS/GOOD LIFE PROGRAM:** During Lent St Bernard's Parish is taking a close look at some of the good works that help make Geelong a better place to live. The second session is *Looking After the Homeless*. Venue is at St Bernard's Church 7.30pm - all welcome.
- Mar 23...** **ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL REUNION:** Invitation to families, teachers and students from Yrs 2000-2004 at St Patrick's School for tour and luncheon at the Telegraph Hotel to follow. RSVP 16th March to Sandra Courtney 0425 741 534
- Mar 27...** **GOOD WORKS/GOOD LIFE PROGRAM:** During Lent St Bernard's Parish is taking a close look at some of the good works that help make Geelong a better place to live. The third session is *Mentoring Youth for Justice - The Justice Mission of Sacred Heart College*. Venue is at St Bernard's Church 7.30pm - all welcome.
- Mar 30...** **SACRED HEART COLLEGE GEELONG ALUMNI ASSOCIATION:** Annual General Meeting and Reunion at Celestine Moran Hospitality Centre, Sacred Heart College, 1-3.30pm. Ph 5222 0403 for details or email [ksuvoltos@shcgeelongcatholic.edu.au](mailto:ksuvoltos@shcgeelongcatholic.edu.au)

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.sjc.vic.edu.au) Ph: 5226 8100, email: [sjcoffice@sjc.vic.edu.au](mailto:sjcoffice@sjc.vic.edu.au)

From P1...

God listened patiently and after the scientists were finished, said, 'Very well! How about this? Let's have a woman-and-man-making contest.' To which they agreed. However God added, 'How about we do this just like I did back in the old days with Adam?' The scientists said, 'Sure, no problem', and bent down and grabbed some dirt. God just looked at them and said, 'No, no, no. You go and get your own

dirt!'

Today's Gospel is about knowledge too. Satan knows who Jesus is. His temptations are an attempt to get Jesus to betray his humanity and not endure the limitations of his daily life. Jesus knows that the only way to be true to his divinity is allow us to see it shine in and through his human life. The rejection of the temptation to compromise his frail human frame gives us the hope that we, too, can glimpse the power of God's

greatness in every moment we reject the desire to be directors of our own destiny and to see good triumph over evil in the choices we make.

It's a relief to know we don't have to be God!

May this Lent see us do what we are created for: to use all our knowledge to praise, reverence and serve the Loving One who willed us into being.