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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 Richard Leonard SJ

s a child I can remember our diocese having large processions for the feasts of Corpus Christi, Christ the King and one of the Marian feast days. They were called 'public demonstrations of Catholic faith'. For children they were sometimes long and boring, but they did give us a sense that we belonged to something big, and someone bigger, and that our faith had a 'stand up and be counted' dimension to it. For many Catholics today large-scale religious processions are quickly becoming a thing of the past. That's a pity.

The point of religious processions is not just to get us from one location to the next. It is also to mark a rite of passage. Think of the smaller processions most Christians undertake in their lives: to the baptismal font; down the aisle to take their marriage vows, or to graduate from a school or college and

to be farewelled. In each case we recess out of the Church differently from how we entered it: as a newly initiated member of the Christian community; as a husband or wife; as a graduate; and to be buried.

The Palm Sunday Procession is the last congregational one mandated by the Missal to be observed throughout the entire Church. Recalling Jesus' procession into Jerusalem this procession is not meant to be an historical pageant. Like all liturgical moments it's meant to intersect with our own lives and speak to our journey of faith. What makes this procession so powerful is that it starts with hysteria and ends in death. And that tells us something we need to hear.

Matthew's account of the Passion is very tough on the Jewish leaders. His entire

Gospel has been preparing the hearer for this. Matthew shows that even though the Jews had the New Moses right in front of them, they were unable to recognise him because he didn't fit their expectations of the Messiah. The crowd in Jerusalem receive him like a pop star, acclaiming him as their own. By week's end the Chief Priests and elders manipulate the crowd's enthusiasm to force Pilate to execute Jesus. And throughout it all, during the adulation of the crowd, their change of allegiance to Barabbas and at his trial, Jesus hardly says a word. In Matthew's Gospel Jesus' silence is deafening.

In the journey of faith we should always be on our guard against being part of a manipulated crowd.

/Cont'd P4...

# Palm Sunday

(Year A - April 13, 2014.)

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Hosanna to the Son of David:

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

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

Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross.

Therefore God raised him on high.

# **NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Easter Sunday (Year A)

1st Reading: Acts 10:34,37-43 2nd Reading: Col 3:1-4 Gospel: Jn 20:1-9



### 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.

## As a Community We Pray For:

**RECENT DEATHS:** Fr Des Byrne, John Gillett, Anthony Suhan, Doreen Jewell, Maillina Broska, Madonna

Lynch, Veronica Burr, Gaetano Pino

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Ray Walpole, Agata Gulli, Marcella Compi, Aldo Scarpetti, Brodie Stead, Aileen Appleford,

Clinton Price, Anne McHugh

**BAPTISMS:** Knox Dudley, Charlie Mifsud, Emma White

**PRAY FOR THE SICK:** June Bongiorno, Anna Alvaro, Francisca, Jesus & Kristopher Esperanza, Kath Leary, Terry

Hart, Rita Duggan McDonald, Celia Erfort, Theo DaCosta, Tanya Cervek, Kulandai Raj,

Monica Duggan, Graeme Allsop, John Kimber, Kathleen Nehill, Julita Aquino

# ROSTER FOR HOLY WEEK

8-9-KD/9-8

**HOLY THURSDAY:** 

**Holy Spirit - 7.00pm** Commentator M Kroger

Lectors T McFarlane, G Tolan

Special Ministers M Fiorillo, E Cotter, A Henderson,

L Stalio, N Neeld, M Gifford

Projectionist B Stocks

**GOOD FRIDAY:** 

Holy Family - 3.00pm Commentator J McKenzie

Lectors G Tolan, D Lunn

Projectionist C Resciniti

**EASTER VIGIL:** 

**Holy Family - 7.30pm** Commentator M Kroger

Lectors J McKenzie, P Gizycki, B Middleton,

A Hubbard

Special Ministers J&C Taylor, Lorraine Sells, M Gifford,

M Burn, M Fiorillo

Projectionist C Resciniti

**EASTER SUNDAY:** 

Holy Family - 8.00am Commentator K Saunders

Lectors B Rainbow, F O'Neill

Special Ministers P Ruggeri, R Culo, B McFarlane,

J Sheahan, I Vanjek

Projectionist R Allum

Holy Family - 9.30am Commentator D Lunn

Lectors M Baird, T McMahon

Special Ministers M Perera, M Baird, A Vanjek,

D Lunn, B Kline

Projectionist C Resciniti

Ss Peter & Paul's - 10.00am Commentator E Strzwlecki

Lectors A Henderson, K Maddalena

Special Ministers M Broekman, A Henderson,

K Maddalena

Projectionist A Zarb

Holy Spirit - 11.00am Commentator E Cotter

Lectors J O'Neill, J Ryan

Special Ministers L Stalio, R O'Neill, Lisa Sells

Projectionist L Coles

## RECURRING ACTIVITIES IN THE CLUSTER:

Pastoral Cluster Luncheon -First Sunday of each month at the Holy Spirit Hall from 12noon. BYO food and drink to share. 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

2nd and 4th Mondays 7.30pm in the Community Centre Baptism Preps -

1st and 3rd Sunday at 9.30am Mass (during school term) Children's Liturgy -Holy Family -1st and 3rd Sundays at 11am Mass (during school term) Holy Spirit -

Ss Peter & Paul's-2nd and 4th Sunday at 11.00am Mass (during school term)

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

Second Tuesday of each month, 6pm at Dromoland. Dinner & Guest speaker. Ph Terry on 5221 7339 Catholic Diners' Club -

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

## **Easter Ceremonies in the Pastoral Cluster**



Palm Sunday - April 12/13 -Please bring a palm/greenery for blessing.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation - Second Rite:

Wednesday April 16th 7.30pm Holy Family

Mass of Anointing:

Wednesday April 16th 11.30am Holy Spirit, followed by lunch

Mass of the Lord's Supper:

Holy Thursday April 17th 7.00pm Holy Spirit, followed by Adoration

Way of the Cross:

Good Friday April 18th 10.00am Ss Peter & Paul's 10.30am

Holy Family 11.00am Holy Spirit

Celebration of the Lord's Passion:

Good Friday April 18th 3.00pm Holy Family

**Easter Vigil:** 

Saturday April 19th 7.30pm Holy Family

**Easter Sunday Masses:** 

Sunday April 20th 8.00am Holy Family

9.30am Holy Family

9.30am St Patrick's Chapel (Italian) Ss Peter & Paul's 10.00am

Holy Spirit 11.00am

**Blessing of Easter Food:** 

Saturday April 19th 4.00pm Holy Family

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

- Manifold Branch of Catholic Women's League will be hosting the luncheon after the 11.30am Anointing Mass at Holy Spirit Church on Wed 16th April. CWL members a plate of food please. For transport ph Tricia Joyce 5221 1986 or Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063.
- There will be NO Saturday evening Masses on Saturday April 19th. The Easter Vigil is the only Mass in the Cluster on Holy Saturday.
- There will be NO Masses on Wednesday April 16th 9am at Holy Spirit, Thursday April 17th 9.15am at Holy Family, Friday April 18th  $\Rightarrow$ 11am at Holy Spirit, Saturday April 19th 9am at Holy Spirit.
- Fr Mick and I are aware that some people may not wish to come to Reconciliation in the dark. To accommodate this situation there will be opportunities for First Rite Reconciliation available after the 5pm Mass at Ss Peter & Paul's and before the 6pm Mass at Holy Spirit (5.30-5.50pm) on April 12th.



#### THE PASTORAL CLUSTER IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SACRED HEART COLLEGE:

invites you to:



MOTHERS FOR MOTHERS HIGH TEA - a great Mother's Day Gift

Date: Saturday May 10th, 2014

Time: 2.00pm

Venue: Sacred Heart College, Retreat Rd Newtown

Cost: \$25

Contact: Trish Stickland, 5278 1343

The proceeds from the High Tea is two-fold - 1] To support our Philippines Partnership

2] To support the Sacred Heart College Scholarship Program.



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

**CANDLELIGHT CEREMONY** 

Time: 6.30-7pm Candle Bag Inscription & Decoration with 7.30-8pm the Candlelight Ceremony

Details: Sunday 13th April at the Deakin Universit Waterfront Campus, John Hay Courtyard (entrance from Gheringhap St main

entrance) with parking in the Deakin Uni Carpark CP2 off Smyth St - free after 4.30pm.

Please Note: Survivors and/or carers - wear your sashes proudly!

Candles and bags will be available, courtesy of the Cancer Council of Vic. Instead of placing your candle in a 'plastic tub', you might like to bring a tin of food to balance your candle on. We will make a donation to Christ

Church Emergency Food Relief Program on behalf of all the 2014 teams.

**ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS** are a way to save up to 50% or receive 2 for 1 offers from many of the best restaurants, arts, attractions, hotels, travel, shopping and much, much more **AND** they are available for sale at the Cluster Office for \$55. Please contact Trish on 5278 1343 - all proceeds to Fr Mick's Mates (available for collection now). Order forms available at the back of each Church.



**DIVINE MERCY:** The Divine Mercy Feast will be celebrated on April 27th this year at Holy Spirit Church at 2pm with Rosary and Divine Mercy prayers. 3pm Holy Mass concludes with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Confession from 1pm. Please join in to spend an afternoon on this day with Our Lord.

**DINING IN THE PASTORAL CLUSTER:** For many years there has been a shared luncheon that has been open to all at Ss Peter & Paul's Hall after the 11am Mass on the 2nd Sunday of each month. Now that the Hall is commercially leased we no longer can use the small Hall. To continue the tradition the luncheon has been changed to the 1st Sunday of the Month at the Holy Spirit Hall - everyone is welcome, please bring a plate to share.

## **Community News:**

April 13... PRAYER SERVICE IN SOLIDARITY WITH REFUGEES ASYLUM SEEKERS: 1-1.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral with celebrant Bishop Vincent Long. Whoever turns refugees away forgets that Jesus was also one (Pope Francis 2013)

WALK FOR JUSTICE FOR REFUGEES: Palm Sunday at the State Library, Melbourne, cnr Swanston & Latrobe Sts

**April 16... SEVEN LAST VOICES:** The Richmond Quartet will perform a presentation of music, poetry and images at 8pm at St Mary's Basilica. Entry by donation.

April 24... ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE OPEN DAY: 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

#### PROJECT COMPASSION:

As part of the Holy Thursday celebration, you will be invited to place your Project Compassion box at the foot of the Altar. Thereafter the collection of the boxes will take place on Easter Sunday and the following Sunday.





Your support for Project Compassion allows Caritas Australia to lift the voices of the poor and promote the dignity of each person, regardless of ethnicity, religion or cultural beliefs. This week we meet Nirangini in Sri Lanka. From 1983 to 2009 a civil war affected Sri Lanka, and Nirangini and her entire community were forced to leave their village. Thanks to your support, Nirangini now has a permanent home back in her childhood village and she and her son are re-establishing their lives.

Please donate to Project Compassion today so partnerships like this can continue to grow.

/From P1...

The unchecked enthusiasms of a crowd can carry us away to places, people or things we would not ordinarily choose and should not embrace. If we are vulnerable, a gifted guru through his or her version of eternal life can whip us up into a frenzy.

We only have to look at the power of the media and advertising to see how susceptible we are to becoming a slave to fashionable ideologies, dress codes and what and who is in or out. Every time we buy something because someone else has it or because we

convince ourselves that our wants are really our needs, the crowd has won. The story of Passion Sunday is that manipulation of a crowd, even by legitimate authorities, can be the beginning of spiritual death. Hype often distorts priorities, blurs good judgment and can choose expediency over integrity.

So what's the remedy to being manipulated, to regaining a sense of what really matters, to standing up against the crowd for the values we know are right? Jesus shows us in Matthew's Gospel. It starts with silence. It's

being a contemplative in a manic world and praying for the courage to dissent from the crowd's hyped-up madness.

As we process into Holy Week, this annual rite of passage for our faith, may we model our lives on Jesus in every way by creating the silence we need in our lives to sort out our priorities, by using silence powerfully in a world that loves words but has very little to say about our meaning and destiny and allowing our sacrificial love, even to the point of death, to do all the talking.