



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:
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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:

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THANKSGIVING CO-ORD:

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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

A man was driving along the road when he saw the Easter Bunny hop into his lane. He swerved to avoid hitting the bunny, but couldn't do so. The basket of eggs went everywhere. The driver felt guilty and began to cry. A woman saw the man and pulled over. 'What's wrong?' she asked. 'I accidentally killed the Easter Bunny', he explained. The woman knew exactly what to do. She went to her car, pulled out a spray can, walked over to the bunny, and sprayed the entire contents over the little furry animal. Miraculously the Easter Bunny came back to life, jumped up, picked up his eggs, waved at them and hopped on down the road. Not far away the Easter Bunny stopped, turned around and waved again. He kept doing this for as far as they could see.

The man was astonished. 'What in heaven's

name is in that can you sprayed on the Easter Bunny?' The woman showed the man the label. It said: 'Hair spray. Restores life to dead hair. Adds permanent wave.'

For many of our children the bunny and its eggs are the most important thing about Easter. Over the millennia, Christianity has had a gift for domesticating local traditions and festivals, bringing them on board and making them our own. The name Easter comes from the Anglo Saxon spring festival in honour of the goddess Eostre. Her symbol was the rabbit and the giving of eggs were signs of new life bursting forth as winter withdrew. These associations only make sense in the northern hemisphere, but we can see why the early Christians could be so adaptable and inculturated with this local festival.

In both hemispheres Christians today celebrate Jesus being raised from the dead. In the New Testament there are two traditions about how the disciples come to know about Jesus' resurrection: the empty tomb and the apparitions of Christ.

Today's Gospel belongs to the empty tomb tradition. On Magdalene's urging, Peter and John run to the tomb, find it empty and come to at least an initial belief about the resurrection of Jesus.

We do not believe that God simply revived Jesus' corpse in the tomb, as our driver resuscitated the bunny in today's story. Easter Sunday does not celebrate the resuscitation of Jesus, but his Resurrection.

/Cont'd P4...

Easter Sunday

(Year A - April 20, 2014.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.
Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

2nd Sunday of Easter (or of Divine Mercy)

1st Reading: Acts 2:42-47
2nd Reading: 1Pet 1:3-9
Gospel: Jn 20:19-31



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

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS:

Maria Ambrosio, Margaret Harrington, Carmela Barbaro, Irmgard Gailius, Denis Fitzgerald, Giuseppe Maselli, John Kimber, Martin Kenny, Donald & Keith Moore

ANNIVERSARIES:

Angela Rosa, Alina Synoradzki, John Haines, Lorenz & Katarina Hoffmann, Eileen Featherstone, Elizabeth Kenny, Giuseppe & Vittoria Ruggeri, Anthony Siketa, Filippo Leone

1 YEAR ANNIV:

Bruno Linic

BAPTISMS:

Amelia Angleton, Heidi Lewis, William Wrzos

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

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, April 27, 2014

(4th Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

8.00AM

F O'Neill

Lectors

L Kelly

Special Ministers

L Sells, E Kelly, B McFarlane

Welcomers

L&E Kelly

Projectionist

R Allum

9.30AM

M Lukesic

M Baird, P Gizycki

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

A Sare, A/I Dugandzic

C Resciniti

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators

6.00PM

M Lacy

Lectors

G Harrison, M Carson

Special Ministers

C McShanag, R Stanley, D Yeatman

Welcomers

M Brown

Projectionist

T McShanag

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

5.00PM

A Henderson

Lectors

G Tolan

Special Ministers

A Henderson, G Tolan,

Welcomers

11.00AM

M Foley

J Fraatz, L Eastman

M Broekman, D Dougherty, J Gailius

M Broekman, D Dougherty, D Lipinski

Projectionist

R Zarb

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
- **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:

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.



PARISH FIRST EUCHARIST PROGRAM: This program is for children from Catholic families who attend a non-Catholic primary school. The children must have already received the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The program begins on **Sunday 1st June** and finishes on **Tuesday 15th July**. The First Eucharist celebrations will be on the last two weekends of July. **ENROLMENTS CLOSE ON WED 28TH MAY**. For further details contact the Pastoral Cluster Office on 5278 1343 or email cluster@cam.org.au



RELAY FOR LIFE - FR MICK'S MATES:

I am delighted to announce that Fr Mick's Mates again has won the highest fundraiser for the Relay for Life event for 2014 in Geelong. This win is a testimony to the Fr Mick's Mates hard working committee and all those who support the various endeavours within the parish and beyond. Together we raised over \$15,000 which in turn will mean that three Research Awards will now be undertaken. Congratulations to all concerned - great work!!

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.



MOTHERS FOR MOTHERS HIGH TEA:

The Pastoral Cluster, in partnership with Sacred Heart College, invites you to **Mothers for Mothers High Tea** **Saturday May 10 at 2pm - Sacred Heart College, Retreat Rd Newtown.**
Tickets \$25 - ph Trish Stickland 5278 1343.



The proceeds go to support our Philippines Partnership and the Sacred Heart College Scholarship Program.

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.

GEELONG'S NEW CHOICE IN WEEKEND ENTERTAINMENT: 'Nightscape' is a fresh and alternative way to enjoy Saturday nights in Geelong. Saturday April 26 7.30pm to 11.45pm is the inaugural event at the 'Pioneer Room', 1st Floor St Mary's Parish Centre, 150 Yarra St. Patrons can enjoy live music (50s to 90s and beyond), chat with friends/meet new ones and perhaps have a dance. Proceeds to support Karingal, Geelong Mood Support Group and Geelong Relay for Life. Tickets \$10 available at door or online: <https://register.canbook.me/nightscape-april-2014>. (80c online booking fee applies). Admission includes entertainment, tea/coffee and light snacks. BYO supper and drinks. Enquiries 5280 8006 or email: nightscape@inet.net.au

PROJECT COMPASSION:

Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!

Celebrate that your generosity to Project Compassion continues aid and development work reflective of the life of Jesus Christ, and shaped by the tradition of Catholic Social Teaching principles, in over 35 countries around the world. Your Project Compassion donation will help whole communities 'have life and have it to the full' (John 10:10).

Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2014 appeal.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- 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
- April 30...** **SISTERS OF THE HOLY ANGELS LUNCHEON:** 12noon in the Holy Spirit Hall - cost \$10, all welcome!
- May 5...** **FR RICHARD LEONARD**, well known author and commentator, will speak about the role of the Internet in our lives at a free community presentation in McAuley Hall, Sacred Heart College, 7pm. His address ***The World in our Face - How do people of faith download the best and leave the rest?***, will be followed by supper. All welcome!

Refugees and Asylum Seekers and our Australian response is an important social issue today. To assist you in forming your own views on this important issue, a summary of the Catholic social teaching on migration and asylum from various sources presented by the Australian Bishops is outlined below.

***I was a stranger and you welcomed me (Mt25:35) -
What the Catholic Church teaches on asylum and migration:***

Healing the Global Wound - The Catholic Church teaches that all people have the right to live a dignified life in their homeland. Tragically, over 45 million people around the world are displaced. This festering wound typifies and reveals the imbalances and conflicts of the modern world. War, natural calamities, persecution and discrimination of every kind have deprived millions of their home, employment, family and homeland.

The right to seek asylum - The Catholic Church teaches that anyone whose life is threatened has the right to protection. Whether because of persecution, armed conflicts, natural disasters, or economic conditions that threaten their lives or physical integrity. It is the element of persecution, threat or danger, or being forcibly displaced that gives rise to a right to seek asylum rather than to migrate through ordinary channels.

Human Dignity - The Catholic Church teaches that human life is sacred because each person is created in the image and likeness of God. Human dignity is inalienable. The human dignity and human rights of asylum seekers must be respected, regardless of their citizenship, visa status or mode of arrival.

Devotion to Humanity - The Catholic Church teaches that all nations have a right to regulate migration across their borders. This right is coupled with the duty to protect and help innocent victims and those fleeing for their lives. The right of nations to regulate their borders is an extension of the right of all persons to live a dignified life in their community. Borders are for the protection of people, not for the exclusion of people seeking protection.

Justice and Mercy - The Catholic Church teaches that the purpose of the law is to serve justice and mercy. Laws, which subject asylum seekers to arbitrary and prolonged immigration detention or banish them from seeking protection, fail to uphold justice and mercy and are immoral. It is not illegal to seek asylum. Many asylum seekers are survivors of crimes, torture and trauma. Indefinite detention adds further stress and suffering, impacting on their mental and physical health. The Catholic Church advocates the implementation of just and rapid procedures to determine each person's claim for protection.

Solidarity - The Catholic Church teaches that the most vulnerable people are not simply those who are in a needy situation to whom we kindly offer an act of solidarity, but are members of our family with whom we have a duty to share the resources we have. Solidarity towards migrants and refugees is inscribed in the common membership to the human family.

The right to be part of a community - The Catholic Church teaches that all people have the right to be part of a community. Asylum seekers who have been forced from their homeland have a duty to integrate into the host community. We must favour this integration by helping migrants to find a place where they can live in peace and safety, where they can work and take on the rights and duties that exist in the country that welcomes them.

Welcome the stranger - Jesus identifies himself as a stranger to be welcomed (Mt25:35). The Catholic Church teaches that Christ has in some way united himself to every person, whether or not one is aware of this. Christ will consider done to himself the kind of treatment that is reserved to any human person, in particular to the least among them, the stranger. While the gospel compels us to welcome strangers it also presents the opportunity to practice the commandment to love God *"with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind and all your strength"* and to love the other *as you love yourself"* (Mark12:29-31). Pope John Paul II invites us to an ever deeper awareness of the mission of the Catholic Church: *"to see Christ in every brother and sister in need, to proclaim and defend the dignity of every migrant, every displaced person and every refugee. In this way, assistance given will not be considered an alms from the goodness of our heart, but an act of justice due to them."*

The Holy Family in Exile - The exiled Holy Family of Nazareth, fleeing into Egypt, is the archetype of every refugee family. Jesus, Mary and Joseph are for all times and all places, the models and protectors of every migrant, pilgrim and refugee of whatever kind who, whether compelled by fear of persecution or by want, is forced to leave their native land, their beloved parents and relatives, their close friends, and to seek a foreign soil. For God decreed that his only Son should experience the hardship and grief of exile. The firstborn among many of our brothers and sisters, and precede them in it. For this reason, the Catholic Church seeks to look after and care for refugees and migrants in their trials and welcome the stranger who knocks at our door seeking refuge.

/From P1...

We know his 'glorified body' was not the same as his human body because Jesus' presence could be encountered in several places simultaneously and he is reported to walk through walls and to vanish. The link between both resurrection traditions is the importance of Jesus' death. In the empty tomb accounts, as in today's gospel, the writers give us extraordinary details about the grave clothes. In the apparition narratives there are usually references to Jesus' wounds.

Whatever way they came to experience the Resurrection of Christ, the disciples knew

that this was Jesus who actually died and was buried and that their personal encounter was with the one who was crucified.

What God did through the death and resurrection of Jesus is what Christians have done with local customs and festivals ever since: he entered into it, understood it, took it on board, domesticated it and vanquished its power. As a result we believe that God empathises with the full limitations of our human mortality and promises to remain faithful to us in death as he remained utterly faithful to Jesus.

That is why on this day 1,600 years ago St John Chrysostom could say on behalf of us all:

'Hell took a body, and discovered God. It took earth, and encountered Heaven. It took what it saw, and was overcome by what it could not see. O death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory? Christ is Risen, and you, O death, are destroyed! Christ is Risen, and evil is cast down! Christ is Risen, and angels rejoice! Christ is Risen, and new life is set free! Christ is Risen, and the tomb is emptied of its dead; for Christ having risen from the dead, becomes the first-fruit of those who have fallen asleep.. To Him be Glory and