



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:

147 Separation St Bell Park 3215
Phone: 5278 1343 Fax: 5278 4618 Email: cluster@cam.org.au

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 Richard Leonard

Before I said my first Mass an old priest gave me two great pieces of advice. 'You know when the congregation is filled with optimists. After a long series of announcements at the end of Mass and then you say, "and finally..." people take out their car keys!' The second was, 'Never underestimate the burdens people bring with them into the church. Often we have little idea of the difficulties and pain our parishioners will be carrying.'

I have no idea what you have brought with you to Mass today. I can only imagine the anxiety and burden some of you are carrying. Whatever it is, Jesus invites you to let go of it, if only for a while, and be at peace.

Now all this 'come and rest a while' talk can be very pious and not sound all that in touch with reality. Today's Gospel, however, came

from the community of the Apostle Matthew and was written in Jerusalem about 45 years after Jesus' death. We know that this community experienced intense suffering and heavy burdens. They had been expelled from the Synagogue and were being martyred for their faith in Jesus Christ. No wonder they held so strongly to the words, 'Come to me all you who are weary and heavy burdened and I will give you rest.' And they found consolation in Jesus' example, 'take my yoke upon you and learn from me for I am gentle and humble in heart.'

Since the first century, however, Christianity has been guilty of trying to spiritually wallpaper over some tough realities rather than preaching that God is our companion in facing up to whatever our reality is and dealing with it.

Our faith is not about praying away our problems or fears and wishing it were

otherwise. Our faith means we have experienced the love of God in Jesus Christ so that we never carry our burdens alone. God is our companion and guide and this parish Community, as with every Christian community, is called to be the sort of place where we carry each other's burdens and rest with each other awhile. What we celebrate here each Sunday is that God will have the last word, a just, joyous, loving and peaceful word, in this world and when we enter our final rest.

Jesus didn't come to us as a divine magician, waving a wand over our problems to wipe away all our tears. Rather, he accompanies us so he can show us that the gift of peace and a release from our life's burdens is often found in having the perspective for exercising the gift of right judgment. Making the best possible choices leads to the alleviation of our pain and difficulties.

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Year A - July 6, 2014.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving grace.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

I will praise your name forever,
my king and my God.

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:**15th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Is 55:10-11
2nd Reading: Rom 8:18-23
Gospel: Mt 13:1-23

**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
Slovenian... 12.15pm every 2nd Sunday of the month
Filipino... 5.00pm every 3rd Saturday of the month

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:

If anyone would like to have Our Lady's Statue or if you could spare an hour a month to help, ph Tina Montalto on 5278 9314.

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS:

Francis Remedios, Geoffrey Anderson, Jeannine Costa

ANNIVERSARIES:

Ivan Cengija, Michael Haberman, Antonio Fiorillo, Ernesto & Assunta DeLorenzo, Frank & Helen DeLorenzo, Tindara Rao, Alfredo Ciuffetelli, Ina Remedios, Vincenzo Pitaro, Jean Allison, Mary & Harry Callander, Lucy Murphy

1 MONTH SINCE DEATH: Filipo Caccamo

BAPTISMS:

Taleah Barbir and Oliver Benson

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, Monica Duggan, Kathleen Nehill, Julita Aquino, Manuel Almeida, Anita Capicchiano, Juliette Kotorac, Cheryl Lambert

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, July 13, 2014

(2nd Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

8.00AM

R Allum

Lectors

F O'Neill

Special Ministers

I Vanjek, R Allum, J Genova, C Marcantonio

Welcomers

C Marcantonio,

Projectionist

R Allum

9.30AM

C Simpson

D Lunn, A Negro

H Verdnik, M Baird, J Sheahan, M Perera,

V Resciniti, G Cracco

C Resciniti

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators

6.00PM

D Ryan

Lectors

J Ryan

Special Ministers

B Murphy, R O'Neill, J Ryan

Welcomers

M Brown

Projectionist

J Lynch

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

5.00PM

A Hubbard

Lectors

P Power, P Hubbard

Special Ministers

P&A Hubbard, P McGlinchey

Welcomers

11.00AM

E Strzelecki

M Martin, A Kissane

E Strzelecki, L Fossey,

M Broekman, D Dougherty, L Fossey

Projectionist

R Martin

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:

RENOVATIONS AT HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH: The next stage of the restoration work of Holy Spirit is underway. The prime task is to mend the cracks in the external façade. The process involved is known as "stitching" and it is labour and time intensive. The works won't specifically intrude on our regular Mass timetable or Funerals. (There are no weddings during this time).

ST VINCENT DE PAUL: The Holy Spirit Manifold Hts Conference sincerely thanks all contributors to the recent Winter Appeal which raised \$1,456 for the needy in our community.

ACTION FROM REVIEW:

The over-riding response from you in the Review was the concern and the need for the Parish to better outreach to young people and young families. If you look around the Church on any weekend Liturgy it is clear that young families are often absent from our Eucharistic celebrations. We are endeavouring to gauge why this is so. To that end every opportunity that we have we will be seeking feedback from families. The three questions we will be asking parents at the Baptismal Program, Sacramental Nights and, hopefully, the parents in our Catholic school system, are 3-fold:

1. **Why do you wish your child to receive the Sacraments?**
2. **What can the Church do to be more relevant to you and your family?**
3. **Are there any specific obstacles that stop you from being involved in the Church?**

Hopefully, having listened to the lived experiences of families, we can be a more relevant and life-giving Church for them.

UPCOMING CLUSTER EVENTS

Dates for your diary -

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| Sept 10... | MOVIE NIGHT AT ST MARY'S THEATRE: For Fr Mick's Mates - two sessions. |
| Oct 26... | KRISTMAS FOR KUYA: Philippines Partnership |
| Nov 4... | MELBOURNE CUP DAY LUNCHEON at Holy Spirit Hall. |

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - Thoughts on Giving

"For my yoke is easy, and my burden light" - Mt 11:30

When we think of being good stewards, we may think that God is asking too much of us when he calls us to generously share our time, talent and treasure. However, we must remember that we are not 'owners' of anything, we are merely 'stewards' of the gifts God has given us. All he is asking is that we give back a small portion of what he has already given to us.

Community News:

July 9... **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Monthly meeting next Wednesday 7.30pm at Clairvaux Meeting Rooms, Belmont. Members please attend and bring a plate.

“ **SUICIDE PREVENTION WORKSHOP:** Presented by Wesley LifeForce at the Mercure Hotel (Otway Room) cnr Gheringhap & Myers St from 9am-4pm. No charge to attend the workshop and training open to community members aged over 18 years. Details Ph 1800 10 024.

July 16,23,30 and Aug 6... The Living Well Centre for Christian Spirituality Inc presents **Heart and Mind: The 4-Gospel Journey for Radical Transformation** at 7.30pm, presented by Rev John Stewart at Wesley Church Congregation Hall, 100 Yarra St Geelong. All welcome.

Aug 21-23... **PROCLAIM 2014 - Conference on the New Evangelisation “Living the Joy of the Gospel in Parishes”:** Come along to hear what one parish has done to grow from 1400 to 4000 committed parishioners. Workshops will provide practical ideas and tools for participants to take back and apply in the parish. To be held at **The Concourse, Chatswood (Sydney)**. Registrations close June 30th - more info see www.proclaimconference.com.au

THE GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS' CLUB: Come join us for a 2-course evening meal, stimulating guest speakers and the opportunity to meet new friends, all for only \$28. We meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Dromoland House on Pakington St. For more information and reservations please phone Terry on 5221 7339.

CATHOLIC HIV/AIDS MINISTRY: CatholicCare Pastoral Services invites you to the launch of **Angels in Disguise, Stories from Catholic HIV/AIDS Ministry, CatholicCare** at St Francis Pastoral Centre, cnr Elizabeth/Lonsdale Sts Melbourne on Tuesday July 8, following Mass at 5.30pm. For further information ph Marg Hayes 8417 1280 or email am23@ccam.org.au

Pope Francis has asked that we pray for the Synod on the Family to take place from 5-19 October 2014. We invite each household to join in offering this prayer - perhaps with Grace before your evening meal.

PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD ON THE FAMILY

Dear Heavenly Father,

Our Beloved Holy Father, Pope Francis,
has asked that we pray for the upcoming
Synod on the Family. Please send Your Holy
Spirit and fill all who take part with wisdom,
courage and love. Sustain our Holy Father,
Pope Francis, that he may guide us
by his example of fatherly love.

In our families, help us always to follow
in Jesus' footsteps by showing mercy
to others, especially families who suffer
separation from one another and those
who feel unloved. Open our eyes,
hearts and hands, so that we may
recognise and serve You by helping
our sisters and brothers.

These things we ask in the name
of Your Son, Jesus. Amen.
St Mary and St Joseph, pray for us.



/From P1...

This type of spiritual sanity reminds me of the story of the nun who was teaching the communion class, and drew an analogy about how food is essential to life. She asked the class, 'What's small and furry and eats nuts?' To which there was bemused silence. So Sister tried again. 'What's small and furry and eats nuts?' There was now stony silence. Sister then picked out Billy and asked him for the answer. After several awkward moments, Billy tentatively replied,

'Sister, I know the answer is supposed to be Jesus, because the answer to all your questions is always Jesus but, I have to tell you, it sounds like a bloody squirrel to me.'

Sometimes the answer is not simply 'Jesus'. As we all know, for some of our difficulties, there is no spiritual quick fix. There is no cheap grace. The answer is not simply Jesus. In confronting issues, however, it is necessary for spiritual and mental health to take time out, to be as gentle with ourselves

as possible, to know that the burden of life is shared so that we can make the decisions that will ease the situation.

I don't underestimate the burdens some of you have walked into this church with today. Whatever burden you may have brought with you, may you know a moment's rest, the companionship of fellow travellers and the gift of Christ's peace.