



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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Fr Mick Fitzpatrick

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OFFICE HOURS:

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SCHOOL PRINCIPALS:

Holy Family -

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Holy Spirit -

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St Patrick's -

Basil Flynn

Petrel St, Geelong West

Phone 5229 4412

Reflection by Richard Leonard

A newcomer to a city known for its wind and rain arrives on a rainy day. She gets up the next day and it's raining. It also rains the day after that, and the day after that. She goes out to lunch and sees a young child and, out of despair, asks, 'Hey, kid, does it ever stop raining around here?' To which the child replies, 'How should I know? I'm only six.'

With the three readings we have just heard, we could easily celebrate Environment Sunday today. Rain, snow, seeds, sowers, fertile soil and a labouring creation giving birth to the fruits of the Spirit, are all rich ground upon which we can reflect on the importance of our earth's ecology. In recent years the Church has regularly reminded us that the issue of caring for the environment is an important part of our Christian commitment for justice. We have been

reminded that while the earth has been entrusted to us as stewards, to be preserved, it is also given into our hands to be developed in such a way that there will be a productive earth for future generations to inherit.

If this means we must limit our consumption, change our priorities in regard to energy and trade and show the third world the way in developing eco-friendly industries, then all the better for us. Most of us know that we cannot keep going as we are, with ever increasing unsustainable demands on our planet. There is no point any of us crying over the demise of our environment in the future, if we are doing nothing to help it now.

Every small thing we do from being conscious of the issues, to recycling and using our cars less, is not unimportant. Some of us are in positions to do a lot more than these things as well and we should take our Christian

responsibilities in this regard very seriously.

One creative reading of today's Gospel is that it parallels how we can respond to the news of the degradation of the environment. For some of us the facts and figures about the planet's ecosystem fall on rocky ground. We are not receptive to hearing anything that might demand a change in our lifestyle or a lessening of our comfort. For others of us, recent debates fall among the thorns. Competing with other issues for our attention and action, the plight of the earth is not able to take root in our consciousness or sympathies. We think it can all wait for another generation who will have the ability to fix the problems then.

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15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Year A - July 13, 2014.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The seed that falls on good ground will
yield a fruitful harvest.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live forever. **Alleluia!**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Wis 12:13,16-19

2nd Reading: Rom 8:26-27

Gospel: Mt 13:24-43



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:

Hilda Chittleborough, Vittorio Cammarota, Mark Hynson, Christina Valcovich, Giuseppina Villarosa

ANNIVERSARIES:

Hilda Smith, Ivan Lynch, Ann Gallagher

BAPTISMS:

Sonny Marmont, Harrison Sheedy, Jemma and Charlie Starick

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, Barbara Mason, Frank Smit

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 20, 2014

(3rd Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

8.00AM

K Saunders

B Rainbow

A Vanjek, P Ruggeri, R Culo

L Allum, P Ruggeri, R Culo

R Allum

9.30AM

A Scaddan

H Verdnik, T McMahon

C&J Taylor, M Fiorillo, I Raj, T Herath

E Dalton

C Resciniti

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

6.00PM

J McCarthy

J McKenzie, Sr J McGonigal

G Wright, E Cotter, D Kosmetschke

P Eastman (even months) S Eland (odd)

11.00AM

G Langridge

G Brown, M Kroger

L Fossey, L Stalio, L Sells

I Cleary, L Coles, S Norris, T Stefek

D Brown (even months), A Boras (odd)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

5.00PM

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

K Maddalena

K Maddalena

T McNair

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:

FIRST EUCHARIST:

We extend a very warm welcome to the children from the Catechetical Program who will be receiving their First Eucharist either on 20th July or 27th July. We pray for the children and their families on this very important day.

PHILIPPINES PARTNERSHIP VISIT 2014:

The team of eleven who visited our friends in the Philippines returned this week after another successful immersion experience. The week long visit was filled with many inspiring experiences of the outreach of the Columbans in the Malate parish to the poor and homeless via primary school education, feeding program, medical centre, a night school for those who hadn't the opportunity to undertake a full primary school education when they were young, as well as a number of other community-building activities.

We also had the privilege of being with Srs Kate and Claudia RNDM, who are doing extraordinary work with the homeless boys at the Kuya Centre and who established a micro-credit scheme which gives small loans to the poorest of the poor so that they can work their way out of poverty.

A recurring theme from Srs Kate, Claudia, the Columbans and others in Manila, is how much they value our friendship and presence. Sr Kate wrote back the other day to say that the boys from the Kuya Centre are asking when are we coming back!

On the trip we were thinking of a symbol to capture the essence of this partnership. The image of people walking hand in hand together in friendship, care and support, could well be a symbol that captures this unique and inspiring relationship.

- Fr Gerard



MOVIE FESTIVAL for Fr Mick's Mates



When... September 10, 2013

Time... 7.30pm

**Where... St Mary's Plaza
Theatre &
Hibernian Hall**

**Cost... \$20 - Includes
Finger Food, Tea
and Coffee served
after Movie.**

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.

Community News:

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.

INVITATION: St Thomas Pastoral Parish Council invites extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist to join us on August 16 at St Thomas Church, Peninsula Dve Drysdale, 10am. Veronica Biddle, Pastoral Associate from Nazareth Parish Grovedale, will lead us in a session of training/enrichment for all assisting in this important ministry, both within the celebration of the Eucharist and also to the sick in our communities. Mass 10am followed by a shared light meal. RSVP by Aug 8th to drysdaleparishsecretary@gmail.com. Please bring a small plate of food to share.

RELAY FOR LIFE:

A note of recognition and thanks received from the organisers of Relay for Life -

Thankyou for accepting our invitation for a Research Award in 2013. We're delighted to announce that **Fr Mick's Mates Research Award** has been established in recognition of the outstanding fundraising efforts of "Fr Mick's Mates".

Your award will help fund the work of Prof Andrew Roberts and Prof David Huang at Walter & Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research towards research into the treatment of leukaemia, lymphoma, melanoma and myeloma in all age groups.

Enclosed is a certificate of appreciation to show our gratitude for your support. A further acknowledgement will be included in our 2014 Annual Review, to be published in 2015.

Thankyou once again for your magnificent support -

Linda Valentino (Office Manager - Fundraising & Communication Division)



STEWARDSHIP CORNER - Thoughts on Giving

"The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word but then the cares of the world and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit" Mt 13:24

Does the lure of riches and material goods choke God out of your life? Are you so caught up in worldly activities and anxieties that you have no time for God?

Good stewardship is a lifestyle to be lived every day.

It affects all the decisions we make.

It's not just the time we spend at Mass every Sunday.

/From P1...

For some of us, however, recent surveys and our own sense of environmental changes means that what experts are saying falls on fertile soil. We want to do whatever we can to see that the earth continues to bear fruit for as many generations as God intends.

The Old and New Testaments are filled with the importance of our relationships to the earth. In the book of Genesis humanity is told to care for and subdue the earth, not

wreck it. We cannot be irresponsible about the world's finite resources in the hope that we will find solutions in the future. Avarice is not one of the seven deadly sins for nothing.

We believe the bread and wine of the Eucharist, which we say are 'the fruit of the earth and the work of human hands', are changed into Christ present among us. May these Eucharistic gifts rooted in our soil, effect in us a change that might enable us to have ears to hear the groan of creation as it

calls for us to be careful sowers and responsible reapers. May our stand for justice always take into account the care our earth requires so that we have a productive planet to hand on to our children.

By how we choose to live now, may we hand it on to them in better shape than we found it.