



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

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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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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 -	Jan Fagan (Acting)	Petrel St, Geelong West	Phone 5229 4412

Reflection by Richard Leonard

Today's Gospel gives us both a parable and then an interpretation of that parable. I'm very grateful for this pattern in the 13th chapter of Matthew's Gospel. It indicates to us that not everything that Jesus says should be taken literally. Clearly the disciples were sometimes confused and needed some private coaching to bring them up to speed with what Jesus was on about.

As much as I respect the faith of our fundamentalist Christian brothers and sisters, it is at this point, on the way we interpret the Scriptures, that we cannot agree. The catholic community has always taken the process outlined in Matthew's gospel very seriously. We have always held that the full richness of the scriptures needs careful study and tested interpretations.

Unfortunately, in previous generations, the anxiety over people's private interpretations

of the scriptures led Catholics to be suspicious of the Bible and the private reading of it. To read the Bible was often seen as a 'very protestant thing to do'. Given that Jesus, Mary, the apostles and the disciples are all recorded in the New Testament as reading, meditating on, or hearing the scriptures, nothing could be further from the truth. To be a Christian is to ponder the Word of God.

That's why the Second Vatican Council encouraged us all to return to regular private reflection on the Bible. Along with this encouragement they also reminded us, however, that as strong as the feelings and revelations we experience in our private scriptural prayer may be, these may have little or no consequence for the wider community of faith. We believe that the whole Church has the task to discern where the Word of God is leading us.

To help this discernment, it's scholars who pay great attention to the history and the literary, textual and cultural issues in and around the Bible have always aided the catholic community. They look at how various interpretations and approaches of the Scriptures have helped or hindered the Church over the centuries. We place great weight on the 'here and now' of the faith community who listens to the Word of God and lives it out.

Our approach is a long way from those who hold that the entire truth of the scriptures is found in the text itself. Fundamentalist interpretations of the scriptures dismiss the importance of studying the scriptures by reducing it to a book of facts.

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16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Year A - July 20, 2014.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Lord, you are good and forgiving.

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:

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: 1Kg 3:5,7-12
2nd Reading: Rom 8:28-30
Gospel: Mt 13:44-52



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:

Katarina Iskra, Kathleen Nehill, Frank Smit, Brian Dobbyn, Joan Purcell (Margaret Rainbow's sister)

ANNIVERSARIES:

Ted Glab, Francesco Inello, Cosimo Nadile, Matilda Matjasic, John Ummels

1 YEAR ANNIV:

Stefan Kratofil

BAPTISMS:

Christopher Akoch, Summah Falvey, Chloe Zimmer, Talarah & Lexie Owen, Sophie Jager, Lulubelle Robertson, Gracie & Milla Eldredge

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, Cheryl Lambert, Barbara Mason, Frank Smit, Patricia McMahon

Roster for Next Sunday, July 27, 2014

(4th Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

8.00AM

F O'Neill

L Kelly

L Sells, E Kelly, B McFarlane

L&E Kelly

R Allum

9.30AM

M Lukesic

M Baird, P Gizycki

D Lunn, P McBride, C Simpson, V Resciniti

A Sare, A/I Dugandzic

C Resciniti

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

6.00PM

M Lacy

M Carson

C McShanag, R Stanley, D Yeatman

M Brown

T McShanag

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

5.00PM

A Henderson

G Tolan

A Henderson, G Tolan,

J Cowell

11.00AM

M Foley

J Fraatz, L Eastman

M Broekman, D Dougherty, J Gailius

M Broekman, D Dougherty, D Lipinski

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:

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.

HELP NEEDED FOR RCIA PROGRAM:

The good news is that at this stage we have ten adults who want to inquire into the Catholic faith. Last Sunday's Gospel taught us that God's word flourishes in good soil. It is important therefore that we provide the best conditions for the faith to grow in our inquirers. The whole community needs to be involved by prayer, welcome and good example of how to live the faith. The ideal is for each inquirer to have a sponsor - someone to accompany him/her at the catechetical sessions and in particular to be with them at Sunday Mass. The catechetical sessions will be held at 7.30pm-9pm on Wednesdays throughout the school terms, commencing on Wednesday 13th August. The sessions will normally be at the Cluster Centre, Bell Park. I would love to hear from anyone willing to help in this important work.

(Fr Mick)

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY - Education Assistance Program, Geelong Region

A new initiative established by St Vincent de Paul in Geelong is its Education Assistance Program to support needy families to cover the cost of Catholic Secondary Education. SVDP recognizes that one of the most effective ways for people to break out of the poverty cycle is through good education. A brochure and information on how to support this program will be in the bulletin in coming weeks.

PRIESTS' CONFERENCE: On the evening of Monday 4th August through to Thursday afternoon, Fr Mick and I will be away at the annual Melbourne Archdiocesan Priests' Conference. In next week's bulletin there will be the Mass/Communion Service timetable for the Tuesday 5th Aug, Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th of that week.

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.**

ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL - Principal Update:

Baz Flynn has begun his new role as Principal at Clairvaux in Belmont. For the next two terms Jan Fagan will be the Acting Principal.

Over the next coming weeks the selection process for a new Principal will be undertaken.

I ask for your prayers that we make the best appointment in this important leadership role in the school and in the parish.

(Fr Gerard)

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 20-25... AIDS2014: Melbourne is hosting the international conference AIDS2014 at Melb Convention & Exhibition Centre. Running alongside the conference, the **Global Village** is a vibrant international and cultural space with exhibitions, information, performances, documentaries etc. Also **Interfaith Prayer Service** at St Paul's Cathedral 7pm Tue July 22 following Candlelight Vigil at Fed Square from 6pm. Visit www.aids2014.org for details.

July 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.

July 30... GEELONG INTER CHURCH SOCIAL JUSTICE NETWORK INC: Join the discussion at a Refugee and Asylum Seeker Policy Forum at the Wesley Centre, 100 Yarra St Geelong with speakers Richard Marles, Christine Couzens, Linda Cusworth and Rod Mackenzie. Enquiries to yvonnea7@sov.neg.au

Aug 16... CHORAL WORKSHOP will be held at St Luke's Uniting Church Highton from 10am to 3.30pm. With Rick Prakhoff, Manfred Pohlenz, Hugh Davidson - morning and a/noon tea provided, BYO lunch. Cost \$20 - senior students no charge. Ph Jane 0447 238 432 by 1st August to register.

Aug 31... MUSIC AT THE BASILICA: Palmfest will be held at St Luke's at 3pm with proceeds to Anam Cara House. Dr Malcolm John Conductor, Brendon Lukin organ and Marianne Black and Allister Cox cantors. Ph Jeannette 5223 3554 to join the occasional choir and arrange for music to be prepared for you.

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.

NIGHTSCAPE - Shake the Winter Doldrums: Come and join other 'Nightscapees' in the warmth of the cozy Pioneer Room for an exciting night of live music, entertainment and/or dancing. Mark Saturday 26 July in your calendar for an escape from the winter blues. The Pioneer Room is on the 1st floor St Mary's Parish Offices, 150 Yarra St. \$10/head @ door / other locations **or purchase tickets online (incl via your mobile):** register.canbook.me/nightscapes, Information Line 5280 8006 or nightscapes@iinet.net.au

AN OFFER OF SUPPORT: The issue of sexual abuse and its horrible ramifications are becoming more known and understood. One of the important elements in the steps towards healing is to seek counseling. To that end the Royal Commission into Child Sexual Abuse, Child Wise and the Australian Govt's Department of Social Services, are offering free support, counseling and information to young people who want to talk about their own, or another person's experience of abuse. If you need to speak to someone about youth-youth or adult-youth abuse, Child Wise can help. Ph 1800 991 099, email helpline@childwise.net or text 0408 008 853.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - Thoughts on Giving

"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field. He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom." Mt 13:24,37-38

As children of God we are all 'good seeds', blessed by God with the potential to accomplish much good in the world. We fulfil God's plan when we share our talents and our financial gifts to help build God's kingdom on earth. Through our stewardship we sow 'good seeds' on earth to ultimately help each other get to heaven?

/From P1...

In doing so they tie themselves up in all sorts of textual knots whenever the scriptures seem to contradict themselves.

We hold, however, that the scriptures are not books of facts, though they contain historical information. We believe we have seventy-three sacred books that 'cannot err in leading us to the truth about God'. The Word of God is for us the pathway to faith, a series of revealed and inspired portraits of God and a distillation of God's saving love for us and our response to him.

When there are inconsistencies or differences in any two scriptural texts, rather than unsettle us, we see these differences as examples of the varying rich approaches to the truth of our salvation in and through Christ. This is nicely summed up in the verse, *The Bible in 50 words*.

God made, Adam bit, Noah arked, Abraham split, Joseph ruled, Jacob fooled, Bush talked, Moses balked, Pharaoh plagued, People walked, Sea divided, Tablets guided, Promise landed, Saul freaked,

David peeked, Prophets warned, Jesus born, God walked, Love talked, Anger crucified, Hope died, Love rose, Spirit flamed, Word spread, God remained.

At this Eucharist let's give thanks that Jesus often used stories to communicate his truth and that he explained their meaning to those with ears to hear. Let's be grateful that we are inheritors of this intelligent legacy.