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

Reflection by Richard Leonard

It's said that if we laid out, end-to-end, all the parts of the True Cross found throughout Europe today, the line would stretch from Rome to Jerusalem! Today's feast has its roots in such piety, and is an extraordinary story.

In 326 the Emperor Constantine's mother, Helena, at the grand age of eighty set sail for Jerusalem to find the cross of Jesus and his tomb. To her satisfaction she found the site of the Holy Sepulchre and established a church on the site, which is venerated as such to this day.

The true cross was more elusive. It was claimed that the leaders of the Jews had hidden the cross in a Jerusalem well. One of the Jewish leaders told the Empress Helena in which well to look. The story goes that they dug for days and found three crosses.

They weren't sure which one was the true cross, so the Bishop of Jerusalem, the later Saint Macarius, sent the crosses off to the bedside of a dying woman. She touched the first two crosses to no effect, but on touching the third cross she immediately recovered. St Helena had found the True Cross.

The True Cross remained in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem until the early 7th Century when the entire city was looted by the Persian king, Chosroes II who took the cross back to Persia. In 628 Emperor Heraclius II overthrew the regime in Persia and carried the cross, firstly to Constantinople, his capital city, and then in the spring of 629, to Jerusalem. Today's feast, the Triumph or the Exaltation of the Cross, commemorates this triumphant return of the Holy Cross to Jerusalem.

On the one hand it's a rather ghoulish tradition

which pays so much attention to the instrument of torture used to kill Jesus. The only modern equivalent we might have is the pilgrimage people make to the ovens of Auschwitz and Dachau. No one goes there to gloat. These are places at which we remember past evils so that it might never happen again.

In a similar way this is what today's feast calls us to focus on. The triumph of Jesus' cross is that in it, through it, and beyond it, he has shown us how to let go of the evil that can trap us in the most destructive of behaviours, and embrace a life that is loving, just and good.

We see in the Cross the price to be paid for living our humanity to the full, for sacrificial and saving love, and for confronting evil head-on. /Cont'd P4

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

(Year A - September 14, 2014.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

We should glory in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom is our salvation, life and resurrection,

through whom we are saved and delivered.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Do not forget the works of the Lord!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your Cross you have redeemed the world. Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Is 55:6-9
2nd Reading: Phil 1:20-24,27
Gospel: Mt 20:1-16



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: Holy Spirit, Manifold Hts: Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West:

English... 8am and 9.30am Sunday 6.00pm Saturday 5.00pm Saturday

Croatian... 11am Sunday 11am 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays 11am 2nd & 4th Sundays

Slovenian.. 12.15pm every 2nd Sunday of the month 9.30am - Italian Mass at St Patrick's

Filipino... 5.00pm every 3rd Saturday of the month

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Holy Family: 9.15am Tues, 9.15am Thurs

Holy Spirit:9.00am Wed, 11am Fri and 9am Sat.Reconciliation after Saturday MassGrace McKellar Centre:10.15am - 1st, 3rd, 5th Tues;Maryville Nursing Home:11am Tues;Multicultural Centre:1.30pm - 1st FriVincentian 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 Group10.00amHoly Family Community CentreTues...Meditation Group5.30pmHoly 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 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament After 11am Mass Holy Spirit Church Fri... Holy Spirit Church Fri... Divine Mercy 3.00pm Sat... Rosary After 9am Mass Holy Spirit Church

OUR LADY'S STATUE:

Sept 15-22: Spitale family, 4 Marathon Ave.

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: Augusta DeJesus Pinto, Kevin Diamond

ANNIVERSARIES: Walter Booth, Giovanni, Anna & Gianna DeAngelis, Rosa Valentino, Ines Moreira Duarte,

William Dempsey, Angelo Guardiano, Mr & Mrs Alex Rodrigues, Mr L Rodrigues.

BAPTISMS: Billy and Tully Gleeson, Eloise Burton, Aria Lockwood and Chiara Maccora

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Julita Aquino, Manuel Almeida, Anita Capicchiano, Cheryl Lambert, Barbara Mason,

Thomas & Harry Mallon, Frank Atchison

<u>Please note</u>: After approx five weeks names will be deleted from the sick list reinserted. Please phone the office on 5278 1343

if you wish names reinserted.

Roster for Next Sunday, Sept 21, 2014

(3rd Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY8.00AM9.30AMCommentatorsK SaundersA Scaddan

Lectors B Rainbow H Verdnik, T McMahon

Special Ministers A Vanjek, P Ruggeri, R Culo C&J Taylor, M Fiorillo, I Raj, T Herath

Welcomers L Allum, P Ruggeri, R Culo E Dalton Projectionist R Allum C Resciniti

 HOLY SPIRIT:
 6.00PM
 11.00AM

 Commentators
 J McCarthy
 G Langridge

 Lectors
 J McKenzie, Sr J McGonigal
 G Brown, M Kroger

Special Ministers G Wright, E Cotter, D Kosmetschke L Fossey, L Stalio, L Sells

Welcomers
Projectionist
P Eastman (even months) S Eland (odd)
P Eastman (even months), A Boras (odd)

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

Ss PETER & PAUL'S: 5.00PM

Commentators

Lectors K Maddalena Special Ministers K Maddalena Welcomers T McNair

Projectionist

RECURRING ACTIVITIES IN THE CLUSTER:

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

Holy Family Women's Group St Vincent de Paul First Monday evening of each month at the Community Centre 7.00pm
 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

Legion of Mary Baptism Preps Every Friday 9.30am in the Holy Family Community Centre
 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 Manifold CWL Italian Mass Every Wednesday night at Holy Family Church, 7pm
 Holy Spirit Hall, First Wednesday in the month
 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

l 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:

HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH INTERNAL PAINTING:

The internal painting is now at a stage where normal services will resume.

PARISH CONFIRMATION WELCOME: This Sunday, Sept 14th during the 9.30am Mass at Holy Family, the children and parents involved in the Parish Confirmation Program will be welcomed and make a commitment to be fully involved and prepare well for the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP - FATHER'S DAY RAFFLE RESULTS: 1st Prize - Lane Kelly; 2nd Prize - Nellie Ingles; 3rd Prize - Katrina Juraga. Thankyou to everyone for your support.

ANNUAL CHURCH APPEAL: Next weekend, Sept 20/21, the Annual Appeal for CatholicCare will take place in this parish. CatholicCare has been serving and caring for families for 79 years and deserves the support of our Catholic community. Please give generously so its much needed work may continue.

MANIFOLD BRANCH CWL will hold their 2014 Annual Meeting 1pm in Holy Spirit Hall on Sept 17th. This will be followed at 2pm by our High Tea - all members welcome to attend. 2015 - \$20 Membership, Horizon \$20 and Scripture Diary \$10 can be paid for on this day. For information/transport ph Tricia Joyce 5221 1986 or Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS: There are still some copies available for free - please take one. This is a special Youth Edition and some articles include: Be Brave - Ask Jesus what he wants from you, how can we find the courage to do what's right and be the people we're supposed to be? How to be a Catholic - What's expected of a young Catholic? Ask Papa Frank - Encouragement to do the right thing; Overcoming your worst fears - Tackling some of the biggest fears teenagers face; A Positive Path to success - The courage it takes to be a professional sportsperson; and much more!

FR MICK'S MATES - RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM

On Wednesday we had another successful and enjoyable Movie Festival for Fr Mick's Mates. Special thanks to the Fr Mick's Mates Relay for Life Committee for their hard work in the organisation of the evening.

Also thanks to the girls from Sacred Heart College who assisted with the serving and cleaning up.

Thanks also to those who assisted with the catering, cleaning up afterwards, and thanks for those who supported the event by their attendance.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Oct 26... KRISTMAS FOR KUYA - Philippines Partnership

Nov 4... MELBOURNE CUP DAY LUNCHEON
Nov 30... CHRISTMAS MARKET STALL - Holy Family
Dec 7... CHRISTMAS MARKET STALL - Holy Spirit

Dec 13/14... CHRISTMAS MARKET STALL - Ss Peter & Paul's



Community News:

- Sept 14... SALVATION JANE CONCERT: A special afternoon concert at St Bernard's Belmont, 74 Fryers Rd Belmont, at 4pm. A beautiful afternoon of superb harmonies, soaring vocals and fun and laughter, tickets \$15/head with partial proceeds going to St Bernard's sister parish, Mannya in Uganda. Tickets available via facebook.com/salvationjanereunited and frybooking.com (search Salvation Jane Geelong CD Launch) or at the door (booking ahead preferred).
- **Sept 21-26.. PARISH MISSION:** With Fr Ray Sanchez CP at Star of the Sea Church, Ocean Grove. Morning sessions 10-noon Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri following 9am Mass which will be repeated nightly from 7.30-9.30pm. Enquiries ph 5258 1673.
- Oct 4... COASTAL RAMBLE TO 3 LOVELY CHURCHES ON THE BELLARINE FOR 3 LOVELY CONCERTS: Travel by luxury coach, morning and a'noon tea provided with lunch at Esplanade Hotel Queenscliff. Starts 10am at Hibernian Hall and returns around 5.30pm. All inclusive ticket \$85 full, concesion and children \$75. For bookings/information ph Bernice on 5253 1402 ASAP as places are limited. Organized by Music at the Basilica Inc.
- Oct 11... MARCH FOR THE BABIES: Show your support by wearing pink and/or blue and join our March at 1pm at the Treasury Gardens Melbourne (meet at the corner of Spring St and Wellington Pde).
- Oct 22... SUICIDE PREVENTION WORKSHOP: Conducted by Wesley LifeForce at Quality Hotel Bayside, 13-15 The Esplanade from 9am-4pm. No charge to attend the workshop. The program helps participants recognize when a person may be having thoughts of suicide and provides a simple strategy to intervene and assist them. To register use the following link: www.eventbrite.com.au/e/wl-3143-wesley-lifeforce-suicide-prevention-6hr-workshop-geelong-vic-tickets-12682889865

Sunday lunch is a great opportunity for families to gather. We invite you and your family to book a table to -

Kristmas for Kuya Luncheon

When: October 26, 2014

Where: Capri Receptions - Buffet Luncheon

Time: 12.30 for 1.00pm

Cost: \$25 per head - drinks at bar prices.

Entertainment: Soul Sister Swing

If you wish to book a table please contact:

Parish: Trish Stickland 5278 1343

Schools -

Holy Family - Steph Berginc 5278 4634 Holy Spirit - Bern Boxer 5229 8298 St Patrick's - Leanne Eastman 5229 4412

The focus of our partnership with KUYA and Sr Kate O'Neill is to reunite the street boys of KUYA with their families through the micro credit program. Through supporting this event we are asking the families within the Pastoral Cluster parishes and schools to gather as family to support this function.

On our recent visit to the Philippines the Director of the KUYA Centre, Br Luc said "It is as important to know that we are with them in spirit as it is to support them financially", and Sr Kate said "It gladdens my heart to have the people from my home town and parish support our work".

If you wish we would like to take this opportunity to bring our family photo to the function so that it can be taken back to the KUYA Centre and put in their display board showing our support.

If you are not attending the luncheon and wish to support this function and would like to send a photo back, please drop it into the Cluster Office. Also copies of the **Wish List** are available for you to make a donation.

Hand Made Flowers: The street children of KUYA have made beautiful paper flowers which will be available for sale closer to the function. All funds will go to our Philippines Partnership - *Trish Stickland*

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - Thoughts on Giving

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son..." (John 3:16)

God gave us the gift of his son so we can enjoy eternal salvation. Of all our gifts, our life is the most precious.

We belong to God.

This is why we must take time every day to ask him how he wants us to use the life he has given us.

/From P1...

To the degree that we do these things, we share in the Cross as well, and in the final and never-ending triumph of Christ's resurrection.

Whatever jokes might be made about how far the fragments of the True Cross might

reach today, the love between Father, Son and Spirit for all people around the world who suffer, reveals the degree to which our God wants us to know his solidarity with our lot

The Cross stands as the sign that God does

not condemn us, nor want us to perish, but that the Son came to us, and suffered, died and was raised so that we might know the way which leads to love and eternal life.