



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

Reflection by Richard Leonard

These days most people keep vigils because they are anxious. We wait in hospital corridors for news of a sick relative. A parent stays up with an infant who may be teething or has a high temperature. We might even sit by the phone waiting to be reassured that a loved one is safe and well, or that we have passed the exam or got the job. Many of these occasions are highly stressed vigils. Some of the younger or more hardy ones amongst us sometimes keep vigils that are filled with excited anticipation, as when some of us sleep out to get tickets to a sports game or concert, or when we see the old year out and the new year in.

It was not long ago, however, that vigils were a much more common feature of people's lives. We often kept vigil with the dead. We used to keep all night vigils of prayer,

especially when parishes had perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Perhaps before any of us can remember, there were also vigils kept with the bride the night before her wedding, when she waited and watched for the sign of her approaching groom and his attendants. The Church has enshrined the experience of keeping vigil through the Vigil Mass on Saturday night, the Vigil Ceremony in the funeral rites and the most important one, the Easter Vigil.

This tradition starts with today's Gospel where we are exhorted to be alert, keep awake and wait for the Lord to return. In a sense this is a strange Gospel to have as we prepare for Christmas. It is linked to the first preface of Advent which reads, 'Now we watch for the day, hoping that the salvation promised us will be ours, when Christ our Lord will come in

glory.' Our attention is, therefore, directed to a great future event, not the future feast we are about to celebrate.

This is unique. All other feasts of the Church either remember a past event, like those of Holy Week or Pentecost, or they are 'title feasts' which proclaim a truth about God's action among us which the entire church holds to be true, like Trinity Sunday. But not the First Sunday of Advent. Rather than talk about the coming of Jesus at Christmas it helps us reflect on the final coming of the Lord at the end of time. It is the bridge between the 'last days' of the Church's year, which we have been celebrating over recent weeks, and the first days of the Church's New Year. And how does the Church ask us to approach this feast? As on a vigil. /Cont'd P4

1st Sunday of Advent

(Year A - November 30, 2014.)

ADVENT RESPONSE:

Christ be the light of my life

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Lord, make us turn to you,
let us see your face and we shall be saved.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

2nd Sunday of Advent

1st Reading:	Is 40:1-5,9-11
2nd Reading:	2Pet 3:8-14
Gospel:	Mk 1:1-8



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:

Dec 1: Romios family, 85 Sunderland Rd;

Dec 8-15: Moore family, 39 Willana 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: Bishop Jeremiah Coffey (Retired Bishop of Sale), Monsignor Aldo Rebeschini, Maria Tramonte and John Davoren

ANNIVERSARIES: Denise Walker, Elaine Richardson, Pasquale Condemi, Giovanni Caferella, Frank Amato, Giuseppa Mileto, Milan Stante, Joan Jess, Francesca Genua, Margaret Livingstone, Vladimir and Henri Virt, Patricia Mullen, Romano Franco (Italy)

BAPTISMS: Penny Biscan, Romeo Condemi, Sebastian Fitzgerald and Felix Trickey

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Julita Aquino, Anita Capicchiano, Cheryl Lambert, Barbara Mason, Thomas & Harry Mallon, Pat Walsh, Theo DaCosta, Denis Brown, Vernon Bowers

Roster for Next Sunday, Dec 7, 2014

(1st Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

8.00AM

R Allum

V Pavlovic

J Bartolo, I Vanjek, B McFarlane, I Baulch

K McArthur

R Allum

9.30AM

J Siketa

C&J Taylor

P Carmody, D Farrar, R Zanardo, B Kline, L Greco

M&E Hoffman

C Resciniti

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

6.00PM

E Cotter

J O'Neill

C Laffy, M Abbott, D Torpy

B Stocks

11.00AM

C Neilson

B Middleton, M Wright

R Pugh

D King, I Cleary, C Kelynack

L Coles

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

5.00PM

C O'Brien

Sr J McGonigal

N Neeld, P McGlinchey

B Pleasance

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
- **Legion of Mary -** Every Friday 9.30am in the Holy Family Community Centre
- **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 Tues of each month, 6pm at Berkely Lodge. 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.pastoralclusterqeelong.org

Cluster News:



DISTRIBUTION OF CHRISTMAS INVITATIONS:

This week the invitations to all known Catholics to our Christmas Second Rite Reconciliation and Christmas Masses will be available for collection. Again we call on you, if you can, to assist with this distribution. The invitations are in alphabetical order according to streets. Thanksgiving Envelopes have been integrated into this distribution.

- **LECTORS PLEASE NOTE:** Your copy of the new **Break Open the Word** is now in the Sacristy where you are rostered. Please collect it as soon as you can. Many thanks for your continued support.
- **ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS CARDS AND COLUMBAN CALENDARS:** Available for purchase from the Piety Stall in the Holy Spirit Church from 16th November until 13th December. Cards (pkts of 8) at \$7 and Calendars \$9 and Holy Family calendars available at \$9.
- **MANIFOLD BRANCH OF CWL** will have their Christmas Luncheon on **Tuesday 2nd December**, 12.30pm at Bell Park Football Club Bistro, Calvert St Hamlyn Hts. All members invited to attend. Please bring along a wrapped Christmas gift value to \$5 to share. Bookings/transport ph Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063 or Tricia Joyce 5221 1986.
- **ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY HOLY FAMILY AND Ss PETER & PAUL'S CONFERENCES JESSIE (GIVING) TREE APPEAL:** Both conferences will once again be distributing food parcels and toys to the needy in our areas at Christmas time. As in previous years it is hoped parishioners will help by donating food and toys for the children. Next week at all four Masses, slips of paper with food items named on them will be handed out. The food item, extra food and toys could be brought to any Mass in two weeks time on **Saturday 15th or Sunday 16th December**. Thanks in anticipation for your help again this Christmas.
- **HOLY SPIRIT ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:** Will have their annual Christmas Appeal collection at Holy Spirit Church on the weekend of **Dec 6/7**. This appeal will assist all those people in our community who will be going through difficult times during the forthcoming holy season of Christmas.
- **WISH LIST:** The Wish List highlights a variety of programs that you can support. What the 'Wish List' shows is that a relatively small amount, by our standards, can make an extraordinary difference in the lives of our Filipino friends. Copies of 'Wish List' are available at the Office.
- **THANKYOU FROM FR KEVIN O'NEILL:** *I would like to thank everyone in the Cluster for your hard work and generosity in running the various activities to raise financial support for the work of the Columbans in the Philippines. The ongoing partnership between the Cluster and the Columbans over many years is very much valued and appreciated. The changes made in the lives of the poor of the Philippines is huge due to the support from everyone in the Cluster. Mum and Dad wrote to say that the fundraising event for Kuya and the Partnership Program was a great occasion. Be assured of my continued prayers for everyone in the Cluster, which includes the teachers and children at the three schools. With best wishes - God bless.*
- **CATHOLIC-CARE:** CatholicCare would like to thank the parishioners of the Pastoral Cluster for its generous donation of **\$2760.90** to our 2014 Church Appeal. Your generosity supports the vital work of CatholicCare and is much appreciated. Thankyou for enabling us to continue our vital work.

FR MICK'S MATES:

- * Please return all raffle tickets by **December 14th**.
- * **Raffle Tickets \$1** - Crochet blanket, Gourmet Basket with relishes, jams, shortbreads, etc, Milana's Lingerie & Swimwear Voucher, Perfume Pack, Beauty Pack.
- * **Christmas Market Stalls** - Holy Family November 30, Holy Spirit December 7 and Ss Peter & Paul's December 13/14.



Community News:

- Nov 30...** **RICE VILLAGE CHRISTMAS MINI FAIR:** We welcome you to join us at our annual Christmas Fair from **11am to 3pm**. Enjoy music by the Des Cam Jazz Band, Devonshire Tea and a BBQ lunch. You can also visit our stalls and try your luck in the Raffle or Silent Auction. There will be a special visit from Santa, so look out for the CFA truck!
- “ **EVENING CONCERT FOR THREE ORGANS:** St Mary's Basilica, 8pm - featuring Tom Healey, Brendon Lukin and Frank DeRosso. Grand organ from the gallery, chamber organ from the transept and digital organ from the nave. Free (optional gold coin donation appreciated).
- Dec 1...** **RERUM NOVARUM ORATION 2014:** 7-7.30pm in the Daniel Mannix Building, Aust Catholic University, 8 Brunswick St Fitzroy. For information ph 9926 5727 or justice@cam.org.au
- Dec 5...** **ELVIS SPECIAL:** St Mary's Plaza Theatre 7.30pm featuring party songs followed by the 1968 TV Special. Raffles, door prize, supper - all welcome! A suggested donation of \$3 per head would be appreciated.
- “ **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Open invitation to members, widows, family and friends. BBQ at the home of Louise and Alan Fossey at 6.30pm. Cost \$10/family, meat & drinks supplied - bring a salad or a sweet. Phone Joe Lambert on 5229 8442 to confirm attendance.
- Dec 6...** **LOURDES DAY MASS 2014:** The Order of Malta invites you to attend with Principal Celebrant Most Rev Denis Hart DD, Archbishop of Melbourne at St Patrick's Cathedral. A blessing of the sick will follow the celebration of the Liturgy with water brought from the spring at the Shrine of Lourdes.
- Dec 7...** **MASS FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS:** 11am at St Patrick's Cathedral celebrated by Archbishop Denis Hart. Expectant mothers who register will receive a small token of recognition - ph 9287 5579 or lmf@cam.org.au
- “ **SACRED HEART COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION** invites all members to join with them in a liturgy of Thanksgiving for the year and Christmas Carol Recital in the College Chapel at 2pm. A'noon tea will follow in the Reception Parlour at Sacred Heart College. For catering purposes please inform the Alumni Officer if you wish to attend - Kelly Suvoltos 5222 0403 or ksuvoltos@shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au
- Dec 19...** **CHRISTMAS CONCERT BY CANDLELIGHT: O Magnum Mysterium** - St Mary's Basilica. Vox 8-voice a capella ensemble from Ballarat.
- Dec 25...** **GEELONG COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER:** Christ Church Hall, cnr Moorabool & McKillop St from 9.30am-3.30pm with lunch 12noon. For catering purposes ph SVDP 5221 9170 or 0408 133 561. Available to any person or small family at no cost who may be alone and would like to join others to celebrate this special day in true Christmas spirit.



FREE LUNCHTIME ORGAN RECITALS FOR ADVENT AT ST MARY'S BASILICA:

All recitals Mondays 12.30-1.15pm - **Dec 1:** Dion Henman from St Patrick's Melbourne, **Dec 8:** Paul Taylor from St Francis Melbourne, **Dec 15:** John Rivers from All Saints East St Kilda and **Dec 22:** Frank DeRosso St Mary's Basilica Organist.

ADVENT MISSION:

Fr Richard Leonard SJ will present a 3-day Advent Mission at St Mary's Basilica from Monday Dec 1 until Wednesday Dec 3, after speaking at all Masses at St Mary's on the weekend of Nov 29/30. The daily programme will be Mass at 9am followed by the Mission Presentation at 9.30am with Morning Tea to follow. In the evening there will be a Paraliturg at 7.15pm followed by the Mission Presentation (the same as in the morning) at 7.30pm, followed by Supper. Topics are: Monday - *Making the best choices in my life in the light of faith*; Tuesday - *Jesus Christ for us and with us right here, right now*; Wednesday - *Liturgy: God's great love meets our frailty*. Everyone is most welcome!

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 Berkeley Lodge (previously known as Dromoland House) on Pakington St. For more information and reservations, please ph Terry on 5221 7339.

Pope Francis proclaimed 2015 a year of Consecrated Life, starting on the First Sunday of Advent and ending on 2nd February 2016, the World Day of Consecrated Life. The year also marks the 50th anniversary of *Perfecta Caritatis*, a decree on Religious Life, and *Lumen Gentium*, the Second Vatican Council's constitution on the Church. The purpose of the Year, as stated by the Vatican, is to 'make a grateful remembrance of the recent past' while embracing 'the future with hope'.
Let us pray with thanks for the religious who have touched our lives in so many ways, enriched our communities, schools and parishes, and given a great witness to the world by their total consecration.

/From P1...

Not a vigil of anxiety, where we never want to hear the worst news. Not a vigil of excited anticipation where we pin our happiness on entry into an event. But a vigil of hope where we wait and trust in a person, who has shared our lot, understands our frailties and loved us to

death. We place our hope in Jesus the Christ, our brother, saviour and friend. This First Sunday of Advent we look beyond Christmas to the final moment when heaven and earth will be united and our vigil will be complete. On that day we believe the Son will have dawned once, and for all, on the

world. Now, don't you think that's something worth being awake to see?

The first week of Advent is like the first days of other vigils wherein we pitch out tents and begin the wait to make sure we have front row seats for what is going to be, when it arrives, the best show in town!