



# 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:

Mon-Wed, Fri 9am-5pm, Thurs 9-2pm.

## PARISH MANAGER:

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## THANKSGIVING CO-ORD:

Helen Brislane - Phone 5278 1343 (email: [helen.brislane@cam.org.au](mailto: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 -	John Grant	Petrel St, Geelong Wes	Phone 5229 4412

## Reflection... by Richard Leonard

Seeing today's Gospel is set by the water's edge, this story seems appropriate.

One day, three men were hiking and unexpectedly came upon a large raging river. They needed to get to the other side, but had no idea of how to do so. The first man prayed to God, 'Please God, give me the strength to cross this river.' In an instant God gave him big arms and strong legs, and he was able to swim across the river in about two hours, after almost drowning a couple of times.

Seeing this, the second man prayed to God, 'Please God, give me the strength and the resources to cross this river.' In an instant God gave him a rowboat and he was able to row across the river in about an hour, after almost capsizing the boat a couple of times.

The third man had seen how this worked out

for the other two, so he also prayed to God saying, 'Please God, give me the strength and the resources ... and the intelligence ... to cross this river.' In an instant God turned him into a woman. She looked at the map, went upstream a couple of hundred metres, then walked across the bridge!

The three men's prayers were all about gaining something: strength, resources and intelligence. Today's readings are about gaining things too. Unlike the instant answer to the hikers' prayers, Jonah, Paul and Mark know real gain usually comes less dramatically and quickly, and involves letting go of something as much as it involves taking it on. In the Christian life this is called conversion, and it's at the centre of our life of faith.

Christian conversion is not a once-in-a-lifetime moment. It can happen every day in a rich variety of ways. It involves a change in attitude as much as a change in lifestyle.

All three readings show a different facet of conversion. Jonah calls the Ninevites to social conversion. St Paul, who reveals a very strong expectation that the end of time is near, calls the people of Corinth to a conversion of mind. And through relating the call of Simon, Andrew, James and John, St Mark tells us about personal conversion.

These days we regularly hear God's call in personal terms. It's sometimes called 'me and God' theology. Modern hymns reflect it best.

We regularly sing about how Jesus died 'for me', or that 'here I am Lord' or that 'I will follow you'. Individually these lines are all true, the problem is that they tend to play down the more ancient and biblical social dimensions of our call to conversion. In the Bible even though God and Jesus call people to conversion through personal relationships, there is no hint that this is where it stops.

/Cont'd P2

## - 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year B - January 25, 2015.)

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

O sing a new song to the Lord!  
Sing to the Lord, all the earth.  
In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Teach me your ways, O Lord.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

The kingdom of God is near;  
believe the Good News.

**Alleluia!**

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Deut 18:15-20

2nd Reading: 1Cor 7:32-35

Gospel: Mk 1:21-28



### 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

**WEEKDAY MASSES DURING JANUARY WILL RETURN TO THE NORMAL TIMETABLE.**

<b>Holy Family:</b>	9.15am Tues, 9.15am Thurs	
<b>Holy Spirit:</b>	9.00am Wed, 11am Fri and 9am Sat.	<b>Reconciliation after Saturday Mass</b>
<b>Grace McKellar Centre:</b>	10.15am - 1st, 3rd, 5th Tues;	<b>Maryville Nursing Home:</b> 11am 1st&3rd Friday
<b>Multicultural Centre:</b>	1.30pm - 1st Fri	<b>Vincentian Village:</b> No Mass during Jan

## AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

<b>RECENT DEATHS:</b>	Laurie Mathieson, Carla Scheelings, Maria Genitori, Pasquale Boccassini, June Bongiorno and Domenica Zanghi
<b>ANNIVERSARIES:</b>	Damian Taylor, Members of the Zanghi & Ravida family, Giuseppa Puglia, Allan McFarlane, Josip Brajkovic, Mijo Tucak, Assunta Nadile, Maria Vannata
<b>BAPTISMS:</b>	Jed Douglas, Ella & Ava Jervies and Sonny Reynolds
<b>PRAY FOR THE SICK:</b>	Julita Aquino, Anita Capicchiano, Cheryl Lambert, Thomas & Harry Mallon, Pat Walsh, Theo DaCosta, Denis Brown, Vernon Bowers, Brian Carr, Myrtle Morkel, Suzanne Doots

## CLUSTER NEWS:

- ♦ **OUR LADY'S STATUE:** Jan 26: Hennessy family, Hennessy Ave.
- ♦ **BAPTISM PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN:** The Pastoral Cluster will offer a Baptism Program for children attending school and have parent(s) who are Catholic. The 3-week program will begin on Sunday 8th Feb and finish on Wednesday 25th Feb. It is a mix of evening meetings for children and parents once per week and a lesson for the children during the first part of the 9.30am Mass at Holy Family on the Sundays of Feb 8, 15 and 22. **Enrolments close on Wednesday Feb 4, 2015. Contact Frank Kearney at the Pastoral Cluster Office on 5278 1343 or email: [frank.kearney@cam.org.au](mailto:frank.kearney@cam.org.au)**
- ♦ **PARISH FIRST RECONCILIATION PROGRAM:** This program is for children who are in Grade 3 or above and attend a non-Catholic school but have been baptized. The course will run over 4 weeks with a mixture of 1-hour evening meetings for parents and children (7.30pm Tuesdays) and Sunday morning lessons for the children during the first half of the 9.30am Mass at Holy Family Church. **Enrolments for this program close on Wednesday Feb 25. Contact Frank Kearney at the Pastoral Cluster Office on 5278 1343 or email: [frank.kearney@cam.org.au](mailto:frank.kearney@cam.org.au)**
- ♦ **MANIFOLD BRANCH OF CWL** will hold their monthly meeting **Wed Feb 4**, 1.30pm in Holy Spirit Hall. New members from the Cluster welcome to attend. Information/transport ph Noella Duggan 0437 121 533 or Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063.
- ♦ **ANNUAL 'LOURDES DAY MASS'** will be celebrated at St Mary's Basilica on **Sat Feb 7** 10am and will include Anointing of the Sick and a blessing with Lourdes Water at the conclusion of the Mass. The Mass replaces the usual 9am Saturday Mass at St Mary's.
- ♦ **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Social Luncheon get together **Sunday 15th Feb** Belmont Seniors Centre Dining Room, 52 Thomson St. 12noon for nibbles/drinks followed by 2-course cold collation & dessert. \$26/head all inclusive. Open invitation to members, widows, family & friends. **Bookings essential by 9th Feb to Frank Khan on 5243 4926.**

/From P1... Every call leads to the wider community, to the people of Israel in the Old Testament, and out to the entire world in the New Testament.

Today's readings provide a litmus test for our conversion. If our faith has become a self-help club, where we talk about 'my'

God, 'my' prayers, 'my' Church, 'my' Mass, we are in need of conversion. We don't need to leave God's personal love for us behind, we just need to see it as a necessary preparation for belonging to the people of God as we engage with the world at every level. We are challenged to reject the idea that it's me-and-God-against-

the-world, and welcome in the idea that it's US-and-God-IN-the-world.

May this Eucharist give us the strength, resources and intelligence we need to be converted personally and socially again this Sunday.

## **ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, FEB 1, 2015.**

(1st Sunday of the Month)

<b><u>HOLY FAMILY</u></b>	<b><u>8.00AM</u></b>	<b><u>9.30AM</u></b>
Commentators	R Allum	J Siketa
Lectors	V Pavlovic	C&J Taylor
Special Ministers	J Bartolo, I Vanjek, B McFarlane, I Baulch	P Carmody, D Farrar, R Zanardo, B Kline, L Greco
Welcomers	K McArthur	M&E Hoffman
Projectionist	R Allum	C Resciniti
<b><u>HOLY SPIRIT:</u></b>	<b><u>6.00PM</u></b>	<b><u>11.00AM</u></b>
Commentators	E Cotter	C Neilson
Lectors	J O'Neill	B Middleton, M Wright
Special Ministers	C Laffy, M Abbott, D Torpy	R Pugh
Welcomers		D King, I Cleary, C Kelynack
Projectionist	B Stocks	L Coles
<b><u>Ss PETER &amp; PAUL'S:</u></b>	<b><u>5.00PM</u></b>	
Commentators	C O'Brien	
Lectors	Sr J McGonigal	
Special Ministers	N Neeld, P McGlinchey	
Welcomers	B Pleasance	
Projectionist		