PARISH PRIESTS: Fr Gerard Keith (email: gerard.keith@cam.org.au)

Fr Mick Fitzpatrick

Web Page Address: www.pastoralclustergeelong.org

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)

 Phone 5278 1343 (email: cluster@cam.org.au)

THANKSGIVING CO-ORD: Helen Brislane - Phone 5278 1343 (email: <u>helen.brislane@cam.org.au</u>)

SCHOOL PRINCIPALS:

Holy Family - Paul McBride/Trish Moloney 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 West Phone 5229 4412

Reflection... by Richard Leonard

OFFICE:

I ntil I spent time on a vineyard ten years ago, I always heard the parable of the vinedresser as a tough, 'shape up or ship out' message. I always imagined God as the vinedresser having a field day lopping and cutting my dead branches, trimming my unproductive stems and uprooting all the rot that undermines my fruitfulness. It always felt like a violent activity.

It was a pleasant surprise then, to actually see a vinedresser in action. Far from an act of violence, the care paid by the dresser to each stem is extraordinary. He or she carefully inspects the branch, delicately cutting only the smallest amount so that the vine will be healthier and more productive. A good vinedresser pores over the vines and from experience knows that to cut too much or too little will render the vine without its distinctive character. Every cut is measured

and aimed to prune back only the diseased branch, so as to bring about greater growth for the whole vine and a bigger yield for the vineyard. The vinedresser is not violent with the vine, but extremely tender. The first hearers of today's Gospel would have known that this metaphor is anything but a 'shape up or ship out' message.

This parable is a profound insight into the Christian life. We can claim to belong to the Christian family all we like. We can come to Mass every Sunday. But if the fruit we produce is bitter and poisonous, if we are unforgiving, unjust and uncaring, we cannot claim to be on the vine of Christ's love. And if that's the case we are in desperate need of the gentle hand of the vinedresser, who only wants to see us bring forth the yield we are capable of achieving.

Rev Billy Graham once said, 'Being a member of the Church no more makes you a Christian than living in a garage makes you a car.' That's the point of today's Gospel: God will not judge us by what we say or the public face of goodness we can turn on, we will be judged by our acts of love in and through our kindness and compassion.

This metaphor also reminds us that we are connected to each other. There are moments in our life of faith when we hear or see other Christians saying or doing things we cannot countenance. We can try to disown them by retreating into our denomination, but we are all connected in Christ's vineyard. We need the courage to tell them the truth as we see it, and charitably point out the problems we have with what they think is right. And we need the humility to listen when they challenge us. /Cont'd P4

- 5th Sunday of Easter -

(Year B - May 3, 2015.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

I will praise you Lord, in the assembly of your people.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!

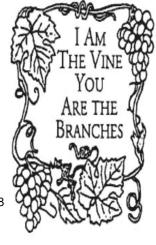
Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. **Alleluia!**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

5th Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48

2nd Reading: 1Jn 4:7-10 Gospel: Jn 15:9-17



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

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 1st & 3rd Friday **Multicultural Centre:** 1.30pm - 1st Fri Vincentian Village: 3.00pm Monday

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 Holv Family Community Centre 10.00am Holy Family Community Centre Tues... Meditation Group 5.30pm

Wed... Holy Spirit Church Prayer of the Church Before 9am Mass

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 Fri... Holy Spirit Church Fri... Divine Mercy 3.00pm Holy Spirit Church Sat... Rosary After 9am Mass Holy Spirit Church

OUR LADY'S STATUE:

May 4 - Kolotelo family, 23 Bostock Ave; May 11/18 - Hoare family, 21 Sycamore St.

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:

Margaret Straughan, Reg Cummins, Jean Lewis, Andrew Chan, Myurun Sukumaran, Jim Delosi RECENT DEATHS:

and Norman Clark

ANNIVERSARIES: Fr John Tresidder, Angelina DePalma, Ron Smith, Richard Tolkin, Charlotte Henderson, Antonio

Puglia, Tomislav & Josip Starcevic, Josie Mullavey and Margaret Bohan

BAPTISMS: Theodore Atkins, Emily Craig, Louis Jackman and Sophia & Hudson Hood

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Anita Capicchiano, Cheryl Lambert, Thomas & Harry Mallon, Pat Walsh, Theo DaCosta, Denis

Brown, Vernon Bowers, Myrtle Morkel, Suzanne Doots, Gerradine Barry

Please note: After approx five weeks names will be deleted from the sick list . Please phone the office on

5278 1343 if you wish names reinserted.

Roster for Next Sunday, May 10, 2015

(2nd Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY 8.00AM 9.30AM Commentators R Allum C Simpson Lectors F O'Neill D Lunn, A Negro

R Allum, J Genova, C Marcantonio H Verdnik, M Baird, J Sheahan, M Perera, **Special Ministers**

V Resciniti, E Glynn Welcomers C Marcantonio,

C Resciniti **Projectionist** R Allum

6.00PM **HOLY SPIRIT:** Commentators D Ryan Lectors J Ryan

B Murphy, R O'Neill, J Ryan **Special Ministers**

Welcomers M Brown **Projectionist** J Lynch

Ss PETER & PAUL'S: 11.00AM 5.00PM Commentators A Hubbard E Strzelecki

Lectors P Power, P Hubbard M Martin, A Kissane **Special Ministers** P&A Hubbard, P McGlinchey E Strzelecki, L Fossey,

M Broekman, D Dougherty, L Fossey Welcomers Projectionist

R Martin



Mothers Day Wigh Tea =

As part of our ongoing support for our Philippines Partnership

Our guest speaker will be Catriona Rowntree (from the TV series Getaway).

Date: Saturday May 9, 2015

Time: 2pm - 4pm

Place: Capri Receptions, Separation St Bell Park



In addition there are other opportunities to support our Philippines focus on Mothers for Mothers. To that end we are supporting Sr Kate, of Our Lady of the Missions and Kuya Centre, who are seeking to empower women in their role as mothers. Ways you can do this are by supporting our Wish Lists which are available after all Masses this weekend.

WISH LIST:

- ◆ Micro Credit Loans \$100 loan for a mother to start a small business
- Parish Primary School \$36 for one year's tuition of a primary school child, \$10 for one uniform for primary school aged child
- Night School for Poorer Children \$60 to sponsor one night school student for annual tuition; \$20 to sponsor the
 honorarium of one teacher for one month; \$10 to sponsor the honorarium of one class adviser of night school for one
 month.
- Clinic \$50 for x-rays and laboratory tests for one week; \$40 for maintenance medicine for one week; \$30 a week for emergency needs
- ♦ Kuya Centre \$22 for one week's accommodation for street boy at Kuya; \$50 loans for micro credit program
- ◆ Street Kids Feeding Program \$25 to feed sixty street children for one day
- ♦ Neighbourhood Project \$21 for one month's supply of water for a neighbourhood

RAFFLE:

1st Prize is two return tickets to Sydney on Virgin Australia and 2 nights accommodation at The Ibis - Darling Harbour.

A number of Mothers Day pamper packs for subsequent prizes.

SPECIAL THANKS to those who have made donations -

- Geelong Travel, Belmont
- Views, Cape Schank
- Exhaust Bros
- Paul Kelly Design
- All parishioners who have made donations for the hampers



SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT IN THE PASTORAL CLUSTER MASSES:

Sun May 3... First Eucharist for Holy Family School children at Holy Family 9.30am

" First Eucharist for St Patrick's School children at Ss Peter & Paul's 11am (an additional Mass) *

Fri May 8... Mother's Day Mass - Gr2 children at St Patrick's Chapel

Sun May 10... First Eucharist for Holy Family School children at Holy Family 9.30am

First Eucharist for St Patrick's School children at Ss Peter & Paul's 11am *

Tues May 12... Class Mass - Gr1/2 children at Holy Family 9.15am

Sat May 16... First Eucharist for Holy Spirit School children at Holy Spirit 6pm
Sun May 17... First Eucharist for Holy Family School children at Holy Family 9.30am
First Eucharist for Holy Spirit School children at Holy Spirit 11am

First Eucharist for St Patrick's School children at Ss Peter & Paul's 11am (an additional Mass) *

Sun May 24... First Eucharist for St Patrick's School children at Ss Peter & Paul's 11am *

Tues May 26... Class Mass - Gr Prep children at Holy Family 9.15am

Sat May 30... First Eucharist for Holy Spirit School children at Holy Spirit 6pm
Sun May 31... First Eucharist for Holy Spirit School children at Holy Spirit 11am

First Eucharist for St Patrick's School children at Ss Peter & Paul's 11am (an additional Mass) *

* In addition to the celebration of the First Eucharist the children preparing for Confirmation will make their Commitment

PASTORAL CLUSTER MEETINGS:

Tues May 12... Pastoral Cluster Finance Meeting

Tues May 26... Pastoral Cluster Leadership Team Meeting

CARITAS AUSTRALIA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL:

As you are aware from media and the Caritas website, on 25 April 2015 a 7.9 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal between Kathmandu and Pokhra. The devastation in Kathmandu and the surrounding valleys is immense. This is the worst natural disaster to strike the people of Nepal



and communities across India and Bangladesh in nearly 100 years. The death toll is increasing by the hour, but more than 5,000 deaths have already been reported and more than 10,000 people were injured during the shock. Sadly experience tells us that these figures will rise as rescuers reach the more remote village communities. With extensive damage to buildings and continuing aftershocks in the region, many people are sleeping outside and require shelter and protection from the cold and rain. - Archbishop Hart

If you wish to support Caritas Australia who are working in conjunction with Caritas Nepal, who are responding to immediate needs such as food, shelter, clean water and non food items, you can make your donations online at: www.caritas.org.au/nepalearthquakeappeal or alternatively contact the Melbourne Office on 9926 5786 or 9926 5706.

- PARISH FIRST EUCHARIST PROGRAM: This program is for children from Catholic families who attend a non-Catholic Primary ٠ School. The children must have already received the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The program begins on SUNDAY 24TH MAY and finishes on SUNDAY 7TH JUNE. The First Eucharist celebrations will be on the 14th and 21st June. ENROLMENTS CLOSE ON FRIDAY 15TH MAY. For further details contact Bernadette at the Pastoral Cluster Office on 5278 1343 or email cluster@cam.org.au
- CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE ANNUAL MELBOURNE DIOCESAN CONFERENCE will be held 6th May in Holy Spirit Hall, commencing 9.30am with morning tea. Guest speakers include Helen Hunter, Tessa Davis from Anam Cara House and Marg Hayes - CatholicCare. \$15 covers morning tea and lunch. Mass will be celebrated 12noon in Holy Spirit Church. Ladies from the Pastoral Cluster and friends welcome to attend. To help with catering we do require numbers attending by April 4. Contact Tricia Joyce 0431 512 354 or Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063.
- HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP: Our annual Mothers Day Raffle tickets are on sale after Masses today. Tickets are \$1 each and there are 3 prizes: 1st - Set of porcelain canisters, 2nd - Set of QS sheets and QS doona cover, 3rd - Stick mixer. As in previous years we appreciate the support of our parishioners and friends. Our next meeting on May 4th will be held at Santa Casa, Queenscliff, commencing 10am. Sr Jean will conduct two sessions of Meditation - \$10/person. Tea/coffee will be provided, BYO lunch. For carpooling please be at Holy Family at 9.15am. Note: There will be NO evening meeting this month.

Community News:

- May 4... SACRED HEART COLLEGE CIRCLE OF MERCY - Free Community Evening of Faith and Spirituality with Fr Richard Leonard SJ - What are we doing on earth for Christ's sake? 7pm in Celies Dining Room, SHC. To register ph 5222 0487.
- Mr Adrian Commadeur will be speaking at the St Bernard's Church meeting, 74 Fryers Rd Belmont, at 10am. Mr Commadeur May 5... is a pioneer leader of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal and author of Spirit in the Church and Witness to the World. All are welcome to attend. Any enquiries please ring Nino Portaro on 5266 1554.
- May 6/13/20... ST IGNATIUS COLLEGE SEE THE COLLEGE AT WORK TOURS: 1.30pm for further details about enrolment ph 5251 1136 or email registrar@ignatius.vic.edu.au Applications for Year 7 enrolments close on Friday May 22.
- ST JOHN OF GOD GEELONG HOSPITAL: You are invited to a Time of Prayer the Rosary will be prayed for the intentions of the sick and also the special work of Caregivers at SJOG Geelong. You are invited to participate in this time of prayer each Tuesday in May (5/12/19/26) from 1-1.20pm in the Chapel, Level 1, 80 Myers St Geelong. Further information ph 5226 8888
- JOURNEY TO JORDAN AND THE HOLY LAND: With Fr Herman Licayan of the Meredith parish a Pilgrimage from Oct 19-26 2015. Details ph Meredith Parish on 5286 1230 or email parishofmeredith@bigpond.com
- MARYVILLE AGED CARE INC: Limited vacancies available Ph 5221 5299 for more info.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - 5th Sunday of Easter

"Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth." Jn 3:18

Do you 'walk the talk?' Does your action reflect what you say? If not, spend time every day in prayer, give some of your talent to help one of your parish's ministries and give some of your money to support the work of the Church.

It's even harder when the diseased part of I the vine is in our own Catholic section of the vineyard. Our first instinct can be to lop off the branch, just to get rid of it. But as any vinedresser knows this is the last resort. Whether we find it easy or not, Christ calls us to limited surgical interventions over amputations every time. This is tough love. Even though

there are people within our community who have committed terrible crimes and betrayed our trust, the Gospel calls us to hold on to them until it's clear that no matter what intervention we make, they are dying on Christ's vine already. And even then, we hope and pray that our action towards them might see a new growth within them which could be the beginning of a possible grafting back on to us in the future.

In the face of the world's 'shape up or ship out' principle, today's Gospel challenges us to hang in there with each other, in season and out of season, because as the old folk hymn sings, 'They'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love. Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.'