



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)

THANKSGIVING CO-ORD:

Helen Brislane - Phone 5278 1343 (email: helen.brislane@cam.org.au)

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

AREN'T we lucky we don't take the Scriptures literally? If we did it would appear from today's Gospel that only multilingual, snake-wrangling, poison-drinking exorcists, with a gift for healing, would be seen as the genuine Christian article. That would leave most of us out in the cold.

This passage, however, is a dramatic addition to Mark's Gospel to show that even though Jesus is now at the right hand of God, he sends his disciples out to the whole world to carry on his ministry, and that he will protect us when trials come. And even though there have been tragic and shocking chapters in our 2,000 year history, it's good for us to remember what God has done in and through us as we have gone out and proclaimed the saving love of Christ. Today 33% of the world's population are, at least

nominally, Christian, numbering 2.1 billion people, making us the largest religion in the world. Our Catholic family accounts for just over half this group. We have around 1.1 billion Catholic brothers and sisters worldwide. Many Christians continue to be persecuted or discriminated for their faith, and some continue to die for their love of Christ which impels them to seek justice for all.

But the feast of the Ascension is not just an opportunity for us to look back on how we have tried to fulfil the command of the Lord to go out to the world. Indeed, this feast is primarily focused on where we are going from here on in. The Ascension promises us that just as the Father raised Jesus from the dead, so too the Father, Son and Spirit will welcome us into heaven as well, to be at Christ's right hand for eternity. This parable demonstrates the

point.

In 1939 a father and son were famous art collectors. When World War II broke out, the son volunteered. In 1944 the son died in battle while rescuing another soldier. A year later, a young man came to see the father. 'Sir, you don't know me but I was with your son when he died. I want you to know he didn't suffer.'

'I know you both loved art, and though this isn't much, I want you to have it.' He gave the father a package. Inside was a portrait of the son. It was rough work, but the father welled up with tears. 'It was the least I could do for your son because he saved my life.'

A few months later, the father died. At the art auction which followed, investors gathered from around the world. The first item up for bid was the portrait of the son.

/Cont'd P4

- The Ascension of the Lord -

(Year B - May 17, 2015.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?
This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven
will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy;
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Go and teach all people my gospel.
I am with you always, until the end of
the world. **Alleluia!**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**Pentecost Sunday**

1st Reading:	Acts 2:1-11
2nd Reading:	Gal 5:16-25
Gospel:	Jn 15:26-27, 16:12-15

**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

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

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

Vincentine 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

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:

May 18 - Hoare family, 21 Sycamore St. **May 25-June 1:** Sharry family, 23 Lily 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:

RECENT DEATHS:

Noel Newton, Rosalia Puglisi, Sima Saric, Vito Pietrapertosa, Christopher Gulli, Margaret Owens and Alina Gawryszak

ANNIVERSARIES:

Joe & Carmel Phelan, John McDonald, William McHugh, Dimmy DaCosta, Filomena Ferrao, Elisabetta Pitaro, Giustino Cavallo, Gertrude Ryan, Francesco Bucolo

BAPTISMS:

Michael Caimano, Nicholas DiLullo, Mara Maricevic, Ella Ring, Jax Harris, Abby Mullen and Eliza & Xavier Sharry

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Anita Capicchiano, Cheryl Lambert, Thomas & Harry Mallon, 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 24, 2015

(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

J Fraatz, L Eastman

M Broekman, D Dougherty, J Gailius

M Broekman, D Dougherty, D Lipinski

R Zarb

Cluster News:

- ◆ **PARISH FIRST EUCHARIST PROGRAM:** This program is for children from Catholic families who attend a non-Catholic Primary 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
- ◆ **OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS:** An initiative of the Legion of Mary is that they will be leading the Rosary before the 5pm Mass at Ss Peter & Paul's on **May 23rd** as part of the celebration of the Feast Day of Our Lady Help of Christians.
- ◆ **THANKYOU:** This week we received a note of thanks from Caritas Australia for the generous support of you the parishioners for Project Compassion. This year we raised \$4,492.
- ◆ **HOLY SPIRIT 60TH ANNIVERSARY GALA BALL:** To be held at the Empire Grill on **Saturday May 23rd 7.30-12pm**. Cost \$45/head (includes drink on arrival, finger food and band). Drinks at bar prices. Featuring: **People's Poets**. For tickets phone main office at Holy Spirit School on 5229 8298
- ◆ **HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP RAFFLE WINNERS:** 1st - Noella Duggan; 2nd - Krystyna Gizycki; 3rd - Faye Brooks. Congratulations to you all and thankyou to everyone for your support and contribution.
- ◆ **PASTORAL CLUSTER LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING:** Tuesday May 26 in the Pastoral Cluster Office, 7.00pm.



FR MICK'S MATES:

Entertainment books are a way to save up to 50% or receive 2 for 1 offers from many of the best restaurants, arts, attractions, hotels, travel, shopping and much, much more AND they are available for sale at the Cluster Office for \$55. Please contact Trish on 5278 1343 - all proceeds to Fr Mick's Mates. Please come to the Parish Office for book purchase.

**FR MICK'S MATES COMMITTEE MEETING:
Monday May 25th, 4pm at the Cluster Office**

MOTHERS FOR MOTHERS HIGH TEA:

Our Mothers for Mothers High Tea was a great success on all accounts. The support for the event was extraordinary with a sell-out crowd of 437 in attendance. Standing at the podium at the start of the function, it was great to see the room full of people and colour. I have said on a number of occasions that I believe we are very fortunate in the Pastoral Cluster that we are able, and have the people available, to support a function such as this which is of great value - not only socially but also for an important gospel outreach in the service of the poor. Such a successful event only occurs because of the generous gift of time and talents by so many.

Special thanks to:

- ◆ **Masimo and the team at Capri Receptions** for their accommodating and generous hospitality
- ◆ **Catriona Rowntree** who gave an enjoyable, humorous and engaging presentation
- ◆ **Faye Brooks (Holy Family School), Bern Boxer (Holy Spirit School), Jan Fagan (St Pat's School)**, who undertook various co-ordinating roles. They also had support from other staff members and school families.
- ◆ **Jenny Ryan**, Sr Kate's sister, who read a letter on behalf of Kate that gave a heartfelt focus to the purpose of our Partnership.
- ◆ **Paul McBride** for the technical assistance with the Powerpoint
- ◆ **Table Captains** for their efforts in organising their family and friends to be part of the function

In particular on your behalf heartfelt thanks to **Trish Stickland** who prepared, organised and oversaw the whole function - a very generous effort and a job well done! (*Fr Gerard*)

The final figure will be published next week.

Wish List:

During the month of May, a month normally dedicated to Our Lady, there will still be an opportunity to support our Mothers for Mothers Project by making a donation through the Wish List. Brochures are available at all the Churches.

The Winners of the Raffle are:

1st Helen Spork. Hampers - **Gabriela Day, Emily Townsing, Sally Fraatz, Sarah Kelly, Liz Strzelecki, Pauline Gilmore and Mrs Hay** (please collect your hamper from the Parish office)

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES:

- ◆ Thankyou all for your continuing regular support.
- ◆ There is a set of envelopes for **weekly and monthly** contributors in the foyer today.
- ◆ They are in order, alphabetical by **STREET**.
- ◆ Please take a pink sheet if you would like to contribute regularly, using envelopes, credit card or bank transfer.
- ◆ Contact Helen with any queries: Helen.brislane@cam.org.au, or leave a message at the Parish Office.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL:

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.



STEWARDSHIP CORNER - Ascension of Our Lord

"Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God." 1Jn 4:15

How strong is your faith? When you have an opportunity to defend your faith or clarify a question about your faith, do you do it? Or do you remain silent so that others don't think you are weird? Pray for the courage to be strong in your faith and share your witness with others.

Community News:

- May 17...** **ORCHESTRA GEELONG:** Presents *A Touch of the British* at The Geelong College, Aphrasia St Newtown. Tickets \$20/ Conc \$15, U/16 free. Tickets available at door or ph Ticketmaster 5231 5595 / 0409 333 782
- May 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.**
- June 3...** **ACRATH SPEAKS ABOUT TRAFFICKING:** Hear about the work and the problem of human trafficking in Australia and our region. 7-8.30pm in the Plaza Theatre, St Mary of the Angels Parish. For information ph Sr Carole McDonald carolem@mercy.org.au ph 0407 051 095.

- ◆ **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 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
- ◆ **FREE LEGAL ADVICE AND EDUCATION:** The Barwon Community Legal Service provides a range of services to assist members of our local community. These services include legal advice, referral to specialist casework services, community education and development and policy and law reform activities. For more information ph 1300 430 599.
- ◆ **VICTORIAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES EMERGENCY MINISTRY (VCCEM):** In the Geelong region the VCCEM is looking for people who would be interested in being a support person when others are affected by disasters such as fire, flood and other significant emergencies. They are looking for people who are good listeners with a background in helping and people who generally have a pastoral care heart. The next information session will be at St Mary of the Angels Theatre on **Thursday 28th May from 1-2pm.**
- ◆ **THE GIFT OF YEARS GROUP:** Are you over 75 years of age? Would you be interested in joining a discussion group about the burdens and blessings of being older? Offered by CatholicCare every Friday for 5 weeks, 10am to 12noon. For further information and to register your interest call 5221 7055
- ◆ **CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETINGS:** First and Third Tuesdays of each month, 10am at St Bernard's Church, 74 Fryers Rd Belmont. Contact Nino Portaro for enquiries on 5266 1554.

SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT IN THE PASTORAL CLUSTER MASSES:

- 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

/From P1...

The auctioneer tried to start the bidding, '\$200 ...\$100 ...Any bids? Any at all?' The investors called out, 'Skip this one. Where are the Rembrandts?' Just then a man spoke up from the back. 'I'll give you ten dollars for the painting. It's all the money I have.' It was the gardener at the father's estate. So the auctioneer brought down his gavel. 'Sold for ten dollars!' An investor called back, 'Can we now get on

with it?'

But the auctioneer continued, 'The auction is over. According to the will, whoever bought this painting would inherit the estate, including all the art.'

No matter what they said the wealthy investors couldn't buy their way into the inheritance. Only the one who had the eyes of love, and knew what he was looking at,

inherited everything the Father and Son had to offer.

May we go out from this Feast of the Ascension so confident of our spiritual inheritance to come, that we lavish its riches on all we meet right now. Because when it comes to Christ's kingdom, there's plenty for everyone.