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:

PARISH SECRETARY:

Bernadette Bilogrevic - Helen Brislane - Phone 5278 1343 (email: trish.stickland@cam.org.au)

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

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

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

SCHOOL PRINCIPALS: Holy Family - Paul McBride/Trish Moloney Separation St. Bell Park Pho

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

In years gone by the major focus of this feast of Corpus Christi was a procession that usually concluded with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Many of us have fond memories of Benediction: a bejewelled cope and monstrance, the flickering candles, the Divine Praises and Latin hymns. It all worked to create a magical atmosphere. As richly theatrical as it was, the magical side of it was part of the problem.

In medieval times Catholics rarely received Holy Communion. So much so it was in this context that the Church ruled that we have to communicate at least once a year. In the absence of communion, veneration of the Blessed Sacrament took on a great significance. Seeing the host was thought to impart an intense power.

Although in the last 100 years we have been

encouraged to receive communion more frequently, the magical properties ascribed to the host persist in some people's devotional thinking.

As Catholics we believe that Jesus is really and personally present to us in the broken bread and shared cup of the Eucharist. And although we believe that Christ is present in the Scriptures, the assembly and the ministers of the Church, we hold that Christ's presence under the form of bread and wine is one filled with the greatest intimacy and uniqueness.

The Eucharist is not intimate and unique because it is magic. It's not intimate and unique because we gaze upon the elements. The Eucharist is intimate and unique because earthly signs are transformed by God's love, and are consumed in faith. As we eat and drink these elements Christ becomes part of us.

and we come alive in Christ.

In the fifth century Saint Augustine taught his people that if they truly loved the Eucharist they would become what they eat. The same is true for us today. By receiving into our hands the bread – blessed and broken, the cup – poured and shared, we say 'Amen' to becoming the same in Christ: blessed, broken, poured out and shared in love. We commune with God and God with us in the Eucharist so that just as earthly gifts are transformed into Christ so through us will be the entire world, and all things in it.

There is a huge and important difference between grace and magic. One is a trick for show. The other is the power of love, which expresses itself in faith, hope and service.

/Cont'd P4

- Feast Corpus Christi -

(Year B - June 7, 2015.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live

forever. Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Ezek 17:22-24 2nd Reading: 2Cor 5:6-10 Gospel: Mk 4:26-34



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 5.00pm Saturday 6.00pm 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

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

Holy Family Women's Prayer Group Wed... 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... After 9am Mass Holy Spirit Church Rosary

OUR LADY'S STATUE:

8-15 June: Duggan family, Unit 1/8 Elsie 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: Mons John Flynn, Rick Glab, John Bove

ANNIVERSARIES: Ljerka Lehpamer, Maria Mileto, Salvatore & Rosina Maiolo (Italy), Robert Salt, Filippo

> Caccamo, Harry & Ila O'Brien, Catherine Jones, Jim Hudson, Marcello Carpenetti, Giovanni, Antonia, Aldo & Bruno Bole, Giovanni, Maria & Antonio Grus, Monique Kelly

BAPTISMS: Austin Barnes and Van Vine

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Gerradine Barry, Tamara Harkness, Sara Hoe, Ted Conole, Eileen Cotter, John Bove

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

5278 1343 if you wish names reinserted.

Roster for Next Sunday, June 14, 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

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

V Resciniti, E Glynn Welcomers C Marcantonio,

C Resciniti **Projectionist** R Allum

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

R O'Neill, E 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

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. 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... First Monday evening of each month at the Community Centre 7.30pm.

Holy Spirit meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays 7.00pm in Holy Spirit Hall Every Friday 9.30am in the Holy Family Community Centre

Baptism Preps4th Mondays 7.30pm in the Community CentreHoly Family Choir Practice...Every Wednesday night at Holy Family Church 7pmManifold CWL...Holy Spirit Hall, 1st Wednesdays in the monthItalian Mass...First Thursday of the month in St Patrick's Chapel

Catholic Diners' Club... Second Tues of each month, 6pm at Berkeley 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.pastoralclustergeelong.org

Cluster News:

Legion of Mary...

- ♦ FAREWELL AND THANKYOU TO MARY ABBOTT: With a sense of sadness I would like to inform the wider Cluster community that Mary Abbott, the Principal of Holy Spirit School, will be taking up a new position as Principal at St James, Hoppers Crossing North. Mary has provided excellent educational and faith leadership of the Holy Spirit School during her tenure. We thank her for her leadership and wish her every success and blessing in her new appointment. On Wednesday 17 June there will be a whole school Mass to thank and say farewell to Mary at 9.30am. Please note the change of time from 9am to 9.30am. All parishioners are invited.
- FR MICK'S ANNUAL LEAVE: Fr Mick is on his annual leave. We wish him a quiet and restful holiday with his family.
- ♦ WELCOME TO FR BOB WOOD: Father Bob is kindly assisting with the Sunday Masses whilst Fr Mick is away.
- OFFICE CLOSURE: Please note that Monday June 8th is a Public Holiday and the office will be closed.
- ♦ AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS Faith and Life, Winter Edition: This edition contemplates What is Fair? Giving everyone an opportunity to flourish. Articles include After the Bounce AFL Umpire Reflection on fairness on and off the field; Divine Justice; Fairness and Love Is there more to healthy community life than fairness? and a Beginners Guide to Fair Trade. Copies are available for free at the back of all Churches.

INTRODUCTION OF A SECOND COLLECTION AT MASS

Six years ago when we had the Thanksgiving Campaign, the decision was made to have only one collection. The view at the time was that we didn't want to impose on the major contributors to the parish - mainly pensioners and those who are self-funded retirees; that one collection was less disruptive to the liturgy and perhaps people would give the same amount as if there were two collections. The collective wisdom from the Archdiocese, and on the advice of the Parish Leadership Team and Finance Committee, the decision is now to re-introduce two collections. The first collection will be to cover costs associated with the parish and the second collection for the presbytery (priests) account.

The motivation for this change is that the three parishes are operating at a loss. Whilst the costs are not coming down, the amount we are receiving in the Thanksgiving and collections is. Some figures for your consideration:

Number of Contributors to the Thanksgiving Campaign -

- ♦ In **2012** there were 562 contributors (av weekly contribution (awc) was \$8.60) of which 239 were from Holy Family (awc \$6.80), 208 from Holy Spirit (awc \$10.08) and 115 from Ss Peter & Paul's (awc \$9.90)
- In 2013 there were 502 contributors (awc \$9) of which 211 were from Holy Family (awc \$7), 188 from Holy Spirit (awc \$10) and 103 from Ss Peter & Paul's (awc \$10)
- ◆ In 2014 there were 480 contributors (awc \$9) of which 207 were from Holy Family (awc \$7), 175 from Holy Spirit (awc \$10) and 98 from Ss Peter & Paul's (awc \$10)

The Thanksgiving receipts and collection -

- ♦ In 2013 the amount received was \$238,345] This is a decline of \$17,895, a 7.6% decrease
- In 2014 the amount received was \$216.450 l

Major Expenses 2014 -

- ♦ Insurance is \$40,000
- Diocesan Levy \$46,000
- ♦ Office costs incl photocopier lease, telephone, postage, stationery, etc (not including wages) is approx \$40,000
- ♦ Rates and Municipal charges \$8,500
- Wages, salary and superannuation are a significant part of the parish's expense, but it allows us to provide the pastoral work, manage the office and ensure the good oversight of the Pastoral Cluster and its assets.
- The expenses also include support for the Presbytery account which is made up of a stipend, the car leasing arrangements, a 25% levy to support priests in poorer parishes and a 5% levy for the Archbishop's office.
- Over the last 4-5 years the focus of our spending has been on the necessary refurbishment, restoration and structural work on the three Churches. In 2014 these works incurred the following expenses: approx \$130,000 was spent on Holy Spirit Church, \$64,000 on Ss P&P's and \$8,200 on Holy Family.
- ♦ In addition to the Thanksgiving receipts and collection there is money received from rental properties, interest and the recent introduction of a parish levy on school families. The income derived from these sources is an important contribution for the renovation, restoration and upgrade of the Churches.

† St. Vincent de Paul ST VINCENT DE PAUL'S WINTER APPEAL:



In our local Catholic Church in general and in the Pastoral Cluster in particular, we are blessed with an organisation such as St Vincent de Paul. As a group they do terrific work in outreach to those who are in the margin of society by providing support services such as crisis accommodation, domestic violence support, access to budget counselling, life skills courses, legal assistance, as well as the provision of food, clothing and blankets. There is an Neighbors helping neighbors opportunity to support the endeavours of Vinnies through a second collection at the Masses at:

- Ss Peter & Paul's and Holy Family on the weekend of June 13/14
- Holy Spirit on the weekend of June 20/21. •
- Also Mary Abbott, the Principal of Holy Spirit School, is joining the CEO Sleepout Rise to the Challenge, where she will be joining • many others sleeping rough on Thursday 18 June. If you would like to sponsor Mary she can be contacted at Holy Spirit School on 5229 8298

EUCHARISTIC PROGRAM FOR CATECHETICAL CHILDREN:

Sunday June 7 9.30am at Holy Family Church - Lesson for children during the first part of the Mass First Eucharist... Sunday June 14 or June 21 9.30am at Holy Family Church.

Community News:

KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS: Monthly meeting next Wednesday 7.30pm Clairvaux Meeting Rooms Belmont. Members please attend and bring a plate.

June 19-21... MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND: Starts 7pm Friday, ending 5pm Sunday with accommodation and all meals provided. Information/bookings vicbookings@wwme.org.au or 9733 0997 or visit our website www.wwme.org.au. Other weekends are 21-23 August and 23-25 October.

- THE ANNUAL DEANERY DINNER will take place at Berkeley Lodge (formerly Dromoland House) on Thursday 25th June at 6.30pm. Mr Gary McIlvena will speak on four projects which assist the homeless and disadvantaged in Geelong. Tickets are \$45pp with proceeds going towards St Mary's Parish Pantry, Samaritan House, Lazarus House (daytime drop-in centre) and Christ Church Breakfast Program. Tickets \$45 available at St Mary's Office 5222 1977 or Deanery Office 0409 007 913. For further information please ph Catherine Moon 0409 007 913.
- THE GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS: Come join us for a 2-course evening meal, stimulating guest speakers and the opportunity to meet new friends, all for only \$30. 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 and check out our website: www.catholicdinersclub.org

FR MICK'S MATES:

Entertainment books are available for sale after all Masses and at the Cluster Office for \$55.

Contacts: Ss Peter & Pauls - Solopm - Noreen Haberman/Noreen Neeld Holy Spirit - 6.00pm - John O'Neill Holy Family - 8.00am - Lane Kelly and 9.30am - David Lunn

These books can save you up to 50% or receive 2 for I offers from many of the best restaurants, arts, attractions, hotels, travel, shopping and much, much more. All proceeds to Fr Mick's Mates.

CHRISTMAS MARKET SUPPLIES:

Donations of small/tall jars, small bottles and baskets are sought for bottling of our favourite jams and relishes. Please leave at the back of each Church for collection.

In a profound poem French Jesuit Didier Rimaud challenges those of us who love the Eucharist to see it linked to the liberation begun in the Exodus, consummated in the Resurrection and working in our world today.

In remembrance of you, We take the bread of Easter in our hands.

This Bread do we consume:

It does no longer taste of bitter herbs, nor of unleavened bread. It is the bread of a land promised us where we shall be set free.

In remembrance of vou. We take the wine of Easter at our feast. This wine do we hold dear. It does no longer taste of bitter springs, nor of dark salty pools. It is the wine of land promised us where we shall be made whole.

In remembrance of you, From exile we return. In remembrance of you, We walk across the sea!

No wonder the early Christians called the Body and Blood of Christ, 'food for the journey'. May this Eucharist strengthen and embolden us to help God liberate and transform the world through how we spend our lives.