



# 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](mailto:gerard.keith@cam.org.au))  
Fr Mick Fitzpatrick

**Web Page Address:**  
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**OFFICE:**

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**OFFICE HOURS:**

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

**PARISH MANAGER:**

Trish Stickland - Phone 5278 1343 (email: [trish.stickland@cam.org.au](mailto:trish.stickland@cam.org.au))

**PARISH SECRETARY:**

Bernadette Bilogrevic - Phone 5278 1343 (email: [cluster@cam.org.au](mailto:cluster@cam.org.au))

**THANKSGIVING CO-ORD:**

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

**SCHOOL PRINCIPALS:**

Holy Family -	Paul McBride/Trish Moloney	Separation St, Bell Park	Phone 5278 4634
Holy Spirit -	Rohan Cann	Minerva Rd Manifold Hts	Phone 5229 8298
St Patrick's -	John Grant	Petrel St, Geelong West	Phone 5229 4412

## Reflection by Richard Leonard

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist encourages his followers to be patient, as the wait for salvation will soon be over. The Israelites longed to see the day when the Messiah would come. Each generation hoped and prayed that they would be the one to witness the appearance of God's anointed. The Jewish people still hope and pray for this event in every generation.

But Jesus did not come as many expected. Some thought he would arrive in a dramatic event and the end of the world would occur. Others expected a regal entrance or a political overthrow of the Romans. Luke's Gospel repeatedly

points out that the very people who longed for the day to see the Messiah missed out because they were looking for the wrong signs.

John the Baptist is the first to see Jesus for who he really is for the world. He recognises that Jesus' sacrificial love can fill our valleys, lay mountains low, make crooked paths straight and rough ways smooth.

Advent is not a season where we have to pretend that we do not know Jesus is coming and then put on mock surprise at Christmas. Advent is the season which celebrates a 'patient yes'. Every year all of us in the Church stand in a queue and remind ourselves of how blessed we are to have seen our salvation in Jesus. We remember

the faith of those who longed to see what we see and to know what we know. And we cultivate our patience for life's valleys, mountains and crooked paths where sometimes we can feel Jesus' absence more than his presence, where only when we look back we can see he was with us all the way.

So, as we all wait together in line this Advent let's say yes to all that salvation holds for us: yes to God's personal love; yes to Jesus' kingdom of justice and peace; yes to every opportunity to serve the Gospel and yes to knowing that our God is a companion to us at every step of our journey, even in the most unexpected ways.

*/Cont'd P4*

## - 2nd Sunday of Advent -

(Year C - December 6, 2015.)

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

**Alleluia!**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**

**3rd Sunday of Advent - Year C**

1st Reading: Zeph 3:14-18  
2nd Reading: Phil 4:4-7  
Gospel: Lk 3:10-18

**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 Friday;

### Vincentine Village:

3.00pm 1st & 3rd Monday, (2nd & 4th Communion Service)

## 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 7:** 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:**

Quintino Rodrigues, Giovanni Patti, Stan Brunt, Vera Dolista, Joanne Bartolo and Ken Sheahan

### **ANNIVERSARIES:**

Joan Jess, Carlota Fernandes, Joao Nano, Jose Goncalves, Luisa Faria, Manuel Corte, Joao Faria, Antonio Boccia, John Walsh

### **BAPTISMS:**

Ivy Gercovich, Griffin & Sage Leemon, Harrison & Jake Slattery

### **PRAY FOR THE SICK:**

Gerradine Barry, Tamara Harkness, Sara Hoe, Ted Conole, Eileen Cotter, Cheryl Lambert, Theo DaCosta, Barbara Mason, Anita Capicchiano, Andrew Murray, Rose Galea, Joe Vanjek, Mark Chrimes, Robert Hayes, Ernie Cawthray, Anna Beachell, Elerita DiCristoforo

### 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, December 13, 2015**

(2nd Sunday of the Month)

### HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

### 8.00AM

R Allum

F O'Neill

R Allum, J Genova, C Marcantonio

C Marcantonio,

R Allum

### 9.30AM

C Simpson

D Lunn, A Negro

H Verdrik, M Baird, J Sheahan, M Perera,

V Resciniti, E Glynn

C Resciniti

### HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

### 6.00PM

D Ryan

J Ryan

R O'Neill, E Ryan, Lucy Vannata

M Brown

J Lynch

### Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

### 5.00PM

A Hubbard

P Power, P Hubbard

P&A Hubbard, P McGlinchey

### 11.00AM

E Strzelecki

M Martin, A Kissane

E Strzelecki, L Fossey,

M Broekman, D Dougherty, L Fossey

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.
Holy Family Luncheon..	Third Sunday of each month at the Community Centre from 12noon. <b>BYO casserole &amp; drink to share.</b>
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	4th Mondays 7.30pm in the Community Centre
Holy Family Choir Practice...	Every Wednesday night at Holy Family Church 7pm
Manifold CWL...	Holy Spirit Hall, 1st Wednesdays 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 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](http://www.pastoralclustergeelong.org)



## Community News:

### **ANOINTING OF THE SICK AND SENIOR PARISHIONERS LUNCHEON - HOLY FAMILY CHURCH:**



**A** warm invitation is extended to all senior parishioners to attend the Mass and Luncheon on Saturday Dec 12th commencing with Mass at Holy Family Church - 10.30am followed by Luncheon at 12noon in the Pastoral Cluster Centre. If you wish to attend please place your name on the sign up board (white form) in the Narthex and indicate if you require transport on the day. Catering for the Function: Please place your name on the sign up board (pink form) in the Narthex if you can assist with the catering. Your assistance is welcomed and your support valued.

### **BLESSING OF THE PEWS - Ss PETER & PAUL'S:**

The extensive renovations of Ss Peter & Paul's has now been completed. Part of the fundraising to pay for the renovations was the sponsorship of a pew. On **Sunday 13th December** at **Ss Peter & Paul's** at the 11am Mass there will be a **Blessing of the Plaques** that will be placed on the pews.

### **DISTRIBUTION OF CHRISTMAS INVITATIONS:**

We require your assistance once again to deliver the Christmas Invitations that have been left over in the Churches. Please collect from the Parish Office, 147 Separation St Bell Park. We need them to be delivered this week. Many thanks - *Frs Gerard and Mick*



## Christmas Celebrations

2nd Rite Reconciliation	Wednesday Dec 16 ..... 5pm	Ss Peter & Paul's
	Thursday Dec 17 ..... 7.30pm	Holy Spirit
	Monday Dec 21 ..... 7.30pm	Holy Family
Christmas Eve Masses	Thursday Dec 24 ..... 5pm	Ss Peter & Paul's
	5.30pm	Holy Family (focus on children)
	7pm	Ss Peter & Paul's
	8pm	Holy Spirit
	Midnight	Holy Family (Carols from 11.30pm)
Christmas Day Masses	Friday Dec 25 - ..... 9am	Holy Spirit
	9.30am	Holy Family

*During the coming week Fr Mick and I would like to contact Projectionists, Readers, Commentators, Special Ministers, Sacristans and Collectors to assist with our Christmas celebrations. A roster will be drawn up and in next week's bulletin if there are still vacancies I will be seeking your support.*

## Cluster News:

- ◆ **FR MICK'S MATES CHRISTMAS STALL:** This week the stall will be held at Holy Family Church for the 8am and 9.30am Masses and next week at Ss Peter & Paul's Church for the 5pm Saturday evening Mass and 11am Sunday Mass. This is a chance to buy some delicious home-made produce and handmade products. All proceeds go to support our Fr Mick's Mates Relay for Life Team.
- ◆ **APPOINTMENT OF HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL PRINCIPAL:** I am delighted to announce that **Rachel Holdsworth**, formerly Deputy Principal at St Mary's Primary School, has been appointed Principal. The selection panel had the difficult task of choosing between four very good candidates. We welcome Rachel and wish her every blessing in her leadership role in our school.
- ◆ **THANKSGIVING ENVELOPE CONTRIBUTOR 133:** Could the contributor for No 133 please contact the Parish Office? - *Helen*
- ◆ **FR MICK'S MATES RAFFLE BOOKS:** Only two weeks to go until Raffle Books for Fr Mick's Mates need to be returned. Thankyou to the 120 already returned - *David Lunn*
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSIONS APPEAL - DEC 12/13:** Since its foundation in 1969, parishioners have supported this mission fund to help developing nations. This has marked our Archdiocese for its exceptional generosity. Currently the major beneficiaries are people in Papua New Guinea, Vietnam, Gambia, Ghana, Pakistan, Botswana, Nigeria and Peru. Archbishop Denis Hart commends the fund to your continuing support. *Donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible.*
- ◆ **HOLY SPIRIT ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY WILL HAVE THEIR ANNUAL 'CHRISTMAS APPEAL' COLLECTION** this weekend, **Dec 5/6**. This appeal will assist all those people in our community who will be going through difficult times during the forthcoming holy season of Christmas.
- ◆ **ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS CARDS** (Pkts of 8 at \$7) available from the Piety Stall at Holy Spirit Church.
- ◆ **COLUMBAN CALENDARS** (\$9) will be available for purchase from the Piety Stall in the Holy Spirit Church, and at Ss Peter & Paul's and Holy Family Churches until Dec 20.

## Community News:

- Dec 6... **SACRED HEART COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION** proudly presents **A Concert in the Chapel**. A celebration of beautiful music featuring some of our most talented Sacred Heart alumni. **4pm in SHC Chapel, tickets \$25**. All proceeds support the SHC Scholarship Fund. Book online at [sacredheartalumni.com.au](http://sacredheartalumni.com.au) or at College reception.
- Dec 11... **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Christmas BBQ Breakup 7pm at the home of Louise and Alan Fossey. Cost only \$5 per head. Open invitation to members, ladies and family. BBQ meat and drinks supplied, just bring a salad or a sweet. Phone Joe Lambert 5229 8442 to confirm numbers attending, etc.

### Kristmas for Kuya

Many thanks to all those who generously supported the financial element of our Partnership. There were a number of fundraising endeavours - a raffle through the schools, Lucky Envelopes, profit from the Lunch, support of the Wish List both from parishioners and school families, as well as other donations.

**The total amount raised was \$24,594.35**

The three parish Primary Schools will also be presenting cheques to the Cluster to forward onto Columbans and Sr Kate.

If you still wish to support the Wish List, please contact Trish at the Office on 5278 1343.

### STEWARDSHIP CORNER - Dec 6

#### 2nd Sun of Advent

*"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value..." (Phil 1:9-10)*

Glittery holiday ads can blind us to our stewardship values and distort our needs and wants. It is important that during this season of endless buying we remember that each of us also has the need to give back to God and to those that are in need.



/From P1...

Scottish poet John Bell expresses it this way:

'Light looked down and saw the darkness.

'I will go there", said light.

Peace looked down and saw war.

"I will go there", said peace.

Love looked down and saw hatred.

"I will go there", said love.

So he,

the Lord of Light,  
the Prince of Peace,  
the King of Love,  
came down and crept in beside us.'