



# 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

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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 -  | 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**

The visitation is one of the moving scenes in the Gospel. On a human level, here are two cousins, unexpectedly pregnant in the most extraordinary circumstances, meeting and offering each other greetings and support. We can see the scene and feel the bond.

In the Gospel of Luke this moment is pivotal. These women meet in the mountains where God has always been manifest to the Israelites. Elizabeth is the Old Covenant made to Israel and she carries John who will be the herald of the Messiah. Mary, literally, embodies the new, and final, covenant in Jesus.

Elizabeth recognises what is happening here and she embraces all that God is doing for the world. She has tasted the promise of God and now sees

its fulfilment.

On a more mundane level, however, a meeting like this would have occasioned much comment and speculation from those outside the inner circle. We only have to imagine it happening today in any small suburb or country town for us to appreciate the human scale of the unfolding drama.

The Iona Community has explored the unwritten history in their story of Mmes Matthew, Mark and Luke, 'The village gossips'.

Narrator: In any small village, news travels quickly. Therefore it is only to be expected that the strange changes in the lives of Mary and Elizabeth might have been food for other people's thought.

Mrs Matthew: Well, ladies, you know how I'm not one for gossip, but wait until you hear

this. You know that old woman Elizabeth, with the man who has not spoken for nine months.

Mrs Mark: Yes, what about them?

Mrs Matthew: They say she's had a little boy.

Mrs Luke: At her age? She's 88 if she's a day!

Mrs Matthew: Well, that's what I heard and it was on very good authority!

Mrs Luke: Are you sure you've got the right woman? You're not mixing her up with her cousin?

Mrs Mark: Who? Mary?

Mrs Luke: That's her! Now, I'm not one for talking about anybody but wait until I tell you this. She's pregnant!

Mrs Mark: Never! How do you know?

Mrs Luke: You can tell. You can just tell.

Mrs Matthew: Oh yes, you can tell all right. I heard her in the store last week asking for a dress eight sizes too big for her. /Cont'd P4



*May you all be blessed with a happy and holy Christmas*

**- 4th Sunday of Advent -**

(Year C - December 20, 2015.)

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

Drop down dew from above, you heavens,  
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;  
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

Lord, make us turn to you;  
let us see your face  
and we shall be saved.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

I am the servant of the Lord:  
may his will for me be done.

**Alleluia!**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**

**Feast of the Holy Family - Year C**

|              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| 1st Reading: | Sirach 3:2-6,12-14 |
| 2nd Reading: | Col 3:12-21        |
| Gospel:      | Lk 2:41-52         |

**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.



# Christmas Rosters



## LECTORS PLEASE NOTE:

On CHRISTMAS EVE the readings are for the 'night' Mass on Pg 18/19 of 'Break Open the Word' for ALL Masses on Christmas Eve, including Midnight Mass.

On CHRISTMAS DAY the readings are for the 'dawn' Mass on Pg 20/21 of 'Break Open the Word' for ALL Masses on Christmas Day.

### HOLY FAMILY

Commentator

### 5.30pm

Lane Kelly

Lector

-

Special Minister

L Sells, B McFarlane, E Kelly,  
J Genova, P Ruggeri, D Horoba

Projectionist

P McBride

### Midnight

M Lukesic

A Negro

M Baird, M Fiorillo, Sr Concepta,  
V Resciniti, G DePalma

C Resciniti

### 9.30am

P Gizycki

T McMahan, C Taylor

H Verdrik, I Baulch,  
P Carmody

-

### HOLY SPIRIT

Commentator

### 8.00pm

M Kroger

Lector

G Brown

Special Minister

V Trinder, C Laffy, R Pugh

Projectionist

D Brown

### 9.00am

J O'Neill

J McKenzie

R O'Neill, J Sheahan, D Torpy

F Kearney

### Ss PETER & PAUL'S

Commentator

### 5.00pm

A Henderson

Lector

G Tolan, M Martin

Special Minister

K Maddalena, A Henderson, P McGlinchey

Projectionist

R Martin

### 7.00pm

B Middleton

M Gifford, A Beachell

B Middleton, M Gifford

T Lynch

## AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

### **RECENT DEATHS:**

Elerita DiCrostofo, Krijn Kaan, Mark Chrimes, Chris Lunn, Peggy Bohan, Juozas (Joe) Gailius and Maria DeJesus (Portugal)

### **ANNIVERSARIES:**

Vytautas Bindokas, Manuel Almeida Snr & Manuel Almeida Jnr, Joseph, Catherine & Felix Cappicchiano, Marjorie & Charles McShanag, Ripalda Sicuro, Domenico, Giovanni, Rosetta & Antonio Santamaria, Vincenzo Salvo, Giuseppa Gangemi, Eva Boris, Andrew Uroda, Zlatko Velcek, Jim Vivian, Irene & John O'Neill, Julio Mendes Amaro, Leslie Cranbourne, Gabrielle Shanahan, Catherine Gibson, Manuel & Dinis Ramos, Agostinho Henriques, Teresa Sousa, Stanislaw Niekruz, Salvatore & Rocco Daniele and 1 year anniversary of Lidia DeAngelis, Ray Gurrie and Gertrude Perilli

### **BAPTISMS:**

Grace McConvill, Cooper Paton and Avery Lunn

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

Anita Capicchiano, Joe Vanjek, Robert Hayes, Ernie Cawthray, Anna Beachell

### **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 27, 2015

(4th Sunday of the Month)

### HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

### 8.00AM

F O'Neill

Lectors

L Kelly

Special Ministers

L Sells, E Kelly, B McFarlane

Welcomers

L&E Kelly

Projectionist

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

### 6.00PM

G Harrison

Lectors

C McShanag, R Stanley, D Yeatman

Special Ministers

Welcomers

M Brown

Projectionist

T McShanag

### Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

### 5.00PM

A Henderson

Lectors

G Tolan

Special Ministers

A Henderson, G Tolan,

Welcomers

J Cowell

Projectionist

### 11.00AM

J Fraatz, L Eastman

M Broekman, D Dougherty, J Gailius

M Broekman, D Dougherty, D Lipinski

R Zarb

## RECURRING ACTIVITIES IN THE CLUSTER:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>Pastoral Cluster Luncheon...<br/>         Holy Family Luncheon..<br/>         Holy Family Women's Group...<br/>         St Vincent de Paul...</p> <p>Legion of Mary...<br/>         Baptism Preps<br/>         Holy Family Choir Practice...<br/>         Manifold CWL...<br/>         Italian Mass...<br/>         Catholic Diners' Club...</p> | <p>First Sunday of each month at the Holy Spirit Hall from 12noon. BYO food and drink to share.<br/>         Third Sunday of each month at the Community Centre from 12noon. <b>BYO casserole &amp; drink to share.</b><br/>         First Monday evening of each month at the Community Centre 7.00pm<br/>         Holy Family meet 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at the Community Centre 7.30pm.<br/>         Holy Spirit meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays 7.00pm in Holy Spirit Hall<br/>         Every Friday 9.30am in the Holy Family Community Centre<br/>         4th Mondays 7.30pm in the Community Centre<br/>         Every Wednesday night at Holy Family Church 7pm<br/>         Holy Spirit Hall, 1st Wednesdays in the month<br/>         First Thursday of the month in St Patrick's Chapel<br/>         Second Tues of each month, 6pm at Berkeley Lodge. Dinner/Guest Speaker - ph Terry on 5221 7339</p> <p><i>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:</i><br/> <a href="http://www.pastoralclustergeelong.org">www.pastoralclustergeelong.org</a></p> |
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## Christmas Masses

|                                   |                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| <b>December 24...</b>             | <b>5pm</b>        | <b>Ss Peter &amp; Paul's</b>             |
|                                   | <b>5.30pm</b>     | <b>Holy Family (focus on Children)</b>   |
|                                   | <b>7pm</b>        | <b>Ss Peter &amp; Paul's</b>             |
|                                   | <b>8pm</b>        | <b>Holy Spirit</b>                       |
|                                   | <b>Midnight</b>   | <b>Holy Family (Carols from 11.30pm)</b> |
| <b>December 25...</b>             | <b>9am</b>        | <b>Holy Spirit</b>                       |
|                                   | <b>9.30am</b>     | <b>Holy Family</b>                       |
| <b>2nd Rite Reconciliation...</b> | <b>Mon Dec 21</b> | <b>7.30pm - Holy Family</b>              |



## JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY:



Pope Francis has declared the next 12 months the **Jubilee Year of Mercy**, a time to really focus on God's call to be agents of healing, forgiveness and compassion in the world. This Advent's 2nd Rite Reconciliation service will focus on **Mercy**. As part of the ceremony we will listen and reflect on some quotes from the Holy Father about Mercy, as well as scripture. Then there will be the opportunity to receive God's mercy through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

### WEEKDAY MASSES OVER CHRISTMAS TIDE

**NO Thursday morning Mass (9.15am) at Holy Family on December 24th.**  
**NO Friday morning Mass (11am) at Holy Spirit on December 25th**  
**NO Saturday morning Mass (9am) at Holy Spirit on December 26th**

**The Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses  
 will be as normal on Dec 26/27th**

**NO Tuesday morning Mass (9.15am) at Holy Family on December 29th**  
**Mass as normal on Wednesday (9am) at Holy Spirit on December 30th**  
**and Thursday (9.15am) at Holy Family on December 31st.**

**There will be ONE Mass on New Year's Day at 11am at Holy Family  
 and it will be a combined Croatian and English Mass**

#### STEWARDSHIP CORNER - Dec 20 - 4th Sun of Advent

*"For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy." (Lk 1:44)*

When you hear the scripture readings and Gospel reading each Sunday, do you "leap for joy"? If not, don't blame the lecturer or priest, rather look inside yourself. Do you prepare for Mass each week or do you just show up and expect to be entertained?

## Cluster News:



- ◆ **MEMORIAL MASS:** There will be a Memorial Mass on **Monday Dec 21** 11am at Holy Family Church for Bernice and Frank's Son, Mark Chrimes, who recently passed away in Sydney.
- ◆ **FR MICK'S MATES RAFFLE BOOKS:** Raffle Winners - Magic Meadows, Tim Carroll, Lisa, Margaret DeGoldi, Pat Hennessy, Ruth O'Neil, Fr Mick and Bridget Thomson
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS CARDS** available from the Piety Stall at Holy Spirit Church and **COLUMBAN CALENDARS** (\$9) will be available for purchase at all three Churches.
- ◆ **THANKSGIVING ENVELOPE NO 415:** Could you please contact the Parish Office? Thankyou.
- ◆ **FR MICK WILL HAVE A SHORT BREAK AFTER CHRISTMAS AND RETURN ON JANUARY 1ST.**



**C**hristmas is a time of gift-giving and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the generosity of spirit of so many in a number of our recent pastoral and social justice outreach.

I wish to thank the parishioners for the following -

- ◆ The \$787.45 raised for Holy Spirit St Vincent de Paul Conference for them to purchase items for Christmas hampers
- ◆ The organisers and helpers who set up, catered and cleaned up for the Anointing of the Sick and Seniors Luncheon at Holy Family on Dec 12th. This year again it was an enjoyable, friendly and hospitable occasion for all. A great outreach, especially for those who are housebound.
- ◆ The "Pastoral Cluster Posties" who delivered the Christmas Invitations to their neighbours
- ◆ Margaret Brown, Betty Rice, Noreen Haberman and members of Fr Mick's Mates Committee for this year's Christmas Market Stalls held at the three parishes - amount raised was \$3354. An extraordinary amount of work goes into the preparation of the home-made produce and hand-made crafts.
- ◆ Supporters of the Philippines Partnership. This year we have raised \$58,000 of which \$20,000 was forwarded to Sr Kate O'Neil and her Order in the Philippines; \$19,000 each to the Malate Parish in Manila administered by the Columbans and \$19,000 to the Kuya Centre for homeless boys. This extraordinary amount of fundraising was achieved because of your support of the Mothers Day High Tea, Kristmas for Kuya Luncheon, Wish Lists, Raffles, and significant contributions from the schools.

## Community News:

- Dec 16-24...** **ADVENT DAWN NOVENA MASS:** This is a celebration of nine Advent Masses, 5.30am in the morning, open to everyone to attend. Its an 11th year tradition in Geelong where the Mass is held at St Francis Xavier Church, 143 Bacchus Marsh Rd Corio. **You are invited to attend any or all of the Masses.** After the Mass, fellowship follows with the food.
- Dec 20...** **8TH ANNUAL HKUD LADO GEELONG CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** Free entry - the Croatian Cultural Artistic Association LADO presents traditional Croatian and multicultural Christmas songs and carols. Goodwill donations will be collected at the entry to be donated towards the upkeep of St Mary's of the Angels Basilica.
- Jan 8...** **ELVIS SPECIAL FILM NIGHT:** 7.30pm at St Mary's Parish Centre, Plaza Theatre.

**CHARITY CARDS:** Available for sale at Wing and a Prayer in Malop St. The Geelong Charity Card Shop is no longer operating.

/From P1...

Mrs Luke: There you are. Draw your own conclusions. Now, I know that this will not go any further, but I hear that she and a certain young man are planning to leave the district.

Mrs Matthew: Who is the young man?

Mrs Luke: The joiner's boy, Joseph.

Mrs Mark: Never!

Mrs Luke: Well, that's what they say and I'm not one for gossip.

Mrs Mark: So, have you heard what they're saying about the so-called census?

Mrs Matthew: No. Tell us.

Mrs Mark: Well, I happened to hear that the reason the Romans want our names is not to send us birthday cards.

Mrs Luke: Well, why are they having a census?

Mrs Mark: To register us for a 'poll tax'.

Mrs Matthew: I heard it was a 'community charge'.

Mrs Mark: 'A rose by any other name.'

Mrs Luke: They wouldn't do that, would they?

Mrs Mark: Well I'm just warning you. Mind, I'm not one for gossip.

Mrs Luke: Nor me.

Mrs Matthew: Nor me.

The story of the visitation keeps the rumour going that just when we think we can figure God out, predict how God will enter our lives and our world, he does something none of us can imagine. And the best thing about this rumour is - it's true.

As we wait for Christmas to come again into our lives, let's make room for Jesus Christ who turns our expectations upside down and always gives the gossips plenty to talk about.