



Pastoral Cluster

Incorporating the Parishes of Holy Family Bell Park, Ss Peter & Paul's Geelong West & Holy Spirit Manifold Hts.

PARISH PRIESTS:

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OFFICE HOURS:

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

PARISH MANAGER:

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PARISH SECRETARY:

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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

Church architecture often tells in stone the story of theology. By the ninth century as Christian Churches in Europe became longer and higher, a shift was occurring in theology as well. Coinciding with the engineering abilities of the builders, theologians reinstated a more severe and distant theology about God. God was 'immortal, invisible, in light inaccessible, hid from our eyes'. Jesus had ascended his regal home in the tabernacle which over the centuries got further and further away from where the people stood or sat.

One of the extraordinary things that occurs in the layout of Churches of this time is that as the tabernacle goes back, the Marian altar comes forward, often half way down the church where people could have easy access to it.

Today's Gospel was used as the justification for this theological and architectural movement. Mary is seen to intercede on behalf of the bride and groom and ask Jesus to do what he can. This is the first sign in the Gospel of John and Jesus is reluctant to perform it, but because his mother asks, he does it.

The changing of the water into wine is not just a sign that Mary and Jesus like a good party! It is a sign of the Kingdom of God where joy and life are in abundance, where shame ends and all tears are wiped away. It is no accident that in John's gospel the mother of Jesus is present at this first sign and remains faithful until the end, right up to the culmination of all the signs: his being lifted up on the cross. Mary not only asks for a sign, she understands that it will cost something for Jesus to give it and for her to witness it.

So for us, the wedding feast at Cana is a

taste of the fullness of life we celebrate here every Sunday. The Eucharist is always and everywhere a first course in the eternal banquet of heaven. But it is also an invitation to see beyond the signs, to the faithful relationships that require sacrificial love and years of fidelity.

All parents who sacrifice so much for their children, all spouses who remain faithful and good to their wife or husband, all friends who attend to their companions with devotion and care, share in the Kingdom of God and are the signs of Christ's presence in our world. Every time we are kind, Cana occurs again.

Sometimes these actions can be very lonely and the cost can be high. Today's Gospel, and the traditions of the Church that flow from it, tell us we are not alone, especially when the going gets tough.

/Cont'd P2

- 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year C - January 17, 2016)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God,
and shall sing to you,
shall sing to your name, O Most High!

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

1st Reading: Neh 8:2-6,8-10
2nd Reading: 1Cor 12:12-30
Gospel: Lk 1:1-4,4:14-21

**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

WEEKDAY MASSES DURING JANUARY WILL RETURN TO THE NORMAL TIMETABLE.

Holy Family:	9.15am Tues, 9.15am Thurs		
Holy Spirit:	9am 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	Vincentian Village:	3pm 1st&3rd Monday (2nd&4th Communion)

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS:	Harold Verrall
ANNIVERSARIES:	Jack Picone, Assunta Fazio, Gerard McGrath, Alois Baum, Troy Gutheridge, Kevin Lee, 1 month since death of Maria de Jesus Pinto and Elerita DiCristoforo and 1 year anniversary of Pasquale Boccassini
BAPTISMS:	Hayley Allison and Bentley Hartshorn
PRAY FOR THE SICK:	Anita Capicchiano, Joe Vanjek, Robert Hayes, Ernie Cawthray, Anna Beachell, Elaine, Aaron & Jennifer Lyall

News:

- ◆ **PASTORAL CLUSTER PARISH GROUP RECONCILIATION:** From January 11th, bookings will be taken for those Catholic children in the non-Catholic schools for parents who wish their child to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please contact the Office on 5278 1343. The program entails a Commitment Mass, a one-off Parent/child information session with Paul Spence on Monday February 29th and a couple of Sunday morning classes. The Reconciliation service takes place in Holy Week.
- ◆ **MARYVILLE AGED CARE** has limited vacancies at the moment. Anyone who would like to make an appointment to look through ph either Cheryl Condor or Debbie King on 5221 5299.
- ◆ **WHEN WE SING, WE PRAY TWICE** (*St Augustine*): Following on from the Christmas Eve 5pm Mass, Sr Carmel hopes to form a group of singers who will sing at Ss Peter & Paul's 5pm Mass commencing on Ash Wednesday and continue each week of Lent. Maximum practice would be once weekly until the end of Lent. Practice would be less frequent once hymns are known. If you are interested please contact Sr Carmel on carmelh.odwyer@mercy.org.au or phone 5229 7954.

/From P1...

What I like best about our belief in intercessory prayer, in the healthiest devotions in honour of the Mother of Jesus and in our belief in the martyrs and the saints is that they take seriously the companionship of God's family that transcends time and space.

Through our common Christian faith we

are connected to millions of believers who have battled with similar, and sometimes greater, struggles than we endure and yet remained faithful to the end. Led by Mary, who never wants us to feel ashamed or embarrassed, they are our cheer squad in the stands of heaven willing us on in the race of life, giving us a few pointers on the best

preparation, the pitfalls on the way and how to maximise our performance as we strive to do our best and be our best.

Welcome to Cana where one course is richer than the last. And the wine only gets better with age.

Roster for Next Sunday, January 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

G Harrison

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