



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:
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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)

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 - Peter Brunt	Separation St, Bell Park	Phone 5278 4634
Holy Spirit - Rachel Holdsworth	Minerva Rd Manifold Hts	Phone 5229 8298
St Patrick's - John Grant	Petrel St, Geelong West	Phone 5229 4412

Reflection by Richard Leonard

The resource I use to help couples prepare for marriage has questions for them to think about and discuss in between sessions. One of the questions at the end of one of the chapters is, 'What effect would adultery have on your marriage?'

In one sense this hypothetical question is absurd. Dealing with the consequences of any sin requires time and place, context and contrition. It is even tougher to imagine the effect of any destructive behaviour in one's marriage even before the marriage has begun. Still, it never ceases to amaze me how this question usually leads the couple to have a very fruitful and frank discussion, not about adultery, but about their values, family history, commitment, fidelity and growing old together.

Sometimes, however, I cringe when the

prospective bride or groom seems to give the green light to their future spouse by saying, 'Well I guess if he or she went looking elsewhere it would be my fault' or 'I love him or her so much that I know we could go on regardless'. Others say very clearly that it would alter the trust and respect of the relationship, but they hope they could look at the circumstances and rebuild the relationship.

The most mature couples do not wipe over the seriousness of the sinful action, but want to hold on to compassion, forgiveness and a commitment that it will not happen again.

Couples like these have clearly understood the power of today's readings. The third Sunday of Lent is all about second chances. In Exodus we have a bush that is alight but does not burn and in Luke we have a fig tree that does not bear fruit, is earmarked for the chop and saved by the

gardener. In both cases where we would expect to find destruction we find new opportunities for growth, nurturance and flowering.

Over the centuries the goodness of God that always gives us another chance has not been proclaimed as vigorously as it should have been. We have focused on God's justice as though it was a once and for all, shape up or ship out sort of message. These ideas can be deduced from today's second reading where Paul seems to argue that God killed the chosen people for their complaining and infidelity.

Paul was a tough man and for him Christian commitment was no picnic. He was aware of how people were suffering and dying for the Gospel, so he was at pains to teach the people of Corinth that the commitment demanded from the Gospel could entail everything they had.

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- 3rd Sunday of Lent -

(Year C - February 28, 2016)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord is kind and merciful.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Glory to you, Word of God,
Lord Jesus Christ!**
Repent, says the Lord;
the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**4th Sunday of Lent**

1st Reading: Joshua 5:9-12
2nd Reading: 2Cor 5:17-21
Gospel: Lk 15:1-3,11-32

**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;

Vincentian 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:

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:

Marija Biscan

ANNIVERSARIES:

Heather & Bob Osborne, Patrick Hogan, Rocco & Francesca Daniele, Julie Fletcher, Danuta Augustyn, Ken Martin, Patrick Hogan, Giorgio Buttignon, 1 year anniv of Fedele Guarnaccia and 1 month since death of Miranda Cifali

BAPTISMS:

Oliver Bye and Rory & Patrick Fitzgerald

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Anita Capicchiano, Joe Vanjek, Robert Hayes, Anna Beachell, Elaine, Aaron & Jennifer Lyall, Lou Resciniti, Ellen Lacy

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, March 6, 2016

(1st Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

8.00AM

R Allum

V Pavlovic

J Bartolo, B McFarlane, I Baulch

K McArthur

R Allum

9.30AM

J Siketa

C&J Taylor

P Carmody, B Kline, D&M Horoba

M&E Hoffman

C Resciniti

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

6.00PM

C Neilson

J O'Neill

C Laffy, M Abbott, D Torpy

I Cleary, C Kelynack

M Kroger

11.00AM

B Middleton, M Wright

R Pugh

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist J Pearson

5.00PM

C O'Brien

Sr J McGonigal

N Neeld, P McGlinchey

B Pleasance

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. BYO casserole & drink to share.
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

Cluster News:

LENTEN PROGRAM 2016 - MERCY:

Mercy is a weekly program, primarily for group use, based on the Sunday Scripture readings during Lent. The name and theme of the program is in response to Pope Francis' "Year of Mercy". There are **THREE** groups meeting during Lent -

Group 1 - 10.00am Mondays **Group 2** - 10.00 Wednesdays **Group 3** - 7.00pm Thursdays

LENTEN PROGRAM 2016 - DREAMS... A WAY TO ENRICH OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE:

The sessions are held on **Wednesday afternoons 1-3pm** or **Wednesday evenings 7-9pm** at the Pastoral Cluster Centre.

A LANDMARKS LEAFLET "AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS"
on the question of Human Suffering, is available at each of the Churches.

FR MICK'S MATES - RELAY FOR LIFE

Registration for 2016 commences this week. **The event is on Sat/Sun March 19th and 20th.**

Registration is now \$25 .

Location - **Grinter Reserve, Coppards Rd Newcomb** (Next to Splashdown)

Forms available at entry to Church or Parish Office. Registration includes Sun saver top and Insurance.

FILM NIGHT THURSDAY 3RD MARCH

Two sessions 4pm or 7pm. Includes finger food and refreshments between the sessions.

Movie: **THE INTERN** starring Robert DeNiro and Anne Hathaway

\$20 per ticket from:

Noreen Haberman	5229 9352	David Lunn	0408 378 982
Desma Dougherty	5244 5459	Pastoral Cluster Office	5278 1343



PASTORAL CLUSTER CENSUS INFORMATION: We are looking to update our census information. If you are a new parishioner or if your contact details have changed in the last few of years, Fr Mick and I would appreciate you filling in the Pastoral Cluster Census Information form. These forms will be available at the back of each Church.

MANIFOLD BRANCH OF CWL Monthly Meeting will be held 1.30pm Wednesday March 2 in the Holy Spirit Hall. New members most welcome. For information or transport please contact Tricia Joyce 0431 512 354 or Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063.

HOLY FAMILY WOMENS GROUP: Just a reminder that our next meeting is on **Monday 7th March at 7pm**. The theme of the evening will be 'Easter Bonnet Night'.



ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL 'IRISH FOLK FESTIVAL': Come on down on **SUNDAY 20TH MARCH, 11AM-4PM**. Bring the grandkids! They will love our fun rides, reptile displays and facepainting. We have a garden stall, second-hand books and Killarney's Cafe to relax in and enjoy cake and coffee. Lots of free entertainment for the whole family. St Patrick's Primary School, Britannia St Geelong West.

THE GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS' CLUB: 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 second Tuesday of each month at Berkeley Lodge on Pakington St. For more information and reservations please ph Michael 0431 959 584 and check out our website: catholicdinersclub.org to learn more.

PROJECT COMPASSION - WEEK 3:

Generational poverty has led to many challenges in Dominic's community, including gender inequality, alcohol abuse and violence. Since receiving training in the Caritas Australia supported Community Conversations program, Dominic has learnt communication and problem solving skills to lead his community towards a more peaceful, prosperous future.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help empower communities in Papua New Guinea to lead their own development and create more harmonious futures.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:



- ◆ **EASTER MAILOUT:** *Calling all Pastoral Cluster 'Posties'!* Your assistance is again required to help with the delivery of invitations to our Easter Ceremonies to all known Catholics within our Cluster. The envelopes are available at the back of each Church this weekend and are organized alphabetically by street. If you can take your own street as well as those close by, your efforts would be much appreciated and we ask that they be hand delivered over the next two weeks. *Special thanks to those who have helped prepare the invitations for mailout!*
- ◆ **EMERGENCY READERS, COMMENTATORS & SPECIAL MINISTERS:** One of the signs of the times is that for many people life is transient with fluid commitments of work, family, etc which in turn makes it difficult for them to make a regular commitment to a particular Mass. If you are one such person and would like to assist with being a Reader, Commentator and Special Minister, we are seeking people who would be prepared to act as an emergency in one of these roles. What is entailed is you being on an emergency contact list and if the designated Minister was unable to attend, he/she would contact you. If this interests you, please contact Fr Gerard on 5278 1343.
- ◆ **ALTAR CARE:** Holy Spirit Church is looking for ladies to assist with the flowers and care of the Altar for only one morning every five months. If you are able to assist or would like some further information, please contact the parish office on 5278 1343.
- ◆ **MANIFOLD BRANCH OF CWL** has in recent years been offering to parishioners of Holy Spirit after funeral catering service in the Holy Spirit Hall. This is a very important and appreciative parish ministry and we look forward to being able to continue in the coming years. On our catering list we have League members and other ladies from the Pastoral Cluster. At this time we are appealing for some more parishioners to become involved either by offering to make and donate cakes, slice, sandwiches or pastry or to come along and help on the day. Money raised go towards our own League activities and works and we also support Cluster Parish organizations such as SVDP, Kristmas for Kuya and offer two yearly Bursaries to Holy Spirit School Year 6 students. If you are interested or wish more information ph Joyce 0431 512 354 or Jeanette 5278 2063.

Liturgy in the Cluster up to Holy Week:

Feb 28...	9.30am Mass -	Holy Family Church - Sacrament of First Reconciliation Commitment Mass
"	5.30pm Mass -	St Mary's Basilica - Geelong Commissioning Mass
Mar 1...	9.15am Mass -	Holy Family Church - Gr 5/6 and Preps
Mar 4...	1.30pm Mass -	Multicultural Centre
Mar 6....	9.30am Mass -	Holy Family Church - Holy Family School and Catechetical children in Reconciliation Commitment Mass
	11.00am Mass -	Ss Peter & Paul's - St Patrick's School Reconciliation Commitment Mass - NB This is an additional Mass
Mar 11...	9.30am Mass -	St Patrick's School - Opening Whole School Mass
Mar 13...	9.30am Mass -	Holy Family Church - Catechetical Reconciliation classes
Mar 15...	7.30pm -	2nd Rite Reconciliation at Ss Peter & Paul's
Mar 16...	7.30pm -	2nd Rite Reconciliation at Ss Peter & Paul's

Community News:

- Mar 4-5... **YEAR OF MERCY 24 HOURS FOR THE LORD EVENT AT ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL:** This 2-day program includes Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction, Prayers of the Church, Lectio Divina, the Rosary and other forms of prayer led by various groups in the Archdiocese. Come for 30 minutes, an hour, or four! Bring a friend, all welcome! Commences from 6am-11pm both days.
- Mar 16... **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA: Bach's Mass in B Minor** performed by Australian Chamber Choir, 8pm at St Paul's Anglican Church, Latrobe Tce. Tickets \$35/30 at the door or online at trybooking.com/JOXX
- Mar 19... **RENDINE CONSTRUCTIONS GEELONG ST PATRICK'S RACE MEETING:** Entry \$20 or \$12 conc, children u/17 free. Ask about Package Deals - Ph Catherine on 0409 007 913 for special price or book through website countryracing.com.au/geelongstpts
- Mar 20... **ST IGNATIUS COLLEGE OPEN DAY:** The Open Day is to showcase the "vibrant, challenging and rewarding programs and facilities at the College". The Open Day begins at 11am and concludes 2pm. Information Sessions 11am and 12.15pm. Further information www.ignatius.vic.edu.au or ph Claire Hewitt 5251 1136.
- Mar 22... **SACRED HEART COLLEGE OPEN DAY:** Sacred Heart is providing prospective students and their families an opportunity to visit the College. There are two tours - one at 4pm followed by an Information Session at 5.30pm and another tour at 5pm followed by an Information Session at 6.30pm. Register online at <http://www.shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au/> or ph Chrissie Johnson on 5222 0490.

/From P1...

His reading of why the Israelites died in the desert, however, needs to be read against the second chances of the other readings, especially the Gospel.

We believe in Lent that we enter a holy time in our year and visit a holy place in ourselves where the fire of God's love should burn brightly within us. We are

offered these weeks to re-examine our values, family history, commitment, fidelity and growth so as to chart how best we can grow old with God. To do this sometimes requires facing up to our sinful behaviour and making choices to change our lives. We can only do this when we trust that the fire of God's love is not about destruction, but compassion, forgiveness and a second

chance.

May this Eucharist be nurturance for the foundations of our lives and a moment to take stock and to assess with honesty the fruitfulness of how, as a sign of Christ's light within us, we live out our faith in our marriage, at home, at work and in the world.