



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:
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:

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

Right and early on a Monday morning, in times that were much less ecumenical, Mick and Paddy, a pair of Irish ditch diggers, were repairing a Dublin road directly across the street from a house of ill repute.

Soon, they saw the Protestant Minister lurking about the place and then ducking into the house. 'Would ya look at that Mick!' said Paddy. 'What a shameful disgrace. That Protestant Minister sinning in the likes of that place!' 'Well', said Mick, 'he's got a ticket to hell anyway Paddy, so that's only getting' him an upgrade on the seat.'

A short time later they watched as a Jewish Rabbi looked around cautiously and, when he was satisfied no one had spied him, darted into the house. 'Did ya see that Paddy?', Mick asked in shock and disbelief. 'Is nothing holy to those Jewish people?' 'God in heaven

above', Mick replied, 'Do they have "half price Monday" for the clergy at that sinful place?' 'Well, all I know Paddy is that a man of the cloth indulging himself in sins of the flesh is a terrible shame, I tell ya!'

Not long had passed when they saw a third man, Fr O'Donovan, their parish priest, lurking about the house looking around to see if anyone was watching and then quietly sneaking in the door. 'Mick, look it's Father O'Donovan', said Pat removing his cap. 'Ah Mick', said Paddy, taking off his own cap, 'one of the poor girls musta died ...'

Often our history colours everything about us, even those toward whom we can give the benefit of the doubt, be compassionate and forgive.

What is so shocking about Jesus' parable of the prodigal son is, that as the story goes, everything about the Jewish culture of first century Palestine set the boy up for a fall:

he was greedy for his father's inheritance; we can assume he left the chosen land for the far country where he squandered his inheritance recklessly; he ended up eating with the unclean pigs; and then he had the temerity to return and ask for forgiveness.

This was the least likeable kid in town. He did not deserve to be treated better than a slave. That's what makes the boy's father so magnificent in love. He was derided by his faithful older son for this folly of the heart and he would have been considered a fool by his neighbours. And this is the model of compassion Jesus gives us to emulate.

The context for this story, however, matters. The author of Luke 15 has Jesus responding to charges about the company he was keeping and especially those with whom he dined. In Jesus' day, one only ate with intimates and Jesus shared his table with losers.

- 4th Sunday of Lent -

(Year C - March 6, 2016)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Praise and honour to you,
Lord Jesus Christ!**

I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:
Father, I have sinned against heaven and
against you.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**5th Sunday of Lent**

1st Reading: Is 43:16-21
2nd Reading: Phil 3:8-14
Gospel: Jn 8:1-11

**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:

Daniele Jovic

ANNIVERSARIES:

Vjekoslav Iskra, Margaret Bourke, Joe Trinder, Joan Booth, Giovanni Serra

BAPTISMS:

Poppy Callaghan, Philippa Dargue and Maxwell Wilson

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 13, 2016

(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 Verdnik, 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

M Broekman, D Dougherty, L Fossey

B Middleton

11.00AM

E Strzelecki

M Martin, A Kissane

E Strzelecki, L Fossey,

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

Liturgy in the Cluster:

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 8...	9.15am Mass - Holy Family Church - Gr 5/6 and Prep children
Mar 11...	9.30am Mass - St Patrick's School - Gr 1/2 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
Mar 21...	7.30pm - 2nd Rite Reconciliation at Holy Spirit Church
Mar 23...	11.30am - Mass of Anointing at Holy Spirit Church *** 7.30pm - 2nd Rite Reconciliation at Holy Family Church
Mar 24...	7.00pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper at Holy Spirit, followed by Adoration
Mar 25...	10.00am - Way of the Cross at Ss Peter & Paul's Church 10.30am - Way of the Cross at Holy Family Church 11.00am - Way of the Cross at Holy Spirit Church 3.00pm - Celebration of the Lord's Passion at Holy Family Church
Mar 26...	7.30pm - Easter Vigil at Holy Family Church
Mar 27...	8.00am - Easter Sunday Mass at Holy Family Church 9.30am - Easter Sunday Mass at Holy Family Church 10.00am - Easter Sunday Mass at Holy Spirit Church 11.00am - Easter Sunday Mass at Ss Peter & Paul's Church

*****ANOINTING MASS:** 11.30am Holy Spirit Church, **Wednesday 23rd March.** This will be followed by a light luncheon in the Holy Spirit Parish Hall. All welcome! CWL members a plate of cake/slice please. For transport contact Tricia Joyce 0431 512 354 or Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063.

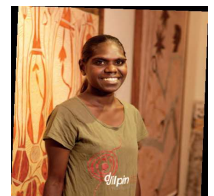


- ◆ **DISTRIBUTION OF EASTER INVITATIONS:** We require your assistance once again to deliver the Easter invitations that have been left over in the Churches. Please collect from the Parish office, 147 Separation St Bell Park. **We need them to be delivered this week.** Many thanks!
- ◆ **EMERGENCY READERS, 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.

PROJECT COMPASSION - WEEK 4:

First Australian Evangeline lives in a remote community that faces many ongoing challenges. She had a limited vision for her future until three years ago, when she started working at the Djilpin Arts Ghunmarn Culture Centre, a community-owned venture supported by Caritas Australia. Today Evangeline is flourishing, with new skills and a passion for the preservation and promotion of her Aboriginal culture.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help First Australians in remote communities of Australia gain new skills and renewed passion to preserve and celebrate traditional culture.



Cluster News:



FR MICK'S MATES - RELAY FOR LIFE: Event is on **Saturday/Sunday March 19th and 20th**. Registration still available, \$25 at the entrance to each Church or at the Parish Office. Registration includes Sun Saver Top and Insurance.

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.

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.

Community News:

- Mar 9...** **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Monthly meeting next Wed 7.30pm in Clairvaux Meeting Rooms Belmont. Guest Speaker: **Alan Ansell**, Deacon at Nazareth Parish and Head of Religion at Sacred Heart College. Please make every effort to attend and bring a plate of supper.
- 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 18...** **CLONARD COLLEGE OPEN DAY:** Information session followed by tours 1pm and 4.30pm. *Enrolments for Year 7 close on Friday 20 May*. For a prospectus ph 5278 2155 or email office@clonard.catholic.edu.au
- 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/geelongstpats
- 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 21...** **ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE OPEN DAY:** 9am-12noon or 4pm-6.30pm. For further information or to register online for Open Day go to sjc.vic.edu.au or phone 5226 8100.
- 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.



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.

WHO LOVES CHOCOLATE??? WHO DOESN'T!!!



In 2015 Pope Francis said **Every person ought to have the awareness that purchasing is always a moral - and not simply an economic - act**. According to ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking) it is estimated that Australians spend about \$2billion on chocolate over Easter. Much of the chocolate we consume in Australia is made with cocoa beans picked by enslaved children, particularly in West Africa. You can make a difference to the world, and to the lives of these children, by buying only slaver-free chocolate. Slavery-free chocolate will feature on the labels of Fair Trade, Rainforest Alliance Certified and Utz Certified. Another action is that you ask the manager of one of the Supermarkets will they supply one of these three mentioned labels of chocolate.

/From P1... Three parables are given as an explanation for this practice: the lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son. In each case the shepherd, the woman and the father go to ridiculous lengths to save that which is lost.

Who was admitted to the table of Luke's community was a huge issue. It seems some things never change. The action and words of Jesus, however, lead us to conclude the table is here for those of us

who know the frailty of our lives enough to recognise our hunger and thirst for the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation. Today's Gospel is not just about each of us being welcomed into the arms of our compassionate God, it is also a challenge for us to defend the right of the outcasts, the public sinners and the losers who seek to turn their life around to be welcomed here as well.

This is not just about the table of the Eucharist, either. To the degree that we help

our country be more hospitable to the most defenceless, the poor and the displaced then we live out the power of this parable.

May this Eucharist then, help us live beyond our history, which so often colours those toward whom we can give the benefit of the doubt and show compassion and may it give us the courage and faith to be ridiculously generous, and magnificently loving.