



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:

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Phone: 5278 1343 Fax: 5278 4618 Email: cluster@cam.org.au
Mon-Wed, Fri 9am-5pm, Thurs 9-2pm.

OFFICE HOURS:**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

A man was driving along the road when he saw the Easter Bunny hop into his lane. He swerved to avoid hitting the bunny, but couldn't do so. The basket of eggs went everywhere. The driver felt guilty and began to cry. A woman saw the man and pulled over. 'What's wrong?' she asked. 'I accidentally killed the Easter Bunny', he explained. The woman knew exactly what to do. She went to her car, pulled out a spray can, walked over to the bunny, and sprayed the entire contents over the little furry animal. Miraculously the Easter Bunny came back to life, jumped up, picked up his eggs, waved at them and hopped on down the road. Not far away the Easter Bunny stopped, turned around and waved again. He kept doing this for as far as they could see.

The man was astonished. 'What in heaven's name is in that can you sprayed on the Easter Bunny?' The woman showed the man the label. It said: 'Hair spray. Restores life to dead hair. Adds permanent wave.'

For many of our children the bunny and its eggs are the most important thing about Easter. Over the millennia, Christianity has had a gift for domesticating local traditions and festivals, bringing them on board and making them our own. The name Easter comes from the Anglo Saxon spring festival in honour of the goddess Eostre. Her symbol was the rabbit and the giving of eggs were signs of new life bursting forth as winter withdrew. These associations only make sense in the northern hemisphere, but we can see why the early Christians could be so adaptable and inculturated with this local festival.

In both hemispheres Christians today

celebrate Jesus being raised from the dead. In the New Testament there are two traditions about how the disciples come to know about Jesus' resurrection: the empty tomb and the apparitions of Christ.

Today's Gospel belongs to the empty tomb tradition. On Magdalene's urging, Peter and John run to the tomb, find it empty and come to at least an initial belief about the resurrection of Jesus.

We do not believe that God simply revived Jesus' corpse in the tomb, as our driver resuscitated the bunny in today's story. Easter Sunday does not celebrate the resuscitation of Jesus, but his Resurrection. We know his 'glorified body' was not the same as his human body because Jesus' presence could be encountered in several places simultaneously and he is reported to walk through walls and to vanish. /Cont'd P4



We wish everyone a happy, safe and holy Easter

**- Easter Sunday -**

(Year C - March 27, 2016)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia.
You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia.
Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**2nd Sunday of Easter (or Divine Mercy)**

1st Reading: Acts 5:12-16
2nd Reading: Apoc 1:9-13, 17-19
Gospel: Jn 20:19-31

**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:

Nicola Iezzi

ANNIVERSARIES:

Dominic Pell, Anna Kot, Desmond Brennan, Margaret Gleeson, Leonardo Cassio, Lorenz & Katharina Hoffmann, Mary Cudmore, Marija & Anton Fantella

BAPTISMS:

Harry Day, Charlie Neech and Jacob & Luella Deeble

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Anita Capicchiano, Joe Vanjek, Robert Hayes, Elaine, Aaron & Jennifer Lyall, Helen Lacy, Michael Lacy, Theo DaCosta

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, APRIL 3, 2016 -

(1st Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

8.00AM

R Allum

Lectors

V Pavlovic

Special Ministers

J Bartolo, B McFarlane, I Baulch

Welcomers

K McArthur

Projectionist

R Allum

9.30AM

J Siketa

C&J Taylor

P Carmody, B Kline, D&M Horoba

M&E Hoffman

C Resciniti

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators

6.00PM

J O'Neill

Lectors

C Laffy, M Abbott, D Torpy

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

M Kroger

11.00AM

C Neilson

B Middleton, M Wright

R Pugh, V Trinder

I Cleary, L Fossey

L Coles

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

5.00PM

C O'Brien

Lectors

Sr J McGonigal

Special Ministers

N Neeld, P McGlinchey

Welcomers

B Pleasance

Projectionist

J Pearson

RECURRING ACTIVITIES IN THE CLUSTER:

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|-------------------------------|--|
| 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:

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|-----------|-----------|--|
| 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 |



Divine Mercy:

3rd April at Holy Spirit with Confession from 1pm, Rosary and Divine Mercy Prayers 2pm and Holy Mass 3pm with Veneration of St Faustina's 1st class Relic. Enquiries: Chris 0407 522 055. *"There is nothing that a person needs more than Divine Mercy"* - St John Paul II

- ♦ **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.

Cluster News:

PLEASE NOTE: The Office will be closed on Easter Monday.

RETREAT OPPORTUNITY: From **Tuesday April 26** through to **Saturday May 21** Fr Albert Tan, a Jesuit Priest, will be residing in the Pastoral Cluster. The purpose of his time with us is to have a different experience of ministry. Fr Albert has had a variety of ministries in the Philippines and Malaysia. He is offering interested people an opportunity to be involved in an Ignatian style Retreat. The essence of such Retreats is that it is a time of prayer, reflection and discernment in a person's normal daily life. The person making the Retreat would meet weekly with Fr Albert and others on the Retreat for approx 1.1/2 hours to share their Retreat journey and to be advised of the focus for the following week. I believe this to be a great opportunity to strengthen and enrich your spiritual life and I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity. If you are interested, please phone the office on 5278 1343. - Fr Gerard

RELAY FOR LIFE: To the parishioners of the Cluster, on behalf of the Committee of **Fr Mick's Mates**, thankyou for your support. Your generosity raised **\$16,800** for the Cancer Council of Victoria. We were second in 'total raised' with the winning team raising in excess of **\$24,500**. The Geelong Relay for Life has now passed the four million dollar mark since its start. To the Committee, thankyou for your dedication, generosity in both money and time, and support over the last twelve months. Our total is the second highest for the last ten years, and we have now raised a total of **\$122,993**. Well done! - David Lunn, Team Captain

HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP:

- Monday 4th April - change of venue. Movie Night at St Mary's Theatre, \$5 - **The Dressmaker**. Movie and supper only, no meeting. Strict 7pm movie start time.
- Weekend at Anglesea** - Join us for a weekend of fun and fellowship - **Friday May 20 - Sunday May 22**. \$43 per night, numbers and deposits to Nellie are required urgently to secure your booking.

LAUDATE SI - CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME: On March 4th the staff of the three primary schools and parish gathered for a full day of professional development around the Catholic Church's teaching on Care of the Environment. The Pope's Encyclical was the basis of the day. In addition to my own presentation on the Encyclical, Frank Pegan (CEO of Catholic Super), gave an informative paper on Environmental Sustainability Investment by his Organisation and also Chrissie from KOOL Australia (an environmental formation group) made a presentation on how to promote sustainability within the school context). Whilst formation is important, action is more so. The schools are working towards action plans in this area. I am hoping to establish an "Earthcare" group for the parishes. The purpose of this group would be to assist in developing environmentally sustainable strategies for the three parishes. Stay tuned! - *Fr Gerard*

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC: A new monthly Journal on things Catholic in the Archdiocese has been launched and it covers a broad and engaging number of articles. This copy is free, but after this the Archdiocese is hoping that, after reading, the people will wish to subscribe. More details on subscriptions will be forthcoming. Numbers are limited so after reading please pass on to other parishioners.

ACIES: Legion of Mary Geelong Curia invites everyone to an annual Consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary, held at St Francis Xavier Church, 143 Bacchus Marsh Rd Corio on **Saturday 2nd April**. 9.30am Mass followed by Benediction and Consecration to Our Lady. Light refreshments provided afterwards. For more information please ph Adela Buaya 0409 135 589 or email abuaya@clubtelco.com

Community News:

April 3... SACRED HEART COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AGM: 1pm in Celi's Dining Room. Starts with Prayer Service followed by AGM ending with a'noon tea. This is inclusive of anyone who was a former student of the College. Enquiries or RSVP ph Kelly Suvoltas, Alumni Officer, on 5222 0403 or alumni@shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au

Apr 15-17... HOPE AND HEALING AFTER ABORTION: Open Doors Counselling will run their next Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Weekend on April 15-17. Rachel's Vineyard retreats have brought hope and healing to thousands of women and men struggling with grief and guilt after an abortion. Please ph 9870 7044 or anne@opendoors.com.au asap as places are filling and we only take small numbers. Numbers will be finalized by **April 5, 2016**.

April 21... CATHOLIC MAN BREAKFAST SERIES: Featuring Shane Healy, former Radio Executive 3AW and now Director of Communications for the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Hear Shane tell his story: **Radio, Rex and Religion** at the CQ Club, 113-123 Queens St Melbourne, 7am-9am. \$45/head, enquiries/bookings 0439 172 465, michael.bohan@menalive.org.au

May 1... CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF VICTORIA & WAGGA WAGGA are celebrating their Centenary 1916-2016. Melbourne Diocese Committee are having a **High Tea** 1.30-3.30pm, cost \$55/person, at the Savoy Vibe Hotel, cnr Spencer St and Lt Collins St Melbourne (directly opposite the Southern Cross Station). Former and current League members and friends are welcome to attend. For tickets and information contact Jeanette Sheahan, Melbourne Diocesan Presiden, on 5278 2063.

May 7... CHANEL COLLEGE REUNION: For students who attended during the time of the Marist Fathers (1958-1970). Information at trybooking.com/jkra or 0417 333 622.



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS: The Easter Edition of Australian Catholics focuses on **A Year of Mercy in the Catholic Church - Mercy of Relationships, Love and Forgiveness Hand in Hand**. Articles include: **True Love - A step by step guide; Tackling Violence Against Women; Listening with Mercy; A Good Health Guide to Friendships; etc.** Plus lots of other good reading! Copies are free.

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead!

Alleluia! The promise of new life is ours.

Please pray that young people will hear the call of the risen Lord to bring hope and joy to many through priesthood and consecrated life. Please pray for the priests that you know that they may also know the joy and peace of the risen Lord through their faithful ministry.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - Easter Sunday:

"He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him." (Acts 10:38)

On this Easter Sunday, allow Jesus to fill your mind, body and soul. Pray for guidance on how to live your life, open your heart to those in need and give thanks to God for all that he has given you.

A VOCATION VIEW - Easter Sunday

We're no longer nobodies. Jesus rose from the dead. He promises to take us to heaven too. Our ultimate Vocation: Union with God!

/From P1... The link between both resurrection traditions is the importance of Jesus' death. In the empty tomb accounts, as in today's gospel, the writers give us extraordinary details about the grave clothes. In the apparition narratives there are usually references to Jesus' wounds.

Whatever way they came to experience the Resurrection of Christ, the disciples knew that this was Jesus who actually died and was buried and that their personal encounter was with the one who was crucified.

What God did through the death and resurrection of Jesus is what Christians have done with local customs and festivals ever since: he entered into it, understood it, took it on board, domesticated it and vanquished its power. As a result we believe that God empathises with the full limitations of our human mortality and promises to remain faithful to us in death as he remained utterly faithful to Jesus.

That is why on this day 1,600 years ago St John Chrysostom could say on behalf of us all:

'Hell took a body, and discovered God. It took

earth, and encountered Heaven. It took what it saw, and was overcome by what it could not see. O death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory? Christ is Risen, and you, O death, are destroyed! Christ is Risen, and evil is cast down! Christ is Risen, and angels rejoice! Christ is Risen, and new life is set free! Christ is Risen, and the tomb is emptied of its dead; for Christ having risen from the dead, becomes the first-fruit of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be Glory and Power forever and ever. Amen!'