



Pastoral Cluster

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

Fr Mick was born to eternal life on Tuesday June 28, 2016.



Dear Father Gerard and all the Parishioners of the Geelong Cluster,

One day when we were sitting with Fr Mick when he was very ill, Paulina asked him if there was anything we could do for him, and without hesitation he replied, "I'd really like you to help me write to the parishioners and thank them for their prayers, cards and messages of support." Because the cancer moved quickly, it didn't happen at the time; but may we ask you now to accept this belated expression of gratitude as coming personally from Fr Mick, who was sincerely grateful for your prayers, love and support.

Also may we, on behalf of the family, add our deep gratitude to you, Fr Gerard, and to all the parishioners for the magnificent "Farewell" you gave to Fr Mick - both the Vigil and Funeral Mass were so beautiful and came packed in the warmest love in freezing weather and was such a tribute to him.

Such liturgies don't "just happen", so to Fr Gerard and all who helped in any way, our sincerest thanks. Thankyou - choir members, for the great music of both Liturgies, and Croatian Community for the generous and delicious afternoon tea. Thankyou also to the ladies of the parish who looked after the Priests.

Truly you loved Mick in life and in death, and we congratulate and thankyou for ALL you did for our very special brother. May God bless you all. You will always be remembered in our prayers and have a special place in our hearts.

Srs Genevieve and Paulina on behalf of Mick's family



I would also like to echo Srs Genevieve and Paulina's vote of thanks.

Fr Mick was always keen to encourage and promote people coming together as a faith-based community. In his time of dying he was likewise keen that his Farewell would also in some way encourage and promote community. Certainly Fr Mick's prayer and wish has come true.

Firstly I thank all those who came, either to the Vigil and/or the Funeral Mass in such great numbers, for your prayers and your presence. Such a large crowd in attendance bears testimony to the many and varied ways that Fr Mick - the man, his life and his priesthood - has impacted. I think we were all impressed by the large number of Priests (something like 70-80) in attendance.

Secondly I thank those who were involved in the Liturgy. I thank Frank Lehpamer, Lyn Meek, the Holy Family choir and others from the Pastoral Cluster Parish and beyond who came to sing. Also I thank Peter Roberts, harpist, who played such heavenly music at the Vigil and Rebecca Hay for singing the song that she wrote dedicated to Fr Mick on his Golden Jubilee - *My Gift to You*. The music and singing contributed greatly to the ambience and prayerfulness of the Farewell.

Thirdly I thank those who were involved in the preparation of the Liturgy and the Liturgy itself in other ways. To the presenters of stories at the Vigil - Sr Genevieve, Fr Gerard Dowling, Megan Mitcham, Jan Fagan, Catherine/Joe Taylor and Rachel Holdsworth. To the Lectors - John O'Neill (the Vigil), Gabrielle Tolan and Laura Doherty (Funeral Mass), Frank Kearney (Prayers of the Faithful). To those who placed Christian Symbols on Fr Mick's Casket on our behalf - Frs Peter and Kevin, Teresa, Mary, Joe, Mario, Pat, Alan and Adela. Also thanks special thanks to Dolores Ruiz who prepared the Church so beautifully and to those who assisted her - thanks. For great behind the scenes support - thankyou to our staff, Bernadette and Katharine.

Fourthly, one of Fr Mick's attributes was his gift of hospitality and indeed his farewell was characterised by such generous hospitality provided by the Croatian Community at their Cox Rd Centre. Also thanks to those who made sandwiches and slices. There certainly was an abundance of food and goodwill that made the feeding of the cast of hundreds possible.

Finally, to all those who have offered cards, condolences and best wishes - thanks, they are much appreciated.

- Fr Gerard

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

COMMUNITY NEWS:

- **GEELONG DINERS CLUB:** Please come and join us for a 2-course evening meal at 6.15pm. There will be stimulating guests and the opportunity to meet new friends, all for only \$30. We will meet on **Tuesday July 12** at our **new venue - 'The Pioneer Room'**, 1st floor 150 Yarra St (above St Mary's Parish Office). For more information and reservations, please phone or text **Michael 0431 969 584** by Friday **July 8**. Our speaker for July is Gary McIlvena, who is involved with St Mary's Parish Pantry, Samaritan House and the Lazarus Drop-in Centre.
- **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Annual Branch Meeting and Combined District Meeting **next Wednesday 13th July 7.30pm** - Clairvaux Meeting Rooms. Members please make every effort to attend and bring a plate of supper to share.

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS:

Eric Marshall and Martin Aitcheson

ANNIVERSARIES:

Brian Lynch (1 year anniversary), Tindara Rao and 40 day anniversary of Ray Ramia

BAPTISMS:

Sebastian Lovick, Kody Malesic and Evelyn Zawislak

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Anita Capicchiano, Robert Hayes, Helen Lacy, Theo DaCosta, Geraldine Fay, Ken Fusea

- 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year C - July 10, 2016)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Turn to the Lord in your need,
and you will live.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life;
you have the words of everlasting life.
Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Gen 18:1-10

2nd Reading: Col 1:24-28

Gospel: Lk 10:38-42



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.