



Pastoral Cluster

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

PARISH PRIEST:

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Fr Rolyn Vics

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OFFICE HOURS:

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PARISH MANAGER:

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THANKSGIVING CO-ORD:

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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 SJ

Night and day is the dominant image presented to us in today's readings. The season of Advent is for the Church the time just before the dawn of Christmas, when the fullness of God's love took human flesh in Jesus.

The moments before dawn are often special: cities are still, the air is damp, noise is at a minimum and, at least on clear days, there is an anticipation of the sun bursting forth into daylight. No wonder Paul and Matthew found it such a rich metaphor for the coming of Christ.

American lyricist and composer, Marty Haugen has found the image of light and darkness inspirational in his text, God of Day and God of Darkness (© 1984, 1995, published by GIA Inc.) He writes:

*God of day and God of darkness, now we stand before the night;
As the shadows stretch and deepen, come and make our darkness bright.
All creation still is groaning for the dawning of your might,
When the Son of peace and justice fills the earth with radiant light.*

*Still the nations curse the darkness, still the rich oppress the poor;
Still the earth is bruised and broken by the ones who still want more.
Come and wake us from our sleeping so our hearts cannot ignore
All your people lost and broken, all your children at our door.*

*Show us Christ in one another, make us servants strong and true;
Give us all your love of justice, so we do what you would do.*

*Let us call all people holy, let us pledge our lives anew,
Make us one with all the lowly, let us all be one in you.*

Marty Haugen's take on the light and dark in the world is entirely consistent with the way Catholic mystics have applied these metaphors. Being in the light is not just about what we see, it is about what we do. St Ignatius Loyola often spoke about the things we keep buried in the dark. For Ignatius the experience we won't speak about, the sins we won't confess and the memories we suppress are the signs of the bad spirit. They gain an inordinate power over us and we displace a lot of energy keeping them buried in the dark.

/Cont'd P4

First Sunday of Advent - Dear A

(Year C - Nov 27, 2016)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

To you I lift up my soul, O my God.
In you I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.
Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**2nd Sunday of Advent**

1st Reading: Is 11:1-10
2nd Reading: Rom 15:4-9
Gospel: Mt 3:1-12

**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 1st Sat. **Reconciliation after Saturday Mass**

Grace McKellar Centre:

10.15am - 1st Tuesday

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:

Nov 28: Johnson family, 63 Ruhama Ave

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: Monique Taylor, Leo Ryan

ANNIVERSARIES: Frank Amato, Milan Stante, Joan Jess, Antonio Abrantes, Maria Tiago, Manuel Santos, Antonio Rodrigues, Giuseppa Mileto, Francesca Genua, Mary Sells, Guiseppe, Matalizia & Maria Rotiroti

BAPTISMS: -

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Anita Capicchiano, Robert Hayes, Helen Lacy, Theo DaCosta, Geraldine Fay, June Smith, Cheryl Lambert, Ana Siketa, Roger Hardwick

Please note: After approx five weeks names will be deleted from the sick list . Please phone the office on 5278 1343.

- ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, DEC 4, 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

J O'Neill

C Laffy, M Abbott, D Torpy

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

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

5.00PM

C O'Brien

Sr J McGonigal

N Neeld, P McGlinchey

B Pleasance

D Whelan

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...	2nd Tues of each month, 6.15pm at Pioneer Room, St Mary's. Dinner/Guest Speaker - ph 0431 959 584

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:

THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK AND SENIOR PARISHIONERS LUNCHEON: A warm invitation is extended to all Senior Parishioners to attend the Mass and Luncheon at **Holy Family Church** on **Saturday December 3rd**, commencing with Mass at 11am and Luncheon at 12noon. If you wish to attend please place your name on the sign up board (**White Form**) in the Narthex.



Catering for the Function - Please place your name on the sign up board (**Pink Form**) in the Narthex if you can assist with the catering. Your assistance is welcomed and your support valued.

- ◆ **THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES:** There is a letter/set of envelopes for all contributors (including credit card etc) in the foyer today. They are in order, alphabetically by **STREET**. Please take a pink sheet if you would like to start giving. If pledge information on your receipt needs to be updated, please contact Bernadette at the Parish Office, or email: cluster@cam.org.au Thankyou all for your continuing regular support.
- ◆ **LECTORS PLEASE NOTE:** Your copy of the new **Break Open the Word** is now in the Sacristy where you are rostered. Please collect it as soon as you can. Many thanks for your continued support.



THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY will have their annual **Christmas Appeal Collection** on the weekend of **December 3/4**. This appeal will assist all those people in our community who will be going through difficult times during the forthcoming holy season of Christmas.

- ◆ **DISTRIBUTION OF CHRISTMAS INVITATIONS:** This week the invitations to all known Catholics to our Christmas Second Rite Reconciliation and Christmas Masses, will be available for collection. Again we call on you, if you can, to assist with this distribution. The invitations are in alphabetical order according to streets. Thanksgiving Envelopes have been integrated into this distribution.
- ◆ **CHRISTMAS MARKET STALL:** Home produce will be on sale after the following Masses: **Holy Spirit 11am Sunday 4th Dec; Ss Peter & Paul's 5pm Sat 10th Dec and 11am Sun 11th Dec and Holy Family 8am and 9.30am Sun 18th Dec**. All proceeds to Fr Mick's Relay for Life. Thankyou for all involved in this effort.
- ◆ **HELP! SINGERS FOR 5PM MASS AT Ss PETER & PAUL'S DURING ADVENT:** Today we have two fine singers, but they cannot be with us each week. Sing along with them today and please volunteer for future weeks. The Advent music we use is the same from year to year, with the opportunity to supplement it with a variety of hymns that are well known. We practise before Mass at 4.30pm. Thankyou - *Sr Carmel*
- ◆ **ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS CARDS:** Packets of 8 at \$7 will be available from the Piety Stall at Holy Spirit Church.
- ◆ **COLUMBAN CALENDARS \$9** are available from the Piety Stall in all three Churches until **Dec18**.
- ◆ **LEAVING COLLECTION DEC 10/11:** Please note that the Catholic Missions will hold their Annual Appeal. The focus of this year's appeal is **Lord, Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace** and the focus is to assist people in Papua New Guinea.
- ◆ **HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP - DECEMBER MEETING:** Christmas Dinner at the Sphinx - **Monday December 5th**. Please let Peggy know if attending.
- ◆ **MANIFOLD BRANCH OF CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE** will be holding their Christmas Breakup Lunch 12noon on **Tuesday December 6** at Hamlyn Park Bistro, Calvert St Hamlyn Hts. All members and ladies on our catering list are welcome to attend and are requested to bring along a wrapped gift for Kris Kringle to the value of up to \$5 please. **Bookings essential by December 1**. Contact Tricia Joyce on 0431 512 354 or Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063.



Community News:

- Nov 27...** **HANDEL'S MESSIAH:** St David's Uniting Church, Aphrasia St Newtown - 2pm with the Choir of St David's and augmented choir and soloists. Entrance \$15 (school students free with an adult). Patron: Pat Brockman, presented by St David's Uniting Church and RSCM Victoria
- Dec 2...** **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** End of Year BBQ Breakup at the home of Louise and Alan Fossey from 7pm. Invitation to members, ladies and family. Meat and drinks supplied, just bring a salad or a sweet. Cost only \$10 per head. Phone Joe Lambert on 5229 8442 to confirm attendance, etc.
- Dec 4...** **CHRISTMAS FAIR:** Friends of Rice Village invites you to our Christmas Fair from 11am to 3pm at Mercy Place Rice Village, 7 Moylan Loop, Marshall. Devonshire Tea, Spinning Wheel, Gourmet BBQ, Cakes/biscuits/preserves and a selection of Stall Holders. All Proceeds to amenities for Rice Village residents.

WING AND A PRAYER:

The Wing and a Prayer Book and Gift shop is now situated at 116 Moorabool St (just near 'Flight Centre' and the cnr of Moorabool & Lt Malop Sts). Open weekdays 10am-4pm and Saturdays 9am-1pm. In preparation for Christmas you may wish to see their large range of Christmas Card packs, Nativity scenes, as well as a wide range of books - including 2nd hand ones.

CAN YOU HELP?

Fr Charles Balnaves, recently appointed Parish Priest of Meredith Parish, is seeking volunteer assistance on **Saturday Dec 3**, commencing at 9am, to load 48 pews onto a truck (or trucks) from Christ the King Church, 79 Wilsons Rd Newcomb, for transport to 28 Lawler St Meredith, eventually to be re-used in the new Church at Bannockburn. Start time is 9am at Newcomb. Loading time is expected to be two hours then one hour travel to Meredith and unload around 12noon. Lunch will be provided after unloading. If you can assist please ph Fr Charles Balnaves on 0417 319 566 or parish@charles.balnaves.org If unavailable for the whole time, help loading at Newcomb or unloading at Meredith would still be appreciated.

FREE LUNCHTIME ADVENT ORGAN RECITALS AT ST MARY OF THE ANGELS BASILICA:

Music for reflection on the season of Advent will be presented with other classical works to lift your spirits in readiness for Christmas.

1. **Mon Nov 28...** 12.30-1.15pm **Mel Waters**, formerly from St John's Anglican Church, Toorak
2. **Mon Dec 5...** 12.30-1.15pm **Rhys Boak** from St Michael's Uniting Church, Melbourne
3. **Mon Dec 12...** 12.30-1.15pm **Ken George** from All Saints Anglican Church, Geelong
4. **Mon Dec 19...** 12.30-1.15pm **Frank DeRosso** from St Mary of the Angels Basilica, Geelong.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT 16TH DECEMBER - WINDFIRE CHAMBER CHOIR AND INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE:

Mozart Mass in C Major K220 "Sparrow" and Music for Christmas. Conductor Rick Prakhoff with Lee Abrahmsen, soprano; Belinda Prakhoff, mezzo, Michael Petrucelli, tenor and Nicholas Dinopoulos, bass baritone.



At Present Maryville Nursing Home has vacancies. Contact C Conder on 5221 5299 if you would like any information.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - 1st Sunday of Advent

For you do not know on which day your Lord will come. (Mt 24:42)

People who have had health issues or near-death experiences generally have a greater appreciation for each day being a gift from God. The rest of us usually take for granted that we will be around tomorrow.

But when you start to look at each day as a gift, you realize all the little miracles that happen daily and grow in gratitude for all that we have been given.

/From P1...

Ignatius always saw the hand of the good spirit when these things came into the light. Every time someone says to me, 'Father, I've never told anyone this before, but I want to talk about it now ...

I thank God that the good spirit is alive and active. St Ignatius encourages us to be alert to all the ways we can ourselves that keeping secrets hidden

in the dark is a necessary or acceptable way to live.

May this Advent be the season in which we bring to consciousness all the things that stop us from being fully alive and basking in the light. May our preparation for Christmas confirm us in the truth of Haugen's words about Jesus Christ and humanity.

*You shall be the path that guides us,
you the light that in us burns;
Shining deep within all people, yours
the love that we must learn,
For our hearts shall wander restless, 'til
they safe to you return;
Finding you in one another, we shall all
your face discern.*