



# Pastoral Cluster

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

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<b>OFFICE HOURS:</b>	Mon-Wed, Fri 9am-5pm, Thurs 9-2pm.			
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<b>SCHOOL PRINCIPALS:</b>	Holy Family	Peter Brunt	Separation St, Bell Park	Phone 5278 4634
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	St Patrick's	John Grant	Petrel St, Geelong West	Phone 5229 4412

## Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ

In any walk of life there are stories that circulate about an important facet of the job. For priests these stories often focus on sermons. Like the young priest who was having trouble with his sermons, so he asked the Bishop for help. 'Well,' said the Bishop, 'you might start with something to get the congregation's attention, such as, "Last night I was in the warm embrace of a good woman." I've always found that sparks their interest and then you can go on to talk about how warm and accepting she was and at the end reveal she was your mother. It's great for sermons about family love.'

The young priest decided to take the advice the following Sunday, but he was so

nervous, something got lost in the translation. He started, 'Last night I was in the arms of a hot woman.' As the congregation audibly gasped the young priest paused and realised he had forgotten how the Bishop's story ended, so he said, 'I don't remember who she was but the Bishop recommended her.'

We have just listened to one of the greatest sermons ever given. It is universally known as The Sermon on the Mount. What makes it great is not just the beauty of its language or the hope of its theology. It is truly great because Jesus was preaching to the reality in front of him. The Jews listening that day were poor, in grief, meek and hungry for justice. Some were trying to be merciful to their enemies, struggling to find God in the

midst of persecution and attempting to make peace while their family and friends were being falsely accused and condemned.

As true as this was for the Jews of Jesus' day, it was even more so for the earliest Christian community for whom this Gospel was written. Sometimes when we hear a sermon our reaction can be, 'What would he know?' 'If only he knew the complexities of my life, he would soon change his tune!' It's true that some of us have not been sensitive to the human frailties of the congregation in front of us and we have not been able to communicate our own frailties in the words we deliver.

/Cont'd P4...

## Happy Australia Day

### - 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year A/1 - Jan 29, 2017)

#### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Save us, O Lord our God!  
And gather us from the nations to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Happy the poor in spirit;  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
Rejoice and be glad;  
Your reward will be great in heaven.  
**Alleluia!**

#### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

**5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
1st Reading: Is 58:7-10  
2nd Reading: 1Cor 2:1-5  
Gospel: Mt 5:13-16



#### 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:

**Jan 23-Feb 5:** DeLuca family, 44 Fairy St.

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:** Fr Joe McMahon, James (Jim) Pollard, Joe Kelly, Sr Ellen Holland

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Giuseppa Puglia, Ida DaCosta, Gavan Coughlan, Frank Kennedy, Mary Smith

**BAPTISMS:** -

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

**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, February 5, 2017**

(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

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

Projectionist

### 5.00PM

C O'Brien

Sr J McGonigal

N Neeld, P McGlinchey

B Pleasance

D Whelan

D Whelan

## RECURRING ACTIVITIES IN THE CLUSTER:

<b>Pastoral Cluster Luncheon...</b>	First Sunday of each month at the Holy Spirit Hall from 12noon. BYO food and drink to share.
<b>Holy Family Luncheon..</b>	Third Sunday of each month at the Community Centre from 12noon. <b>BYO casserole &amp; drink to share.</b>
<b>Holy Family Women's Group...</b>	First Monday evening of each month at the Community Centre 7.00pm
<b>St Vincent de Paul...</b>	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
<b>Legion of Mary...</b>	Every Friday 9.30am in the Holy Family Community Centre
<b>Baptism Preps</b>	4th Mondays 7.30pm in the Community Centre
<b>Holy Family Choir Practice...</b>	Every Wednesday night at Holy Family Church 7pm
<b>Manifold CWL...</b>	Holy Spirit Hall, 1st Wednesdays in the month
<b>Italian Mass...</b>	First Thursday of the month in St Patrick's Chapel
<b>Catholic Diners' Club...</b>	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.pastoralclusterqeelong.org](http://www.pastoralclusterqeelong.org)**

## Cluster News:

### CONDOLENCES:

On your behalf we extend condolences to Bernadette Bilogrevic, our parish secretary, whose father - Jim Pollard - died on Tuesday. His funeral will be held this coming Tuesday, January 31st, 11am at Holy Spirit Church.

Also, we extend our condolences to Helen Brislane who works part-time for us doing the Thanksgiving Envelopes. Her father, Joe Kelly, also died earlier this week.

### PLEASE NOTE:

The Office will be closed on Tuesday and Wednesday.

For any enquiries please leave message on answering machine.

### INSURANCE RISK ASSESSMENT:

The Pastoral Cluster has been invited by the Catholic Insurance to be one of a few parishes to pilot an Insurance Risk Assessment project. The purpose of the project is to develop strategies to reduce the risk of accidents and incidences in the parishes. This project will benefit our community and insights will in turn be of some assistance to other parishes in the Archdiocese. I have met with the Catholic Insurance representatives last Monday and if there are any areas of concern or observations that you have, please let me know over the coming weeks so that they can be incorporated into their report and appropriate action taken. *(Fr Gerard)*

### MANIFOLD BRANCH OF CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE:

First Meeting for 2017 will be held at 1.30pm on Wednesday February 1st in Holy Spirit Hall. We look forward to welcoming all our members and invite any ladies from the Pastoral Cluster along to learn who we are, what we do and about the League here in Victoria. For information or transport please contact Tricia Joyce on 0431 512 354 or Jeanette Sheahn 5278 2063.

### FR MICK'S MATES:

- ◆ **Movie Night Friday February 24 - movie to be advised.**

Cost \$20 per person.

Two sessions - 4pm and 7pm.

Finger food supper with tea and coffee at 6pm.

- ◆ **Registration for Relay for Life in February:**

Registration forms available at each Mass during the month.

Cost of \$20 per person prior to March 1st, 2017, then \$25 per head.

Event to be held on Saturday/Sunday April 1st and 2nd.



### PHILIPPINES PARTNERSHIP:

Raffle books to raise funds for our Philippines Partnership will be available at each Mass next week - Saturday/Sunday February 4th/5th.

First three prizes New Cars, 11 prizes Coles/Myer Gift Cards.

Please take a book of ten tickets and sell to friends and relatives at \$2 per ticket.

For each book you sell \$15 goes to the Partnership.

# Community News:

## FAREWELL - ADAM CARROLL MC:

Last Saturday Fr Adam left after his holiday with his family in Geelong, to return to his missionary work in Tijuana, Mexico. Fr Adam wrote the following note -

*As I prepare to return to my mission in Tijuana Mexico, after a little more than a month in Australia with my family, I would once again like to thank you all for your generous support; spiritual, material and financial.*

*As I have said a number of times, 100% of all monetary donations goes directly to those whom I think are in most need. I would also like to thank everyone for the clothing and other material donations, much of it will go to the prisoners and the street people I visit, and some will go to safe houses for single mothers.*

*I ask you to keep the poor I serve in your prayers, as well as myself and my community.*

*God bless - Fr Adam Carroll, MC*

## ST JOHN OF GOD HOSPITAL MASS:

Beginning on Thursday Feb 2, Mass will be celebrated 11.30am every Thursday in the Chapel at St John of God Hospital, 80 Myers St (between Moorabool & Gheringhap Sts). Everyone is welcome. The Chapel is located on the Ground Floor, near Reception and Cafe Costa.

## LOURDES DAY MASS:

The eighth "Lourdes Day Mass" will be celebrated at St Mary's Basilica on **Saturday February 11** (the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes) at 10am in association with the World Day of the Sick. It is a Mass of healing and hope for sick and infirm people, their carers and all interested parishioners from all parishes in the Geelong region. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be available, and there will be a blessing with Lourdes Water at the conclusion of the Mass. The usual Saturday 9am Mass will also be celebrated.

## U3A CORIO BAY:

U3A is commencing the 2017 year with enrolments at 'Cobradah' Pettit Park, 7-13 Beauford Ave Bell Post Hill, from 12noon to 3pm. Courses this year include Book Club, Bridge, Computers (various levels), Creative Writing, Discussion Group, Economics, German, Health and Wellbeing, Mahjong and Quilting. Women in Australian History will be conducted at Lara. The cost is \$25 which entitles members to participate in as many classes as they wish. There are no exams but an opportunity to socialise, to learn new things, to open our minds to new ideas and to build friendships. For more information email [fmoloney@netspace.net.au](mailto:fmoloney@netspace.net.au)

### STEWARDSHIP CORNER - 4th Sunday ordinary time

*Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. (Mt 5:3)*

This one confuses people. Replace the word 'humble' for 'poor' and it makes more sense. People that are humble recognize their dependence on God and trust that he will provide all that they need. Unfortunately, for many of us, pride and ego enters our lives and we think we can live without God. Remember - God first in all circumstances.

/From P1...

The Sermon on the Mount is a model for all of us in every way. When Jesus says 'Blessed are you' he is not being patronising, glossing over all sorts of tough human realities with, 'Well done, keep it up, be happy and we'll fix it all up in heaven.' In the Hebrew Scriptures, a blessing is the discovery that God is present and active in one's experience, right here and right now. So the Beatitudes are saying that you do not need to go past your own daily struggles to find the presence of God. Jesus tells us that if we are poor, compassionate, mournful, campaigning for a just society

and suffering because of it, gentle, innocent, a peacemaker or a martyr, we are encountering, in a special way, the presence of God.

The God of the Beatitudes is a companion with us in every experience we go through. God is our best friend, walking beside us as we get out of bed and meet the days we would rather not face. Sadly, God-as-friend is a rich image not used as much as it should be. We choose our friends, we like to spend time with them, we tell our intimate friends things we tell few others. Sometimes, when we are on top of the world or in a crisis we call our best friends ahead of our family. And

we know our friends like us because they seek us out and want to share our life.

Jesus is the best friend we could ever have, interested in every daily event and he's there for us at every moment in life. Yet he doesn't barge in. He waits patiently for an invitation to enter our lives at whatever level we want. Jesus-as-friend doesn't give us old-fashioned sermons, but rather meets us where we are, embraces us and holds us close when the going gets tough and helps us find the way forward. Jesus-as-friend is the greatest Beatitude of all.