



St Michael's Parish

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

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|-----------------------------|---|--|--------------------------|--|
| PARISH PRIEST: | Fr Gerard Keith (email: gerard.keith@cam.org.au) Fr Rolyn Vics | | | 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 SJ

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 inculcated 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 in St Michael's Parish a holy, happy and safe Easter

- Easter Sunday of the Resurrection -

(Year A/1 - April 16, 2017)

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.
Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

2nd Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: Acts 2:42-47
2nd Reading: 1Pet 1:3-9
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 St Michael's Parish 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)

St John of God Hospital:

11.30am every Thursday in SJOG Chapel

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:

Theo DaCosta

ANNIVERSARIES:

Lorenz & Katharina Hoffmann, Clinton Price, Bruno Linic, Fr Tim Tolan, Rodolfo Mangas

BAPTISMS:

Kasey & Chloe Charleston, Alexander Taylor, Jack Flaherty, Jeanne & Jeannette Konomou, Me Lina & Rohan Tru and Harper Samiric

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Joanne Straughan, Anita Capicchiano, June Smith, Cheryl Lambert, Ana Siketa, Johann Angerbaure, Hilary Thornton, Joe Gwizdek, Tobias Fyshe

Roster for Next Sunday, April 23, 2017

(4th Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators
Lectors
Special Ministers
Welcomers
Projectionist

8.00AM

F O'Neill
L Kelly
L Sells, E Kelly, B McFarlane
L&E Kelly
R Allum

9.30AM

M Lukesic
M Baird, P Gizycki
D Lunn, P McBride, C Simpson, V Resciniti
A Sare, A/I Dugandzic
C Resciniti

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators
Lectors
Special Ministers
Welcomers
Projectionist

6.00PM

M Carson
Sr J McGonigal
C McShanag, R Stanley, D Yeatman
M Brown
T McShanag

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators
Lectors
Special Ministers
Welcomers
Projectionist

5.00PM

A Henderson
G Tolan
A Henderson, G Tolan
J Cowell
B Middleton

11.00AM

M Burn
J Fraatz, L Eastman
D Dougherty
D Dougherty
R Zarb

RECURRING ACTIVITIES IN ST MICHAEL'S:

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| St Michael's 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 Capri Receptions. 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:

Office closure:

The Office will be closed on **Easter Monday April 17**
AND Tuesday April 25 (Anzac Day)

Liturgy in the Cluster:

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY:



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| Date: | Sunday 23rd April |
| Place: | Holy Spirit Church |
| Program: | 1pm... Confessions 2pm... Rosary and Divine Mercy Prayers 3pm... Holy Mass and Veneration of St Faustina's 1st Class Relic |
| Main Celebrant: | Fr David Willis OP |

*"Remember this well, and we can say it all together:
There is no limit to Divine Mercy offered to all" - Pope Francis 6/4/2014
"Mercy, compassion and forgiveness are most Godly,
and is always an act of Divine Mercy" - Vatican Radio 1/3/2016*

Enquiries - Please contact Chris 0407 522 055.



- April 23... 1st Eucharist Commitment Mass - Ss Peter & Paul's 11am**
April 26... Sacramental Evening - St Patrick's 7pm
April 28... Class Mass - St Patrick's Chapel 9.15am
Class Mass - Holy Spirit Church 11am
April 30... 1st Eucharist Commitment Mass - Ss Peter & Paul's 11am.
NB: This is an extra Mass



THE EASTER CONCERT:



You are invited to an Easter Concert featuring **The Quinal** and **Harmonico Filipino**

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| Date: | Saturday 29th April |
| Time: | 2.30 - 4.00pm |
| Place: | Holy Family Church, Bell Park |
| Cost: | \$10 Admission Fee |

Contact: Fr Rolyn Vics on 0423 944 796

The proceeds from this entertaining and talented group of singers and musicians will go to support our Philippines Partnership Program for the Kuya Centre.

Community News:

CONGRATULATIONS!



This year Fr Mick's Mates were the winners of the 2017 Best Local Community Fundraiser. This is a title that we have won on a number of occasions, but its significance is particularly pertinent given Fr Mick's death last year. At the Candlelight Event Fr Mick was named and remembered as someone who had died from cancer. Thanks to all the Relay for Life Team Committee and those who have supported the various activities that have raised both awareness and funds over the last year. I'm sure Fr Mick, from the best vantage point, is looking down and smiling and appreciative of a job well done.

- April 23...** **DIVINE MERCY:** St Thomas' Catholic Church, Peninsula Dve Drysdale. Confessions (3 Priests), Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet and Prayers at 2.30pm; Blessing of Divine Mercy images at 3pm, Holy Mass and Benediction at 3.15pm. For further information please contact John Brown 5251 1884.
- April 30...** **TOM HEALEY PLAYS THE ORGANS OF GEELONG GRAMMAR:** 3pm Geelong Grammar School Corio (Chapel & Music School) Admission free - car park access from school rd. Enquiries ph 0352 739 275
- May 4...** **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Invitation to members, ladies and friends to a Social Day Out at Queenscliff. 10am Cottage By the Sea, Morning Tea, Video Presentation and Guided Tour. 12.30pm Lunch at Bowling Club "Rip View Bistro". Ring Frank Khan 5243 4926 with numbers attending by **April 27**. Shared transport available if required.
- May 10...** **SACRED HEART COLLEGE - CIRCLE OF MERCY COMMUNITY EVENING:** Rev Dr Kevin Yelverton will present "Mercy: The Ecumenical Glue" 7-8.30pm in Celies Hospitality Centre, SHC. Supper is provided, all welcome. More details available on website shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au RSVP by **May 2** on 5222 0467 or rchiv@shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au

CAN YOU HELP:

Geelong's first Anzac Day Dawn Service for many years (perhaps ever) will be held at Eastern Beach at 6am on **Tuesday April 25**. Help is needed to oversee the stage and PA equipment on the site (near Garden St) from 5pm on April 24 until 5am Anzac Day. Three shifts of three men (5pm to 9pm, 9pm to 1am, 1am to 5am) are needed. Shelter and camp beds provided. If you think you might do this as a worthwhile Anzac Day commitment, contact Fr Kevin Dillon on 0421 777 360. If you can't volunteer yourself, perhaps you could volunteer your son, grandson or son-in-law!

VOCATIONS NEWS:

As we celebrate the great Feast of Easter, we are reminded that we are never alone; that God is always with us. Easter is the great feast of hope. It is this hope that we have for the future of the Church in Melbourne. We need more priests for our parishes and ministries. This week, make a commitment to say a small prayer each day for more vocations. As people of hope, we trust that the Lord will hear our prayers and raise up vocations from our local communities to serve.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - Easter Sunday

*"Set your minds on things that are above,
not on things that are on earth." (Col 3:2)*

Do you put God first in all things?

Possessions, money, power, ego can easily become gods to many of us. Do a quick check of what is important to you.

Is God at the very top of the list? If not, your priorities need to be re-adjusted.

Don't let earthly things become a god before God.

SLAVERY FREE CHOCOLATE FOR EASTER - Pope Francis said that **"every person ought to have the awareness that purchasing is always a moral - and not simply an economic - act"**

What slavery-free Easter eggs will you enjoy this Easter weekend?

Big supermarkets will be ordering their 2018 Easter chocolate products soon, so keep the issue going in your community. And today, only eat chocolate featuring one of these symbols and tell people why!

Only look for chocolates which carry any of the following symbols on the wrapper:

FAIRTRADE, RAINFOREST ALLIANCE and UTZ.

/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!'