



# GEELONG CATHOLIC DEANERY NEWSLETTER

## MARCH 2005

Phone 5229 0926  
Fax 5224 2851  
Email [deanexec@pipeline.com.au](mailto:deanexec@pipeline.com.au)  
Web [www.geelongcatholics.org.au](http://www.geelongcatholics.org.au)

**Incorporating: Belmont, Geelong, Geelong West, Geelong East, Bell Park, Manifold Heights, Corio, Norlane, Queenscliff, Drysdale, Meredith and Grovedale Parishes**

### GEELONG CATHOLIC DEANERY

The Geelong Catholic Deanery meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month at Rice Village. All parishes are represented by a Deanery Representative, priests and members of associated groups, such as Young Vincentians, St Vincent de Paul, St John of God and school representatives.

The Deanery encourages and supports parishes, promoting faith growth and development. Programs are facilitated throughout the year, showcasing topical faith events incorporating youth, seniors, parents and all ages across a lifespan whilst reaching out beyond our faith communities.

The Deanery works under the umbrella of the newly established Office for Evangelisation and is staffed by the Deanery Co-ordinator, Fr Kevin Dillon, the Pastoral Initiatives Officer, Leonie Rastas, and the Deanery Executive Officer, Catherine Moon.

### YOUTH

**Young Vincentians** have grown in strength and numbers and are holding regular outings for under-privileged kids, staffing soup vans, visiting nursing homes, Ozanam House, fundraising and assisting at Childrens' First Foundation.

Stephen Price has relocated to Brisbane and we offer him our thanks for his fine leadership and commitment to the Young Vinnies. Will Kenny has now taken on this leadership role and we have donated the money raised at last year's Deanery Concert towards their good works.

The Deanery is helping to sponsor delegates to the World Youth Day in Cologne, Germany in August.

### DEANERY HEALTH MINISTRY

#### SUPPORT GROUPS

- Solo Group continues to grow and meet twice monthly. Groups are for Over 50's and Under 50's. We are looking for a new Co-ordinator for the Under 50's Solo Group and would appreciate new contacts. We would like to thank Geraldine and Jacinta for the work over the previous years.
- Healing Prayer Services continues first and third Wednesdays at St Francis Chapel at 1.45 pm
- "Living with Memory Loss Network" holds monthly gatherings. There are evening information sessions for carers and families – these offer experience for people living with dementia and their carers
- Health Education & Promotion – Information sheets are available on web site – [www.geelongcatholics.org](http://www.geelongcatholics.org)

### RESOURCES

- Videos on "Listening to God" By Bishop Mark Coleridge are being viewed around the Deanery.
- Gospel & Life Reflection material for small home groups available from Leonie.
- Café (Catholic and Faith Education) videos available from Deanery Office
- "Pass it On" Video – with practical hints on Sharing Your Faith
- "Theology of the Body" CD Series

## CURRENT ACTIVITIES

### Pastoral Planning

The sub-committee of parish representatives, convened by Gerry O'Byrne, is meeting regularly and will submit a report to the Deanery on their recommendations, which is planned for July. The report will focus on the needs of parishes and highlight ways to make parish life more pertinent to our daily living.

## RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS

**Deanery Commissioning Mass** - held to commission your parish representative to the Deanery committee and present gifts to priests for their service anniversaries to the Church

**Geelong St Patrick's Racing Club Charity Race Meeting** - Deanery Reps manned stalls and raised money for the St Pat's three charities:

- Vincentian House
- "The Acreage" a Barwon Youth Accommodation program
- Geelong Community Hospice Project

**Grief Seminar** – conducted by Fr Gerard Dowling

**Parent Effectiveness Training** – held at Bell Park Community Centre

**Expo of Faith and Community Programs** – held in 2004

**Passion of the Christ Discussion Panel** – an Interdenominational gathering

Support for the **Catholic Prison Ministry**

**Susan Peiters-Hawke** visited the Memory Loss Information Meeting in November 2004, sharing moments from her book of the Alzheimer's journey her mother, Hazel Hawke, is taking.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS

St Vincent de Paul Society is moving from an emphasis on welfare handouts to resolving situations by talking to struggling families and assisting with short-term welfare and counseling. Whilst there are around 400 people homeless in Geelong every night, assistance can be offered at OUTPOST in Brougham St

## ST FRANCIS CHAPEL & BOOKSHOP

- **Daily Mass** continues to be celebrated by priests of the Deanery, six days per week, at 1.05 pm 1000 days of the Chapel will be celebrated on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> April, when a small festivity will take place outside the Chapel.
- **Monthly Healing Prayer Service** – 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 1.45 pm – an Intercessions Prayer Book is available for intercessions
- **Bookshop** continues to stock an excellent range of pre loved books at very low prices, ranging from \$1 to \$5. Donations of good books are always welcome.
- **Cards, books and gifts** available from shop – perfect for important occasions
- **Trading Hours** 10.00 –4.30pm Mon – Fri

## COMING EVENTS

### **Expo of Parish Programs and Organisations**

This event will be held on Wednesday April 20<sup>th</sup> from 5.30 pm to 8.30 pm in McAuley Hall at Sacred Heart College, Newtown. This year there will be three presentations offered in an adjoining room:

- 6.00 pm Young Vincentians
- 7.00 pm "Catholics Returning Home" Program
- 8.00 pm Office for Evangelisation

Drinks and Finger Food will be provided and entrance will be by a gold coin donation.

### **Catholics Returning Home Workshop**

The workshop will be held on Thursday April 21<sup>st</sup> at the Societies Room at the rear of St Mary's Hall and will be a six week program for Parishes.

**Called and Gifted Workshop** will be offered by the Catherine of Siena Institute on May 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> – Friday evening and Saturday. Please see parish bulletins for further details.

## CHANGES

The Deanery would like to thank the following people for their years of service to the Catholic Community:

Fr Leo Saleeba; Ms Loretto McGovern; Bernie Muldowney R.I.P.; Remo Bianco; Ms Margaret Kelly; Br Russell Peters; John McCarthy