



St Michael's Parish

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

PARISH PRIEST:	Fr Gerard Keith (email: gerard.keith@cam.org.au) Fr Rolyn Vics			Web Page Address: www.pastoralclustergeelong.org
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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)		
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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 Fr Michael Tate

Get Clucking!

'Don't worry about your life, your food, your clothing.' This passage can sound very heartless if directed to the destitute, those without the necessities of life – 'Don't worry, be happy.' Yet, we know that Our Lord was filled with compassion for hungry crowds and provided abundant food for them.

So, where is the emphasis to be sounded? Our Lord is telling us: 'Do not be worried about *your* life and ordinary food *you* are to eat, nor about *your* body and ordinary clothes *you* will wear. But you are to worry about *others*, others without adequate food or clothing.' And we know from later in this gospel that this will have eternal consequences: 'I

was hungry and you gave me (or didn't give me!) food to eat. I was naked and you gave me (or didn't give me!) clothes to wear.' Our eternal destiny depends on our provision of the necessities of life for *others*.

The Sermon on the Mount is a constitution for a new society. Basically, we are to direct our energies to, be absorbed in, the needs of others. Set your hearts on this first. The priority is to create this sort of society: the Kingdom of God on earth. Within that social structure you will find that you will be looked after. Within that way of human beings relating to each other, you will not need to worry about your basic situation. But, do we, do I, *really* believe that I can rest secure knowing that my 'Heavenly Father' (the name Jesus uses), that this Heavenly Father

knows what my basic needs are and will prompt others to provide for me if I can't manage myself?

To be frank, this is hard, or perhaps it is just that I would hate that dependence on others. But then the Church gives us a first reading which brilliantly correlates with this passage and teaches us another way of thinking about dependence – dependence on a mother's love.

The prophet Isaiah gives us a *maternal* image of God. "Zion was saying, The Lord has abandoned me, the Lord has forgotten me. Does a woman forget her baby at the breast, or fail to cherish the son of her womb? Yet even if these forget, I will never forget you.'

/Cont'd P4...



To the children who are making their commitment to the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

- 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year A/1 - Feb 26, 2017)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

The Lord became my protector.
He brought me out to a place of freedom;
he saved me because he delighted in me.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Rest in God alone, my soul.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.

Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

First Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Gen 2:7-9,3:1-7
2nd Reading: Rom 5:12-19
Gospel: Mt 4:1-11



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:

Feb 20-Mar 5: Brown family, 23 Bostock 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:

Win Jones, Roland Kolotelo, Bob Eastman, Pat Lynch, Giuseppe Iannuzzi (Canada) and Pietro Coelli (Italy)

ANNIVERSARIES:

Danuta Augustyn, Heather Osborne and 1 year anniversary of Lou Resciniti

BAPTISMS:

Elena McCombe, Brayden Shallue, Lottie Spence and Byron & Edie Tobin

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Geraldine Fay, June Smith, Cheryl Lambert, Ana Siketa, Johann Angerbaure

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, March 5, 2017

(1st Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

8.00AM

R Allum

Lectors

V Pavlovic

Special Ministers

J Bartolo, B McFarlane, I Baulch

Welcomers

K McArthur

Projectionist

R Allum

9.30AM

J Siketa

C&J Taylor

P Carmody, B Kline, D&M Horoba

M&E Hoffman

C Resciniti

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators

6.00PM

J O'Neill

Lectors

M Abbott, D Torpy

Special Ministers

Welcomers

M Kroger

Projectionist

11.00AM

C Neilson

B Middleton, M Wright

R Pugh, V Trinder

I Cleary, L Fossey

L Coles

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators

5.00PM

C O'Brien

Lectors

Sr J McGonigal

Special Ministers

N Neeld, P McGlinchey

Welcomers

B Pleasance

Projectionist

D Whelan

RECURRING ACTIVITIES IN ST MICHAEL'S:

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:

www.pastoralclusterqeelong.org

Lent at St Michael's:

Lent is soon upon us. Lent has a penitential spirit with a focus on Prayer, Self-denial and Helping Others. In preparation for Lent on -

Ash Wednesday (1st March) there are the following Masses:



Holy Family 9.30am -	all school children in attendance
Holy Spirit 9.30am -	all school children in attendance (please note change of time from 9am to 9.30am)
St Patrick's 12noon -	all school children in attendance
Ss Peter & Paul's 7pm	

LITURGICAL/SACRAMENTAL DATES:

- March 5...** Holy Family School children's commitment to the Sacrament of Reconciliation 9.30am at Holy Family Church
- March 9...** Sacramental Night for Holy Spirit school children with Fr Elio Capra
- March 11...** Holy Spirit School children's commitment to the Sacrament of Reconciliation 6pm at HS Church
- March 12...** St Patrick's School children's commitment to the Sacrament of Reconciliation 11am at Ss P&P

Also there will be other opportunities for developing one's own prayer life and spirituality:

A DAY OF MINDFULNESS BY THE SEA:

Santa Casa, 33-35 Flinders St Q'Cliff, Wed March 15 and/or Tues March 28, 10am-3pm

Lent is a time to allow ourselves to be open to the voice of God in our daily life. Mindfulness is a form of meditation. "Living in mindfulness means paying regular, calm attention to the present moment". It helps us to see, feel, understand and know our life as God knows it." This attitude can radically alter our relationship to the world, ease our suffering and enhance our joys." (Christophe Andre)

The day will consist of a series of mindful activities using the beauty of the environment, the labyrinth, and artworks as well as quiet times. Cost \$15 incl morning tea/light lunch. Facilitator - Sr Jean McGonigal RSM. **RSVP Sr Jean on 5229 2754 or 0408 559 891 before March 13th.**

HOPE - LENTEN PROGRAM 2017:

This year there is an invitation to those who would like to be involved in small group conversations on the Readings for Lent. A clipboard will be available at the back of each Church to gauge interest as well as times.

PROJECT COMPASSION BEGINS ASH WEDNESDAY 1ST MARCH:

Each year Project Compassion brings together thousands of Australians in solidarity with the world's most vulnerable communities, to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. The annual Lenten-time event raises both funds and community awareness about important global issues, and Caritas Australia's role in empowering our neighbours across the world to build a brighter future.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS - Autumn 2017 edition

The focus of this edition is ***Tuning the Spirit - Our Journey to Jesus Through Music***. In this edition there are a number of interesting articles around Music and Faith. This edition will be available for free next week.

MELBOURNE CATHOLICS: There are a number of copies still available of ***Melbourne Catholics February 2017***.

BAPTISM FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN:

An invitation is being extended to families who have primary school aged children and who are not yet baptised. The program is that there will be a parent/child session **on Wednesday March 15, 7pm at the Parish Office**. The child thereafter will be welcomed into the parish community with the baptism taking place later, perhaps at Easter. Please contact Bernadette at the Office on 5278 1343 or email cluster@cam.org.au

Community News:

- Mar 3...** **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE:** 11am at Wesley Uniting Church, 100 Yarra St - "Am I being unfair to you?" written by the Christian women of the Philippines. Guest speaker Trish Stickland who has visited this country several times. Your support in prayer and attendance will be appreciated. A light lunch to follow. Information/transport ph Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063 or Amy O'Brien 0427 866 891.
- Mar 8...** **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA: Sacred Patterns for the Lenten Journey** - A series of reflections for the season of Lent. 5.30-6pm - **Essence** featuring Vicki Hallett - Clarinet.
- " **SACRED HEART COLLEGE: Circle of Mercy Community Evening** with Rabbi Fred Morgan "A Jewish Perspective on Mercy". 7-8pm Celies Hospitality Centre, SHC with supper provided. RSVP Monday 6 March to Rita on 5222 0467 or rchiav@shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au
- Mar 18...** **ST PATRICK'S DAY RACES:** At the Geelong Racecourse, Breakwater Rd, Breakwater. For further enquiries phone Catherine Moon on 0409 007 913.
- Mar 21...** **SACRED HEART COLLEGE OPEN DAY:** Discovery Tours 3.30-6pm - Visitors will be provided with a detailed map and information to see the many interactive displays. Information Sessions 5.30pm and 6.30pm. Please register for an information session online at www.shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au. For further information contact our Registrar Mrs Judy Smith on 5222 0490 or email registrar@shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au. **Closing date for Year 7 2018 enrolments is Friday 19 May 2017.**
- April 1/2...** **MEN ALIVE MEN'S WEEKEND:** Is an opportunity for men to explore what makes them feel fully alive. The experience of the weekend is powerful and dynamic and many men are inspired and encouraged with a new sense of purpose and mission. The weekend is organised by men in your local community and conducted by an experienced team of menALIVE leaders. It is suitable for all men from 18 years of age. **Lumen Christi Church, Kensington Leopold** - information ph John Brown 0428 409 345, John Brancatisano 0466 859 614 or Chris K 0407 522 055.



Has limited vacancies -

contact Cheryl Conder, Director of Nursing, on 5221 5299.



WING AND A PRAYER:

Now located at 116 Moorabool St Geelong (near 'Flight Centre') and opposite bus stops and Lt Malop St Mall. Open Mon-Fri 10am-4pm, Sat 10am-2pm. Ph 5221 4451.

MANIFOLD BRANCH OF CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE:

Monthly meeting will be held 1.30pm in Holy Spirit Hall on **Wednesday March 1**. St Michael's ladies welcome to join us. For information or transport please ph Noella Duggan 5278 2063 or Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063.



Registration for Relay for Life in February - Sat/Sun April 1/2:
Registration forms available at each Mass during the month.
Cost of \$20 per person prior to March 1st, 2017, then \$25 per head.

/From P1...

God is more motherly than the most maternal of mothers. I have watched mothers quite unselfconsciously (but discreetly) feeding their baby at the breast during Mass. It is impossible to think that that mother would ever forget her baby. God is more mindful of us than that mother is of her baby.

It is not to be an ultra-feminist to suggest that we should really assimilate that metaphor for God into our lives. We could then break the exclusively myopic hold of

a patriarchal portrayal of God.

If we are made in the image of God, then perhaps it is the maternal side of our nature which needs to be acknowledged and expressed in our care for others. If each of us adopted the maternal traits of God vis a vis others then *they* would not need to be anxious about food or clothing. And perhaps we could hear with astonished delight Our Lord's description of His love for Jerusalem and its inhabitants: 'How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen

gathers her brood under her wings ...! (Matthew 23:37)

How maternal is that? Jesus seeing himself as a clucky, broody hen. We believe that, humanly speaking, Jesus of Nazareth was the perfect image of God in human history. And one way Jesus thought of imaging God was as a broody hen, clucking away. We are also meant to be, destined to be, images of God. We need to imitate Our Lord. Get clucking!