



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
OFFICE:	147 Separation St Bell Park 3215 Phone: 5278 1343 Fax: 5278 4618 Email: bellpark@cam.org.au (please note change)			
OFFICE HOURS:	Mon-Wed, Fri 9am-5pm, Thurs 9-2pm.			
PARISH SECRETARY:	Bernadette Bilogrevic Phone 5278 1343 (email: bellpark@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

Today's Gospel gives us both a parable and then an interpretation of that parable. I'm very grateful for this pattern in the 13th chapter of Matthew's Gospel. It indicates to us that not everything that Jesus says should be taken literally. Clearly the disciples were sometimes confused and needed some private coaching to bring them up to speed with what Jesus was on about.

As much as I respect the faith of our fundamentalist Christian brothers and sisters, it is at this point, on the way we interpret the Scriptures, that we cannot agree. The catholic community has always taken the process outlined in Matthew's gospel very seriously. We have always held that the full richness of the scriptures needs careful study and tested interpretations.

Unfortunately, in previous generations, the anxiety over people's private interpretations of the scriptures led Catholics to be

suspicious of the Bible and the private reading of it. To read the Bible was often seen as a 'very protestant thing to do'. Given that Jesus, Mary, the apostles and the disciples are all recorded in the New Testament as reading, meditating on, or hearing the scriptures, nothing could be further from the truth. To be a Christian is to ponder the Word of God.

That's why the Second Vatican Council encouraged us all to return to regular private reflection on the Bible. Along with this encouragement they also reminded us, however, that as strong as the feelings and revelations we experience in our private scriptural prayer may be, these may have little or no consequence for the wider community of faith. We believe that the whole Church has the task to discern where the Word of God is leading us.

To help this discernment, it's scholars who pay great attention to the history and the literary, textual and cultural issues in and around the Bible have always aided the

catholic community. They look at how various interpretations and approaches of the Scriptures have helped or hindered the Church over the centuries. We place great weight on the 'here and now' of the faith community who listens to the Word of God and lives it out.

Our approach is a long way from those who hold that the entire truth of the scriptures is found in the text itself. Fundamentalist interpretations of the scriptures dismiss the importance of studying the scriptures by reducing it to a book of facts. In doing so they tie themselves up in all sorts of textual knots whenever the scriptures seem to contradict themselves.

We hold, however, that the scriptures are not books of facts, though they contain historical information. We believe we have seventy-three sacred books that 'cannot err in leading us to the truth about God'.

/Cont'd P4...

- 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year A/1 - July 23, 2017)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Lord, you are good and forgiving.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. **Alleluia!**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: 1Kg 3:5,7-12
2nd Reading: Rom 8:28-30
Gospel: Mt 13:44-52



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**

McKellar Centre:

10.15am - 1st Tuesday

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...	<i>Holy Family Women's Prayer Group</i>	<i>10.00am</i>	<i>Holy Family Community Centre</i>
Tues...	<i>Meditation Group</i>	<i>5.30pm</i>	<i>Holy Family Community Centre</i>
Wed...	<i>Prayer of the Church</i>	<i>Before 9am Mass</i>	<i>Holy Spirit Church</i>
Wed...	<i>Holy Family Women's Prayer Group</i>	<i>10.00am</i>	<i>Holy Family Community Centre</i>
Thurs...	<i>Italian Prayer Group</i>	<i>10.00am</i>	<i>St Patrick's Chapel</i>
Fri...	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	<i>After 11am Mass</i>	<i>Holy Spirit Church</i>
Fri...	<i>Divine Mercy</i>	<i>3.00pm</i>	<i>Holy Spirit Church</i>
Sat...	<i>Rosary</i>	<i>After 9am Mass</i>	<i>Holy Spirit Church</i>

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:

Robert Prada, Maria Nekrep, Lucia Cammarota

ANNIVERSARIES:

Louisa Rodrigues, William Vickers, Patricia (Pat) McMahon, Philip & Alice Leyden, Ester Miller, Diane Horoba (10 years), James Horoba, Rosalyn Connolly, Andjelko Smilovic, Danica & Ante Kapovic, Toneno Gulli (Italy), Frank & Cath McCormack, Garry Dougherty, Peter Javni Jnr, Isabel & Isagani Ramirez, Felix Gravador

BAPTISMS:

Sonny Ford, Flynn & Hugo Gatt, Will Peoples, Luna Stephenson

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Margaret Howard, Gina Ciuffetelli, Elaine & Aaron Lyall, Noella Duggan, Jeanette Sheahan, Pat Walsh

Roster for Next Sunday, July 30, 2017

(5th 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

11.00AM

G Brown, M Kroger
L Stalio, L Sells

D Brown

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:

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 6.30pm (Winter), 7.00pm (D'light savings)
St Vincent de Paul...	Holy Family meet 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at the Community Centre 7.30pm. Holy Spirit meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays 5.00pm 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.pastoralclustergeelong.org

St Michael's News:

ST MICHAEL'S REFUGEE FRIENDSHIP GROUP:



On Tuesday July 18th a good number of parishioners came to our initial meeting about extending friendship and assistance to our new parishioners from Iraq and Syria. The main areas of need were to provide opportunities to learn conversational English and employment. The next step is that we will have an informal gathering at St Michael's Community Centre on Sunday July 30th for all those interested in being part of what should be an enriching experience.

- ◆ A HEARING LOOP SYSTEM has now been installed at all Churches.
- ◆ **SAVE THE DATE:**
"Moving Forward from Royal Commission - What does this mean for our local Catholic Community/Parish?" - A public conversation with Francis Sullivan, CEO of the Catholic Church's Truth, Justice and Healing Council - Thursday October 19th, 7pm at Holy Family.

Liturgy at St Michael's:

DATES

July 28... Class Mass at St Patrick's School - 9.15am for Gr 6
Class Mass at Holy Spirit School - 11am for Gr 1/2

This weekend of July 29/30 we will welcome some Seminarians who will speak at all the Masses about the Melbourne Overseas Mission.

FIRST EUCHARIST

PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN IN THE NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM:

A warm welcome is extended to children who are looking to make their First Eucharist and who are not in the Catholic School system. Please note that prior to making their First Eucharist they must have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation. There are three sessions at Holy Family Church on Sunday July 30/ August 6/August 13, with an evening family-based session on Wednesday August 2 at 7pm at Holy Family Community Centre. **First Eucharist will take place on either August 21st or 27th.**



Please Note: If you are unable to attend any one of the Sunday classes, a catch up class will be held on **Sunday August 20** and then your child's First Eucharist will be on **Sunday August 27.**

The cost of the program is **\$70 per child.** If you wish to enrol in person - enrolments will be accepted at the Parish Office up until **Tuesday July 25, 2017.** Office hours are 9am to 5pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. **Please note - enrolments must close on Tuesday July 25th, 2017.**

If you would like any further information, please contact Bernadette at St Michael's Parish Office on 5278 1343.



CONFIRMATION

FOR CHILDREN IN THE NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM will be held on **Saturday October 14th, 2.30pm** in Holy Spirit Church. Further details about the program will be made available in due course.

Community News:

- Jul 23...** **FAREWELL FR KEVIN:** 'Farewell Afternoon Tea' for Fr Kevin Dillon **2-5pm** at St Joseph's College Gymnasium (enter off Queens Rd) with formalities at 3pm. Contact Sr Anne on 0417 566 637
- " **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Invitation to members, widows, family and friends to a Casserole Luncheon in the Belmont Seniors Centre Dining Room, 52 Thomson St. Cost \$10 - drinks included. Just bring a casserole or a sweet. Phone Joe Lambert on 5229 8442 to confirm attendance. Proceeds to our overseas charity project.
- Aug 2...** **SISTERS OF THE HOLY ANGELS LUNCHEON:** 12noon in Holy Spirit Hall, Bostock Ave Manifold Hts. Cost \$10 - all welcome!
- Aug 13...** **A GALILEAN EXPERIENCE:** A reflection of world changing events occurring 2,000 years ago when Jesus of Nazareth preached and healed in towns and fishing centres around the shore of Galilee. To be held on the shore of Swan Bay near the Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club at 2pm. Further details ph 0438 191 196.
- Aug 24...** **SACRED HEART COLLEGE:** Circle of Mercy Community Evening Rev John Dupuche will present **From the stormy waves of birth, old age, sickness and death, may I free all beings** at 7pm in the Celies Hospitality Centre. All welcome/ supper provided. Please RSVP by **Friday 18 August** to email rchiav@shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au or ph 5222 0467.

A GALA FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR THE BUILDING OF THE NEW BANNOCKBURN CATHOLIC CHURCH:

Where: Clyde Park, 2490 Midland Hwy, Bannockburn
When: August 11th 2017 from 7pm to 10pm
Cost: \$100/ticket. Tickets through trybooking.com (www.trybooking.com/QTAE)
Dress: Smart casual

Award winning wines/beer/soft drinks and delicious food. Auctions and music by Heath Stenton. Join us to make this event successful with all proceeds from the evening going to the Building Fund.

MERCY PLACE RICE VILLAGE:

Currently have two bedroom units available. If you are interested please call Sally on 5247 2202 for more information.

ST JOHN OF GOD HOSPITAL is interested in hearing from Special Ministers of Communion who would like to join the Pastoral Care Volunteer Team in providing Communion to our patients. Commitment to the team roster would entail one Sunday each month from approx 8.30-10.30am. Please contact Moira Wilding on 5215 8739 for more details.

VOLUNTEER HOMEWORK TUTORING:

CatholicCare's Homework Group in Geelong provides students with a supportive environment to enhance their academic achievement and build social connections with their peers.

Students are from both culturally and linguistically diverse and English speaking backgrounds. Volunteer tutors will assist students to understand and complete their set homework tasks in various subjects such as Maths, Science and English, and encourage them to continue working towards their academic and career aspirations.

They are required to work weekly on Monday (during school terms) between 3.15pm and 4.45pm.

All volunteers are required to undergo a Police Record Check (PRC) and a Working with Children Check (WWCC) prior to commencing any voluntary work with CatholicCare. (Note: CatholicCare will facilitate the PRC at no cost to the volunteer).

Application Details:

- ◆ Request a **Position Description**
- ◆ To apply, email a current resume and **Expression of Interest Form** to volunteer@ccam.org.au
- ◆ Contact the Volunteer Co-ordinator, Matt Walton, at volunteer@ccam.org.au or ph 926 5699 for more information.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - 16th Sunday of Ordinary Time

"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field... He who sows good seeds is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom." (Mt 13:24,37-38)

As children of God, we are all 'good sees', blessed by God with the potential to accomplish much good in the world. We fulfill God's plan when we share our talents and our financial gifts to help build God's kingdom on earth.

Through our stewardship we sow 'good seeds' on earth to ultimately help each other get to Heaven!

/From P1...

The Word of God is for us the pathway to faith, a series of revealed and inspired portraits of God and a distillation of God's saving love for us and our response to him.

When there are inconsistencies or differences in any two scriptural texts, rather than unsettle us, we see these differences as examples of the varying rich approaches to the truth of our salvation in and through Christ. This is

nically summed up in the verse, *The Bible in 50 words.*

God made; Adam bit; Noah arked;
Abraham split
Joseph ruled; Jacob fooled; Bush talked;
Moses balked
Pharaoh plagued; People walked; Sea divided; Tablets guided
Promise landed; Saul freaked; David peeked;
Prophets warned; Jesus born; God walked; Love talked

Anger crucified; Hope died; Love rose;
Spirit flamed; Word spread; God remained.

At this Eucharist let's give thanks that Jesus often used stories to communicate his truth and that he explained their meaning to those with ears to hear. Let's be grateful that we are inheritors of this intelligent legacy.