



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

After being nearly snowbound for two weeks, a Seattle man departed for his vacation in Miami Beach, where he was to meet his wife the next day at the conclusion of her business trip to Minneapolis. They were looking forward to pleasant weather and a nice time together. Unfortunately, there was some sort of mix up at the boarding gate, and the man was told he would have to wait for a later flight. He tried to appeal to a supervisor but was told the airline was not responsible for the problem and it would do no good to complain.

Upon arrival at the hotel the next day, he discovered that Miami Beach was having a heat wave, and its weather was almost as uncomfortably hot as Seattle's was cold. The desk clerk gave him a message that his wife would arrive as planned. He could hardly wait to get to the pool area to cool off, and quickly sent his wife an e-mail, but due to his haste, he made an error in the e-mail address. His message therefore arrived at the home of an elderly preacher's wife whose even older

husband had died only the day before.

When the grieving widow opened her e-mail, she took one look at the monitor, let out an anguished scream, and fell to the floor dead. Her family rushed to her room where they saw this message on the screen:

Dearest wife,
Departed yesterday as you know. Just now got checked in. Some confusion at the gate. Appeal was denied. Received confirmation of your arrival tomorrow. Your loving husband.
P.S. Things are not as we thought. You're going to be surprised at how hot it is down here.

Old-time missionaries used to have a field day with today's gospel, or at least with part of it. While they may have liked the passages that suggested that heaven was *like* a treasure in a field or *like* a pearl of great price, they told us that hell was a furnace of fire where there was weeping and gnashing of teeth. Some of those preachers seemed to know an awful lot about hell! It's as though they were travel writers who had visited the place several times just to warn

us about what to expect when we got there. And do you remember how easy it was to get in? Many of us thought we had a first class ticket in our pocket most of the time.

Once, during a parish mission, where the visiting priest had given us an excruciatingly detailed description of hell, he told us, 'You could be dipping your hand in the holy water font as you leave the Church tonight and be struck down dead and sent to hell for eternity!' At the end of that session my cousin stood by the holy water font and watched everyone else dip their hand in, saying as they did, 'After you, after you.' She wasn't taking any chances! All this is not to underestimate the reality of hell.

If we believe in heaven and free will, it has to be logically true that hell exists and that, consistent with some people's free, knowing and serious rejection of God and of love all their lives, these choices will destine decisions made for, and by, them in the next world as well.

/Cont'd P4...

- 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year A/1 - July 30, 2017)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Lord, I love your commands.

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:

The Transfiguration of the Lord

1st Reading: Dan 7:9-10,13-14
2nd Reading: 2Pet 1:16-19
Gospel: Mt 17:1-9



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:

Dawn McFarlane, Gerard Pelssers, Zdenka Burlak, Tony Failla, Marie Fitzgerald and Ken Dean

ANNIVERSARIES:

Cosimo Mileto, Anna Rezelj, Raffaele Gulli, Pat Doyle, Jozef Lichtenfeld, Pranas Saldukas

BAPTISMS:

Noa Hunter, Evelyn Jackman and Emerson Lang

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

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

Roster for Next Sunday, August 6, 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, C Laffy
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

5.00PM

C O'Brien
Sr J McGonigal
N Neeld, P McGlinchey
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 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 this **Sunday July 30th** at 10.30am in the Parish Community Centre for all those interested in being part of what should be an enriching experience.

- ◆ **MANIFOLD BRANCH OF CWL MONTHLY MEETING** will be held on **Wednesday 2nd August**, 1.30pm at Holy Spirit Hall. As the Sisters of the Holy Angels will be having their lunch at the hall from 12noon, we encourage members to come along and support them and enjoy a lovely meal. For transport please ph Tricia Joyce 0431 512 354 or Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063.
- ◆ After the closure of St Anthony's School in Hamlyn Hts in 2007, the marble plaque at the entrance to the school and inscribed with the words **St Anthony's Catholic Primary School** was retained. At the recent ten year commemoration of the school's closure, it was decided to donate the plaque to St Anthony's Catholic primary School in Lara. On July 21st the plaque was handed over to the Principal of St Anthony's School in Lara, thus showing that a St Anthony's Catholic Primary School has been providing Catholic primary school education in the Geelong area for 54 continuing years. (*Barry Hill*)

Liturgy at St Michael's:

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

July 30...	First Eucharist Class - 9.30am Holy Family Church
Aug 1...	Class Mass - Gr 1/2 9.15am Holy Family Church
Aug 2...	First Eucharist Family Based Session - 7pm at the Parish Community Centre
Aug 5...	First Eucharist for Holy Spirit School children - 6pm Holy Spirit Church
Aug 6...	First Eucharist Class - 9.30am Holy Family Church First Eucharist for Holy Spirit School children- 11am Holy Spirit Church
Aug 8...	Class Mass - Gr 5/6 9.15am Holy Family Church
Aug 13...	First Eucharist Class - 9.30am Holy Family Church
Aug 15...	FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION: Whole School Mass Holy Family School - 9.15am Holy Family Church Whole School Mass Holy Spirit School - 9.15am Holy Spirit Church Whole School Mass St Pat's School - 12noon St Patrick's Chapel Evening Mass - 5.30pm Ss Peter & Paul's
Aug 18...	Class Mass - Preps/Buddies, 11am Holy Spirit Church
Aug 21...	First Eucharist for Children in Non Catholic Schools - 9.30am Holy Family Church
Aug 27...	First Eucharist for Children in Non Catholic Schools - 9.30am Holy Family Church
Aug 29...	Class Mass - Gr Prep 9.15am Holy Family Church
Sept 1...	Class Mass - Prep/1 10.15am St Patrick's Chapel
Sept 2...	Father's Day Mass - Holy Spirit School, 6pm Holy Spirit Church
Sept 3...	Father's Day Mass - Holy Family School, 9.30am Holy Family Church

Community News:

- Aug 2...** **SISTERS OF THE HOLY ANGELS LUNCHEON:** 12noon in Holy Spirit Hall, Bostock Ave Manifold Hts. Cost \$10 - all welcome!
- Aug 11...** **GALA FUNDRAISING FOR BUILDING OF NEW BANNOCKBURN CATHOLIC CHURCH:** Clyde Park, 2490 Midland Hwy Bannockburn from 7-10pm. \$100/ticket through trybooking.com (www.trybooking.com/QTAE) - dress Smart Casual. Award winning wines/beer/soft drinks/delicious food; actions and music by Heath Stenton. Join us to make this event successful with all proceeds from the evening going to the Building Fund.
- 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.

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.

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.**

GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS' CLUB:

Come join us for a 2-course evening meal, an interesting guest speaker and the opportunity to meet new friends. Appetizers begin at 6.15pm on Tuesday August 8 for only \$33 per person. Fortunately, while we are changing our venue again, we are staying with the same great caterers, **Capri Receptions**. Their new location is **258 Pakington St Geelong West**, the location of the previous Berkeley Lodge. For more information and reservations please phone or text **Michael Belleville at 0431 959 584** by Friday August 4.

NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK:

The Church in Melbourne needs more priests and religious. Each one of us can do something about this. **Firstly** - pray each day. A simple prayer may be the cause of one person saying 'yes'. **Secondly** - talk about the possibility of a vocation to others.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - 17th Sunday of Ordinary Time

"We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." (Rom 8:28)

Do you really trust God? Do you believe that all things work for good? Faith is a challenge for everyone at times. Putting our trust in God, in everything we do, means that God's plan for our lives may be different than our plan. When one door closes, another one opens. Trust in God. His plan is always better.

/From P1...

There are two major differences, however, between how we used to speak about heaven and hell and what we say now. Just as we know the treasure hidden in the field or the pearl of great price are metaphors for heaven, rich and wonderful ones at that, they remain images that enable us to grasp an unimaginable concept. So it is with hell. How can we imagine life without love and God? We have learnt that our guidebook regarding hell needs to be more circumscribed about what that destination or state of being holds. All we can confidently say is that hell is non-God.

The second change is that we are more

careful about being so confident in regard to who is going there. Jesus tells us that God wants all humanity to be saved. We can't take that seriously and then have people slip into hell for a small infringement of the rules.

If we read today's Gospel in a different way it can be a commentary on what God has done for us. Humanity can be seen as the treasure in the field that God has sold everything to own. We are the pearl of great price that God has moved heaven and earth to possess and we are the fish caught up in the net of God's love. Our God is the one who became one like us, in Jesus the Lord, so that we might know, love and serve him. That's what today's Gospel is all

about.

Jesus reminds his disciples that in glimpsing the things of heaven they have to be like the master of a household. That's a rich image. In Jesus' day such a person would have provided protection, love, security and justice for all.

God has given us free will and treasures, both new and old, to help us protect each other, love each other, feel secure in the truth and act justly. But we need to know that the choices we make in regard to these things have implications for how we live now and in the life to come.