



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

At the morning parade in Dachau on 22nd July 1943, six prisoners were found to have escaped. Retribution was swift and brutal. Randomly selected, 12 people were hanged. As the other prisoners watched their 12 fellow inmates gasp for breath, someone in the crowd cried out, 'Where is God?' Silence descended on the yard. The 12 bodies were now in spasm, jerking and struggling for breath. As everyone watched, the voice came again, this time more urgently, 'Where is God now?' 'My God', another voice yelled back, 'My God is hanging there'.

This sort of faith is what today's Gospel is all about. Christianity is the only world religion

that holds that God took our flesh, suffered, died and was raised to life.

It is certainly true that we have domesticated the scandal of the cross, even to the point that, these days, it dangles from various parts of people's anatomies. I often wonder, had Jesus been electrocuted to death, whether we would have little golden chairs around our necks? But while we have tried to tame the reality of Jesus' tortured hours in Jerusalem, the reality of the cross in each of our lives cannot be so commercially soothed.

Christians are not meant to be smiling masochists. We are not meant to be lovers of pain – just bearers of it.

We are invited, by Jesus, to see the burden of suffering in our lives as an opportunity to be faithful to his example. It also gives us an

opportunity to be in solidarity with all those who suffer in our world. This is easier said than done. When we suffer in our daily lives, thoughts of others rarely come to mind easily, but it can be consoling to keep our suffering in context and know that we are not facing it alone.

We are encouraged to see that suffering can be an opportunity to grow in love. If we understand our crosses as our particular schools of love, then we learn more about ourselves and God and are able to help others carry their crosses as well.

Carrying our cross, however, is not just about bearing physical, personal, sexual, spiritual or emotional pain; it can also be in the sharing of our gifts and talents, our love and compassion. In every gift there is a burden. /Cont'd P4...



Happy Father's Day!

- 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year A/1 - September 3, 2017)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call on you.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

My soul is thirsting for you,
O lord my God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Ezek 33:7-9
2nd Reading: Rom 13:8-10
Gospel: Mt 18:15-20



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;

Elstoft House (formerly 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:

Sept 5-Oct 1: Tissera family, 8 Crofton St; **Oct 2:** Sharry family, 23 Lily St

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: Ross McCarthy and Filippo Ravida (Italy)

ANNIVERSARIES: Mate Druzic, Norm Keith, Kristian Verdnik, Marie Casey

BAPTISMS: -

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Margaret Howard, Gina Ciuffetelli, Elaine & Aaron Lyall, Rosemary Richens, Marita Mason

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, September 10, 2017

(2nd Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators
Lectors
Special Ministers
Welcomers
Projectionist

8.00AM

M Howard
F O'Neill
R Allum, J Genova, C Marcantonio
C Marcantonio,
R Allum

9.30AM

C Simpson
D Lunn, A Negro
H Verdnik, M Baird, J Sheahan, M Perera,
V Resciniti, E Glynn
C Resciniti

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators
Lectors
Special Ministers
Welcomers
Projectionist

6.00PM

J Ryan
R O'Neill, E Ryan, L Vannata
J Lynch

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators
Lectors
Special Ministers
Welcomers
Projectionist

5.00PM

M Bohan
P Power
P McGlinchey
D Dougherty
B Middleton

11.00AM

E Strzelecki
M Martin
E Strzelecki

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:

- ♦ **FATHER'S DAY APPEAL:** There will be a Leaving Collection after each Mass to support the Priests' Retirement Foundation which assists 90 sick or retired Priests.
- ♦ **FR ROLYN'S PILGRIMAGE:** Fr Rolyn will be leading a Marian Pilgrimage to Fatima from Sept 9-26th. We wish him and the fellow pilgrims a restful and prayer filled time.
- ♦ **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING:** Monday Sept 18th, 7pm at St Michael's Parish Centre
- ♦ **PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING:** Tuesday Sept 19th, 7pm at St Michael's Parish Centre



ST MICHAEL'S REFUGEE FRIENDSHIP GROUP:

- ♦ **St Michael's Craft and Conversation** - A new group is being formed in conjunction with the St Michael's Refugee Friendship Group. Do you enjoy sewing, embroidery, knitting or craft? Together we can teach each other our craft and practice the art of conversation through fellowship. Bring along any project you are working on, or one to share/donate from your craft box to inspire conversation. Our trial project will run fortnightly on a Friday, 2-4pm in the Parish Community Centre, 147 Separation St. Dates are as follows - 8 Sept, 22 Sept, 6 Oct, 20 Oct and 3 Nov. Please help ensure this trial is successful as more dates can be added. Contact Debbie for further information on 0409 416 945.

HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP: Activity for Sept 4th at 6.30pm is a Games Evening - board games, cards, Bingo, etc. A fun evening to be enjoyed by one and all. See you all there!



Liturgy at St Michael's:

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
Sept 5...	Class Mass - Gr 3/4, 9.15am Holy Family Church
Sept 8...	Class Mass - Gr 3/4, 11am Holy Spirit Church
Sept 10...	Confirmation Commitment Mass, St Patrick's School - 11am Ss Peter & Paul's
Sept 15...	Class Mass - Gr 1/2, 10.15am St Patrick's Chapel
Sept 24...	Baptisms of Primary School Aged Children - 9.30am Holy Family Church

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN IN THE NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM:

The program involves five sessions of preparation.



- Session 1:** **Wed Sept 6** - 7pm at the Parish Community Centre; parent/child in attendance
- Session 2:** **Sun Sept 10** - 9.30am at Holy Family Church; Welcome and Commitment Mass for children followed by lesson at the Parish Community Centre.
- Session 3:** **Wed Sept 13** - 7pm at the Parish Community Centre; Family based presentation on the Sacrament of Confirmation with parent/child in attendance
- Session 4:** **Sun Sept 17** - 9.30am at Holy Family Church; lesson for children during the first part of the Mass.
- Session 5:** **Wed Oct 11** - 7pm-8.30pm at Holy Spirit Church with parent/child in attendance

Confirmation: **Saturday October 14, 2.30pm at Holy Spirit Church**

Please Note: *Compulsory attendance of all sessions is required*

- UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS -

Friday Oct 6...



Movie Night -

Come and see the hilarious comedy starring Meryl Streep and Hugh Grant in *Florence Foster Jenkins*. Two sessions - 4.00pm and 7.00pm, with Finger Food Supper in between.

To be held at St Mary's Hibernian Theatre.

Bookings: David Lunn 0408 378 982, Cluster Office 5278 1343, Amie O'Brien 0427 866 891
\$20 per ticket on sale now.

Tuesday Nov 7...



Melbourne Cup Day Luncheon - Holy Spirit Hall

Chicken and Glass of Champagne Lunch, soft drink and punch provided; BYO other drinks welcome. Sweeps on the Cup, raffles and lucky seat prizes.

Don't sit home - come and join us for an afternoon of entertainment and possibly a prize in the sweeps.

\$20 per ticket.

MANIFOLD BRANCH OF CWL will be holding their Annual Meeting in Holy Spirit Hall, 1.30pm on **Wednesday Sept 6**. Guest Speaker will be **Ken Francis** who will talk on the Euthanasia Campaign and his involvement with local Prison Ministry and Samaritan House. Ken's talk will be about 2pm and parishioners from St Michael's Parish are welcome to attend. CWL members a plate of food for a'noon tea please. 2018 Membership \$25, Horizon \$20 and Scripture Diary \$10 can be paid on this day. For information/transport please contact Tricia Joyce 0431 512 354 or Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063.

Community News:

Sept 14... ARCHBISHOP'S CATHOLIC MAN BREAKFAST SERIES: Featuring Daniel Wells, current Collingwood and former North Melbourne star, discussing *Faith, Family and Football* with John Canavan. Venue - CQ Club, 113-123 Queen St Melbourne from 7-9am. Enquiries Michael Bohan 0439 172 465 michael.bohan@menalive.org.au

CONFESSION AND THE ROYAL COMMISSION: The following is a short press release by the Archbishop:

"Confession in the Catholic Church is a spiritual encounter with God through the priest. It is a fundamental part of the freedom of religion, and it is recognised in the Law of Australia and many other countries. It must remain so here in Australia. Outside of this all offences against children must be reported to the authorities, and we are absolutely committed to doing so." (Archbishop Hart)

SAME SEX MARRIAGE: To assist you in making a decision about the same sex marriage postal plebiscite, the Archbishop has written a Pastoral Letter which can be found online at <http://melbournecatholic.org.au/>.

ONE HEART AND ONE SOUL PILGRIMAGE: Marie Fonseca is organising her 6th Christian spiritual pilgrimage to India from February 19 to March 10, 2018. The highlight of this pilgrimage will be a 4-night meditation/yoga retreat with daily Mass led by Fr Joe Pereira (Mumbai), in Goa. The pilgrimage also includes attending a Mass at St Teresa of Kolkata's Tomb and visits to some of her homes. For further information contact Marie on 0293 440 523 or 0418 265 117. Email info@spiceodyssey.net.au; website andre@traveltalk.com.au

WESLEY LIFEFORCE will be conducting a **Suicide Prevention Workshop** at Quality Hotel Bayside Geelong, 13-15 The Esplanade on **Thursday December 14** from 9am-4pm - there is no charge to attend the workshop. The program helps participants recognise when a person may be having thoughts of suicide and provides a simple strategy to intervene and assist them. If you are interested go to this link: eventbrite.com.au/e/wesley-lifeforce-suicide-prevention-full-day-workshop-geelong-vic-tickets-37290873005. The training is open to community members aged over 18 years - morning tea provided.

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 Sept 12 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, Sept 8.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?" (Mt 16:26)

St Francis of Assisi once said, *"Remember, you are what you are in the eyes of God, and nothing else."* We often forget this stewardship wisdom when we spend all of our time, talent and treasure to gain more of the world's riches. We need to set our priorities based on God's values and not the values of the material world.

Following Christ's example, we are called to share our gifts heroically with anyone in need, even to the end.

Some people complain these days that God is often presented as a big marshmallow, all sweet and soft. Today's Gospel shows the 'edge' involved in being

a follower of Christ. I don't know of a more demanding vocation in our world than that of taking up the cross of being faithful, loving and selfless.

And while we are invited to take up our cross and follow Jesus, we never do it alone. If we have the eyes to see it and the humility to

accept it, Christ, literally, hangs in there with us every step of the way.

So let's recall the first cross from which we take comfort as we bear our own crosses. 'In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.'