



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)

Web Page Address:
www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au

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

As Catholics we have no problem with the time-bound nature of the Bible. In fact we appreciate it, believing that the scriptures deserve to be read within their context, and also need careful interpretation. And while the Catholic Feminist Association may not choose to have today's first reading as the opening text at their next convention, we would be mistaken to hear it only in terms of our world today.

The Book of Proverbs is a distillation of sayings and teachings which had grown up over hundreds of years, most probably from Rabbis and Scribes. Its world is a vastly different one to ours. This is clearly seen in the tasks of the 'capable wife'. She is praised for her work with wool, flax, in the vineyard and in real estate. It's only in the

context of an agrarian society that the power of this text makes sense.

Until quite recently, women in Palestinian society, and in wider society for that matter, were considered the 'possessions' of their husbands. They could be bought, sold, divorced, or killed without any appeal to the law. Wives in this society had no legally recognised human rights. They were expected to serve and shut-up.

By contrast, then, this text from the Book of Proverbs, which can seem so old-fashioned to us, was a liberating text in its day. A woman's right to work is not only defended, but also extolled. She is praised for her creativity, wisdom, goodness, strength, sense of justice, generosity, joy and faith. In any age and for either gender this is not a bad list of virtues toward which we should all aspire.

And these days of course, through the

ongoing revelation of the Spirit, we believe that what the Book of Proverbs expects and praises in a capable wife, we should equally look for in a capable husband.

It is almost possible that Jesus had women in mind when he shared the parable of the talents in today's Gospel. What can often get lost in the debates about who should be ordained in today's Church, is that women have always and still 'lead' the Church in powerful and long-lasting ways. From the extraordinary abilities of religious and lay women in Catholic welfare, education, healthcare, overseas missions and theological reflections, to wives and mothers whose daily witness to the fidelity and goodness of God, this all reveals in innumerable ways the power of the parable of the talents.

/Cont'd P4...

- 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year A/1 - November 19, 2017)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. **Alleluia!**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Christ the King

1st Reading: Ezek 34:11-12,15-17
2nd Reading: 1Cor 15:20-26,28
Gospel: Mt 25:31-46



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 (3rd & 5th Communion Service)

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:

Nov 20-26: O'Neill family, 11 Derby Rd; **Nov 27-Dec 10:** Cawthray family, 66 Drysdale 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:

-

ANNIVERSARIES:

Peter Culo, Julia Brady, Hilda Pearson, Kevin Craven, Robert Johnson, Geoff Callander and 1 year anniversary of death of Monique Taylor.

BAPTISMS:

Remi Rowe, Scout Slattery, Luca Turra and Liam Unitt

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Elaine & Aaron Lyall, Marita Mason, Anita Capicchiano, Brian Hennessey, Sr Genevieve Fitzpatrick

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, November 26, 2017

(4th Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators
Lectors
Special Ministers
Welcomers
Projectionist

8.00AM

F O'Neill
L Kelly
L Sells, E Kelly
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

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators
Lectors
Special Ministers
Welcomers
Projectionist
Co-Ordinator

5.00PM

A Henderson
G Tolan
A Henderson, G Tolan
J Cowell
B Middleton
M Gifford, 5229 1656

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:

- ◆ **SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR FR GERARD'S FAREWELL:** At all our Masses of Nov 18/19, the **2nd Collection** will go directly towards a farewell gift for Fr Gerard, to be presented at his **Farewell Mass on Sunday December 17 at the 9.30am Mass at Holy Family Church.**
- ◆ **THANKYOU:** To the Priests, Frs Peter O'Neill, Bob Wood, Luka Pranjic, Maurice Barry, Ray Zammitt and George Slowinski, who are supplying either the weekend Masses or weekday Masses.
- ◆ **THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES:** There is a letter/set of envelopes for all contributors (including credit card etc) in the foyer today. They are in order, alphabetically by **STREET**. Please take a pink sheet if you would like to start giving. If pledge information on your receipt needs to be updated, please contact Bernadette at the Parish Office, or email: bellpark@cam.org.au Thankyou for all your continuing regular support.
- ◆ **LECTORS PLEASE NOTE:** Your copy of the new **Break Open the Word** is now in the Sacristy where you are rostered. Please collect it as soon as you can. Many thanks for your continued support.
- ◆ **COLUMBAN CALENDARS:** St Vincent de Paul Society are selling Columban Calendars for \$9 available to purchase from the Piety Stall in all three Churches until **December 17**. Also available are Christmas cards for \$7 a set of eight. Proceeds are used to assist those who are in need.
- ◆ **FR MICK'S MATES:** Small baskets are required for Christmas Hampers. If you can help, please leave at rear of Church.
- ◆ **FR MICK'S MATES ROTARY RAFFLE:** Thankyou for the 97 books returned. **53 required back by Sunday Nov 26th.**
- ◆ **CWL:** The Manifold branch Christmas break up lunch will be held **12noon Wednesday December 6** at Bell Park Bistro, Calvert St Hamlyn Hts. All the ladies who help with our funeral catering are invited to attend. Everyone attending is asked to bring a wrapped gift \$5 to \$7 in value for our Kris Kringle. For transport, please ph Tricia 0431 512 354 or Noella 5278 2142.
- ◆ **MANIFOLD CONFERENCE OF SVDP CHRISTMAS APPEAL:** The 2nd Collection during the Masses of 2/3 December will go towards the annual Christmas Appeal which provides very important funds for those who are experiencing disadvantage and poverty in our local community. Your previous support has enabled us to provide generous and effective support for these people.
- ◆ **HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP:** Reminder Christmas Dinner **Monday 4th December** at Great Western Hotel, 6.30pm. See you all there!

Liturgy at St Michael's:

THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK AND SENIOR PARISHIONERS LUNCHEON AT HOLY FAMILY CHURCH:



A warm invitation is extended to all Senior Parishioners to attend the Mass and Luncheon on Saturday November 25, commencing with Mass at 11am and Luncheon at 12noon. If you wish to attend please place your name on the signup board (white form) in the Narthex. Catering for the Function - Please place your name on the signup board (pink form) in the Narthex if you can assist with the catering. Your assistance is welcomed and your support valued.



HOME PRODUCE MARKETS

All proceeds to Fr Micks Mates



To be held after the following Masses:

Sunday 3rd Dec...	Holy Spirit 11am
Saturday 9th Dec...	Ss Peter & Paul's 5pm
Sunday 10th Dec...	Ss Peter & Paul's 11am
Sunday 17th Dec...	Holy Family 8am and 9.30am

If you wish to order a Christmas Hamper please ph Betty on 5229 4530 or Margaret on 5229 1280.



Community News:

Nov 21... ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY THANKSGIVING MASS: A Thanksgiving Mass for deceased members, volunteers and donors will be held at St Mary's Basilica at 7pm. The families of deceased members, volunteers and donors are particularly invited to attend. A 'cuppa' will follow after Mass.

Nov 25... PAMPER DAY: Pastoral Healthcare Network Geelong and Geelong Natural Therapies invites you to a relaxing afternoon of pampering and pastoral healthcare, 1pm - 3.30pm with ten minute meditation at 2.30pm. Cost \$10 at Geelong Natural Therapies, 36 Shannon Ave. Enquiries/bookings: Sr Carmel O'Dwyer 5229 7954. RSVP **Wed 22nd Nov** for catering purposes.



WORLD DAY OF THE POOR:

Pope Francis has named the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary time the World Day of the Poor and states:

"It is my wish that Christian communities will make every effort to create moments of encounter and friendship, solidarity and concrete assistance. This Sunday, if there are poor people where we live who seek protection and assistance, let us draw close to them: it will be a favorable moment to encounter the God we seek."

OPEN THE DOORS OF MY HEART - A Prayer for the World Day of the Poor

On my television, on my newsfeed, on my street,
 Everywhere I go, I see Lazarus.
 But I also see so many doors,
 Doors that I've built, that I've closed.
 Doors that society has hung and locked.
 Doors that separate me from Lazarus.
 Lord, teach me to open the door to Lazarus,
 To the poor.



To know them as your children, to lift them in their distress,
 To work to help them find a fair share of your bounty.
 This World Day of the Poor,
 Help us all turn to those outside our door -
 To bless, heal, comfort;
 And together, from this day forward, build a world
 Where the poor are strangers to none,
 And, indeed, the very chains of poverty are broken. Amen.

Catholic Vocations:

During Mass this weekend and in our prayers this week, let us pray for the priests and religious who have served in our parish and have gone to their rest in the Lord. ***Let them rest from their labours for their good deeds go with them.*** Let us also pray for more vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life from our community.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you have been faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities." (Mt 25:21)

God expects us to nurture and develop the gifts he has given us and then generously return a portion with increase. He doesn't want us to waste or hoard the gifts he has given us; he expects us to grow our gifts, use them wisely and be generous with them. Unfortunately, many of us are not generous in proportion to all that God has given us.

The reality is that if it were not for women's leadership, commitment and faith, it would be hard to see how the Church could survive. We would not be able to continue almost all of our ministries.

None of this minimises the pain and

hurt some women have experienced at the hands of the Church. Some feel as though their particular contribution to the life of the Church has not been fully realised.

All we can hope and pray for is that we may find ways to use everyone's talents

for the building up of the Kingdom of God, and that we may see that everyone's contribution, irrespective of gender, is precious and worthy of praise.