



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 Prakash Cutinha

Web Page Address:

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OFFICE:

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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

In recent years the Ten Commandments have become an unusual staging ground for various groups within the Church. Some people complain that young Catholics don't know them off by heart. This position is countered by those who say that rather than being able to recite them we should live them, though it's hard to see how we can do one without the other. Still, others rightly claim that Jesus summarised them in his new commandments, 'To love God with all our heart, mind and soul and to love our neighbour as we love ourselves.'

The problem with teaching the Ten Commandments is not what they say, but how they say it. The idea of 'coveting' anything, but especially 'wives, slaves, ox and ass' are all a bit dated these days.

In an article

entitled 'Preaching to the Modern Pagans' journalist Bryan Appleyard tells how he interviewed a person who kept quoting them at length. Later he decided to read them for the first time since childhood and he was struck by their insightfulness into the human character. Appleyard thought all the Ten Commandments needed was a makeover so that we can reclaim the power of them.

'You shall have no other gods beside me.' Be serious!

'You shall not carve idols for yourselves ... nor bow down before them.' Get real!

'You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God, in vain.' Be humble!

'Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day ...' Be quiet!

'Honour your father and your mother ...' Respect age!

'You shall not kill.' Do not kill, for all murder is suicide!

'You shall not commit adultery.' Mean what you say!

'You shall not steal.' Do not steal, or all the world will die!

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.' Honour others, their frailties are usually your own!

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house or wife ... Be kind, be generous and don't play around!

So by putting some ancient words into the modern vernacular we are exhorted this Sunday to seriousness, facing reality, humility, creating space, respecting age, honesty, and fidelity, and we are bluntly told to stop killing and stealing. There is nothing old fashioned about these challenges. As in other instances, we can see that it's not what our tradition has to say but the way we say it that can be the problem. /Cont'd P4...



TO THE CHILDREN WHO ARE MAKING THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

- Third Sunday of Lent -

(Year B/2 - March 4, 2018)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son; that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**4th Sunday of Lent**

1st Reading: 2Chr 36:14-16,19-23

2nd Reading: Eph 2:4-10

Gospel: Jn 3:14-21

**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.

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:

11am Sunday

Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West:

5.00pm Saturday

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 Tuesday, (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 12.30pm 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 26 to Mar 9: Trinder family, 20 Donnie Place;

Mar 12-25: McShanag family, 39 Sladen St;

Mar 26 to Apr 8: Hoare family, 22 Sycamore St

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS:

Rocco Ciccone, Eileen Cotter, Joe Campanile and Martin Moran

ANNIVERSARIES:

Danuta Augustyn, Salvatore (Sam) Rizzo, Joe Trinder, Giovanni Serra, Lou Resciniti, Carlota Fernandes, Vjekoslav Iskra, 1 year Anniv of Nella Bellofiore and 1 month since death of Pasquale Oliveri, Lucrezia Butera, Ninna Cruce and Thomas (David) Grant

BAPTISMS:

Hugo Bouch, Jean-Luc Krieger, Tex Schwennesen, Freddie Szponar and Matilda Ward

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Aaron Lyall, Marita Mason, Anita Capicchiano, Eric Lynch

Please note: After approx five weeks names will be deleted from the sick list. Please phone the office on 5278 1343.



STEWARDSHIP CORNER - 3rd Sunday of Lent

"You shall not carve idols for yourselves in the shape of anything" (Ex 20:4)

How many 'gods' do you put before God? 'Idols' do not always take the shape of physical things, things we can touch and feel. Those are easy to recognize. Many times they take the form of things we cannot touch and are much harder to spot like pride, power, ego, time, comfort or health.

Roster for Next Sunday

(2nd Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S - 5.00PM

Commentators M Carson
Lectors P Power
Special Ministers P McGlinchey
Welcomers D Dougherty
Projectionist B Middleton
Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators M Howard
Lectors F O'Neill
Special Ministers R Allum, J Genova, C Marcantonio
Welcomers C Marcantonio,
Projectionist R Allum
Co-Ordinator

HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM

E Strzelecki
M Martin
E Strzelecki, L Fossey

R Martin

9.30AM

C Simpson
D Lunn, A Negro
H Verdnik, M Baird, M Perera,
V Resciniti, E Glynn
C Resciniti
J Mann, 0488 784 802

Lent at St Michael's:

Lenten reflection: The Miracle of Forgiveness

One of the most productive disciplines we can undertake for Lent is to forgive offenses willingly (one of the key spiritual works of Mercy).

So much anger and resentment exists today in the Church, and society, at many levels. The tragedy is that if we do not forgive those who hurt us, we slowly destroy our own peace of mind and become paralysed, unable to move forward. But forgiveness and healing are possible. In 2008 a Samoan family extended forgiveness to a young man who had killed their son in a pub fight. A Court verdict ruled 'accidental death'. Amazingly the family of the dead man wept and embraced the young, accused rugby player, in an expression of forgiveness, some kissing his cheek.

One female relative told him (after kissing him) that she hoped his life would change for the good: "You will always be in our prayers". The accused young man shed tears as he embraced the deceased man's sisters and nieces and a nephew, who had travelled from Samoa and New Zealand for the trial that ran for seven days. These Samoan relatives also embraced and kissed the Australian defendant's parents and relatives, who were weeping as the jury brought in their verdict. Both families were like two sporting teams leaving a playing field, embracing, hugging, weeping and kissing.

The Sydney detective sergeant, who had charge of the case throughout, said of the Samoan family: "They are simply the nicest family I have ever encountered. A deeply religious and loving family who heard the evidence and prayed constantly throughout the trial, not only for the defendant, but for his family, the judge, the jury, the legal counsels and the police. I have never seen anything like this in my career as a police officer; the ability of people to accept and forgive." Before leaving the court, the family joined hands in a room and held a collective prayer for the young man who accidentally killed their son. How is such forgiveness possible? It defies belief at one level, given the human desire for revenge, which is so deep in all of us. Clearly, the remarkable love and compassion of this Samoan family can only have come from a divine source.

The Jewish philosopher Hannah Arendt once said that Jesus of Nazareth introduced forgiveness into the human condition. For her, the power to forgive is Jesus' greatest miracle.

Extracts from Br. Mark O'Connor, Kairos Catholic Journal (Vol. 22. pp 5-18).

A blessing of our Catholic Tradition is that forgiveness, healing and mercy are readily accessible in the sacrament of Reconciliation. But also we need to remember the importance of community reconciliation within our families and within our parish.

EASTER MAILOUT: *Calling all St Michael's Parish Posties!!*

Your assistance is again required to help with the delivery of invitations to our Easter Ceremonies to all known Catholics within our Parish. The envelopes are available at the back of each Church this weekend and are organized alphabetically by street. If you can take your own street as well as those close by, your efforts would be much appreciated and we ask that they be hand delivered over the next two weeks. ***Special thanks to those who have helped prepare the invitations for mailout!***



Liturgy at St Michael's:

SPECIAL MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:

Fr Prakash has requested that Special Ministers proceed to the Altar after the Lord's Prayer. They can then share the Gift of Peace with each other and the Celebrant before washing their hands. Thankyou for your co- operation.

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 14, 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 bellpark@cam.org.au



PROJECT COMPASSION Third Week of Lent



Bayan, a 12 year old Syrian girl in Jordan, struggled to overcome the trauma of living in a conflict zone, facing the prospect of missing out on school. With Caritas Australia's support, Bayan is excelling in her studies with ambitions to become an ophthalmologist.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2018 and help equip young people to succeed in the future, providing just futures for others like Bayan.

A Just Future starts with your support! You can donate through Project Compassion boxes/envelopes, visit www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phone 1800 024 413.

St Michael's News:

- ♦ **AN INVITATION FROM FR GERARD TO THE PARISHIONERS OF ST MICHAEL'S:** I would like to extend an invitation to you to come visit me at my new Parish, **Resurrection Parish**. The date - **Sunday March 18th**. Time: **10.30am for the Sunday Mass followed by a BBQ**. Address: **51 Gum Rd Kings Park 3021**. Please bring a salad to share. If you wish to attend please contact Bernadette at St Michael's Parish Office on 5278 1343.
- ♦ **MOVIE NIGHT - "THE DARKEST HOUR":** To be held **Wednesday March 7** with two sessions, 4pm and 7pm, with finger food at 6.15pm. To be held at **Lifestyle Village, Barton St Bell Park**. Tickets \$20 from Margaret Haines 0413 690 625, Desma Dougherty 5244 5459 or Amie O'Brian 0427 866 891. All proceeds to Cancer Council through Fr Mick's Mates.
- ♦ **HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP:** **Monday March 5 at 6.30pm** there will be a Games Evening held for all members. Come along and enjoy the fun! No meeting to be held in April owing to it being Easter Monday.
- ♦ **SISTERS OF THE HOLY ANGELS:** Luncheon on **Wednesday March 7, 12noon in Holy Spirit Hall**, Bostock Ave Manifold Hts. Cost \$10 - all welcome!
- ♦ **CWL:** The 11am Mass at Holy Spirit on **Friday March 9** will be offered for our deceased members, particularly those who have died in the past year - Pat Bourke, Patti Murfitt, Jeanette Sheahan and Mary Moloney. This will be followed by our regular monthly meeting (no meeting on Wed March 7). For transport please phone Tricia Joyce 0431 512 354 or Noella Duggan 5278 2142.
- ♦ **ST MICHAEL'S CONVERSATION, FRIENDSHIP CRAFT GROUP:** We are a culturally diverse group of like minded people seeking friendship, peace and harmony. All are welcome to attend this group - we do not discriminate, if you share an interest in craft/conversation/harmony. Bring along your craft project, a positive attitude and commitment to help increase conversation and friendship in our culturally diverse community. We meet at the St Michael's Parish Community Centre fortnightly on Friday (excluding public and school holidays) from 2-5pm - March 9/23, April 20, May 4/18, June 1/15/29. Further details ph Debbie on 0409 416 945. Additional dates will be added based on attendance.
- ♦ **AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS:** Booklets available this weekend at the back of all Churches. Pick up a copy for some great reading!

Community News:

- Mar 16...** **CLONARD COLLEGE OPEN DAY:** Information sessions followed by tours 1pm and 4.30pm. Enrolments for Year 7 close on **Friday 18 May 2018**. Pre-register online clonard.catholic.edu.au.
- Mar 17...** **ST PATRICK'S DAY - CELEBRATE AT THE RACES:** Held at Geelong Race Course with free entry and entertainment for children (17 and under). Dining packages, Marquee and Umbrella packages available. Ph 0409 007 913 for further information or book online at country.racing.com/geelong-stpats
- Mar 18...** **ST IGNATIUS COLLEGE OPEN DAY:** 11am to 2pm with Information sessions 11am and 12.15pm. Tours of facilities, course information, presentations and exhibitions plus meet our staff and students. Enquiries registrar@ignatius.vic.edu.au
- Mar 20...** **SACRED HEART COLLEGE DISCOVERY DAY 4PM:** Discover life at SHC, explore the College from 5pm - gates close at 6.30pm. Please RSVP your attendance to shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au
- Mar 28...** **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA:** Windfire Chamber Choir and Strings at St Mary's Basilica, 8pm. Tickets \$35/\$30, children and school students free from www.trybooking.com/TNUY or at the door.
- ♦ **ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE TOURS FOR 2018:** Tours for prospective families considering 2019 enrolments at SJC will depart at 9am on **8, 15, 19, 27, April 26, May 7 and 9**. Applications close on **Friday May 18, 2018**.
 - ♦ **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 March 13** followed by the meal for only \$33/person. We meet at Capri Receptions, 258 Pakington St Geelong West. Guest speaker this month is Danny Lannen, former Geelong Advertiser senior Editor. More information/reservations ph or text **Michael Belleville at 0431 959 584** by **Friday March 9**, the deadline for catering purposes.

MAKE YOUR EASTER CHOCOLATE SLAVERY FREE

Pope Francis said that "every person ought to have the awareness that purchasing is always a moral - and not simply an economic - act". Can't find slavery-free Easter eggs in your supermarket? Ten years ago there was almost no slavery-free chocolate in our supermarkets. Now, because of public pressure, most supermarkets will sell some. ALDI has a huge range of slaver-free chocolate. Look for chocolate that has one of the following symbols: "Fair Trade", "Rainforest Alliance Certified" or "UTZ Certified".

And today's Gospel tells us of the consequences of moving away from these guiding principles. I think we need to take Jesus' anger very seriously. Rightly we have emphasised the love and compassion of Jesus over recent decades because for far too long the steadfast love of Christ was under-emphasised. We should never think,

however, that it cancels out the anger God feels when he sees an unjust world filled with people who know better and do nothing.

God has given us the Ten Commandments, the Law, the Prophets and Jesus his Son, so that we might know the Way, the Truth and the Life. When we are called to account for how we spent our lives, whom we loved and how we

made the world a better place for all, most of us will not be able to plead ignorance. May our Eucharist this Sunday enable us to be mindful of what the Ten Commandments say, but even more may it give us the courage and strength to live them out in a world that needs witnesses to them more than ever.