



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:

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

A man was driving along the road when he saw the Easter Bunny hop into his lane. He swerved to avoid hitting the bunny, but couldn't do so. The basket of eggs went everywhere. The driver felt guilty and began to cry. A woman saw the man and pulled over. 'What's wrong?' she asked. 'I accidentally killed the Easter Bunny', he explained. The woman knew exactly what to do. She went to her car, pulled out a spray can, walked over to the bunny, and sprayed the entire contents over the little furry animal. Miraculously the Easter Bunny came back to life, jumped up, picked up his eggs, waved at them and hopped on down the road. Not far away the Easter Bunny stopped, turned around and waved again. He kept doing this for as far as they could see.

The man was



astonished. 'What in heaven's name is in that can you sprayed on the Easter Bunny?' The woman showed the man the label. It said: 'Hair spray. Restores life to dead hair. Adds permanent wave.'

For many of our children the bunny and its eggs are the most important thing about Easter. Over the millennia, Christianity has had a gift for domesticating local traditions and festivals, bringing them on board and making them our own. The name Easter comes from the Anglo Saxon spring festival in honour of the goddess Eostre. Her symbol was the rabbit and the giving of eggs were signs of new life bursting forth as winter withdrew. These associations only make sense in the northern hemisphere, but we can see why the early Christians could be so adaptable and inculturated with this local festival.

In both hemispheres Christians today celebrate Jesus being raised from the dead.

In the New Testament there are two traditions about how the disciples come to know about Jesus' resurrection: the empty tomb and the apparitions of Christ.

Today's Gospel belongs to the empty tomb tradition. On Magdalene's urging, Peter and John run to the tomb, find it empty and come to at least an initial belief about the resurrection of Jesus.

We do not believe that God simply revived Jesus' corpse in the tomb, as our driver resuscitated the bunny in today's story. Easter Sunday does not celebrate the resuscitation of Jesus, but his Resurrection. We know his 'glorified body' was not the same as his human body because Jesus' presence could be encountered in several places simultaneously and he is reported to walk through walls and to vanish. The link between both resurrection traditions is the importance of Jesus' death. /Cont'd P4...

WE WISH ALL OUR PARISHIONERS A HOLY, HAPPY AND SAFE EASTER

- Sunday of the Resurrection -

(Year B/2 - April 1, 2018)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia.
You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia.
Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. **Alleluia!**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)**

1st Reading: Acts 4:32-35
2nd Reading: 1Jn 5:1-6
Gospel: Jn 20:19-31

**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:

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

Gary Van Prooyen and Fr Robert Coghlan

ANNIVERSARIES:

Lorenz & Katharina Hoffman, Ivan & Marija Fantella, Leo Consedine, Madonna Lynch, Arthur Allison, Edward & Constance McCormack, Mary O'Loughlan, Aldo Scarpetti, Marcella Conti and 2 month anniv of Issa Sciotto.



BAPTISMS:

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PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Aaron Lyall, Marita Mason, Anita Capicchiano, Eric Lynch

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - Easter Sunday

"Think of what is above, not of what is on earth." (Col 3:2)

On this day we thank God for his Son, Jesus, who died and rose for us. We celebrate and sing "Alleluia!". Let's try to keep the joy of this Easter season in our hearts throughout the year! Pray daily and listen for how he is calling each of us to joyfully use our gifts to fulfill his salvation plan.

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

8.00AM

HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM

E Strzelecki
M Martin
E Strzelecki, L Fossey

R Martin

9.30AM

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

People of St. Michael's family, Happy Easter!

Easter is the culmination of the Gospel, it is the Good News: Jesus, who was crucified, is risen! This event is the basis of our faith and our hope. Christ's resurrection is the point from which the Church first set out and continues to set out each day, year in, year out. The message which Christians bring to the world is this: Jesus died on the cross for our sins, but God the Father raised him and made him the Lord of life and death. In Jesus, love has triumphed over hatred, mercy over sinfulness, goodness over evil, truth over falsehood, life over death.



We pray for the people of the Middle East: that all those suffering the effects of the conflict can receive needed humanitarian aid and that neither side will again use deadly force, especially against the defenseless civil population, but instead boldly negotiate the peace long awaited and long overdue!

We ask you, Lord Jesus, to put an end to all war and every conflict, whether great or small, ancient or recent.

The words of Pope Francis

By his resurrection Jesus has demonstrated that death should hold no terror for us. Christians are called to face the reality of death and hold it in creative tension with our sure hope of resurrection. The Crucified One is the Risen One! Our faith in the Resurrection does not mean avoiding the brutal truth that death is a terrible and awesome moment.

The Celtic poet John O'Donohue wrote: "When you live in a body you are separate from every other object and person. At death, this physical separation is broken. The soul is released from its particular and exclusive location in this body. The soul then comes into a free and fluent universe of spiritual belonging. It passes back into the silent heart of God."

An extract from Br. Mark O'Connor in Kairos Catholic Journal (Vol. 22).

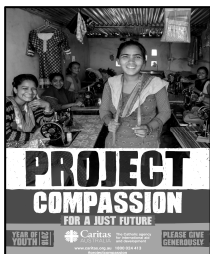


DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY - APRIL 8, 2018

Divine Mercy Sunday will be celebrated at Holy Spirit Church, Manifold Hts beginning with Confession at 1.30pm; and followed by Exposition, Rosary, Chaplet, Prayers and Benediction at 2pm. Holy Mass and Veneration of the Image completes the Ceremony at 3pm. Enquiries ph Chris 0407 522 022.



THANKYOU!



Caritas Australia would like to **THANK YOU** for supporting Project Compassion 2018. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit www.caritas.org.au to make your donation online.

Through your generosity you are helping to empower our most vulnerable neighbours worldwide to build a just future for themselves, their families and their communities.

www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion #projectcompassion

1800 024 413

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 7pm. 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:

- ♦ **CWL:** The next meeting of the Manifold Branch of the CWL will be held on **Wednesday April 4, 1.30pm** in Holy Spirit Hall. All St Michael's Parish ladies are most welcome. For transport please contact Tricia 0431 512 354 or Noella 5278 2142.
- ♦ **ST MICHAEL'S CONVERSATION, FRIENDSHIP CRAFT GROUP:** You are all welcome to attend the craft conversation friendship group. There are no joining or fees involved, only your time and commitment to come along to talk, practice the gentle art of conversation and share your craft/hobby with the group. We are a group of like minded women who want friendship, peace and harmony. I do hope you can join us. Contact Debbie on 0409 416 945 for further details. Dates are April 20, May 4, May 18, June 1, June 15 and June 29; further dates will be added based on attendance. Fortnightly on Fridays 2-4pm (excluding public holidays and school holiday periods) at St Michael's Parish Community Centre.
- ♦ **FAMILY FUN DAY - MIX & MINGLE: Sunday 8th April - Rippleside Park from 11.30am onward.** Bring the whole family for a fun get together. BYO picnic, chair/tables, etc. BBQ facilities available. Plus bring your footy, soccer ball, frisbee, bocce, cricket and get some exercise. There is also a playground for the kids. Hope you can join us for a wonderful day before winter commences. Further details call Debbie on 0409 416 945.

Community News:

- April 27... ACIES 9.30AM** - During this ceremony we will consecrate ourselves to Mary. In this consecration we open our hearts to Mary, so that she may guide us and bless us through the year. (St Francis Xavier Church, Corio)
- ♦ **ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE TOURS FOR 2018:** Tours for prospective families considering 2019 enrolments at SJC will depart at 9am on **April 26, May 7 and 9**. Applications close on **Friday May 18, 2018**.
 - ♦ **GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS' CLUB:** Come join us for a 2-course evening meal, interesting guest speaker and the opportunity to meet new friends. Appetizers begin 6.15pm **Tuesday April 10** followed by the meal for only \$33 /person at **Capri Receptions, 258 Pakington St Geelong West**. Guest speaker - Capt Sam Payne of Highton, an Iraq veteran in the Army Reserve - *"What Anzac Day Means to the Younger Veteran"*. Information/reservations phone or text **Michael Belleville at 0431 959 584** by **Friday April 6**, the deadline for catering purposes.

/Cont'd from P1...

In the empty tomb accounts, as in today's gospel, the writers give us extraordinary details about the grave clothes. In the apparition narratives there are usually references to Jesus' wounds.

Whatever way they came to experience the Resurrection of Christ, the disciples knew that this was Jesus who actually died and was buried and that their personal encounter was with the one who was crucified.

What God did through the death and

resurrection of Jesus is what Christians have done with local customs and festivals ever since: he entered into it, understood it, took it on board, domesticated it and vanquished its power. As a result we believe that God empathises with the full limitations of our human mortality and promises to remain faithful to us in death as he remained utterly faithful to Jesus.

That is why on this day 1,600 years ago St John Chrysostom could say on behalf of us all:

'Hell took a body, and discovered God. It took

earth, and encountered Heaven. It took what it saw, and was overcome by what it could not see. O death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory? Christ is Risen, and you, O death, are destroyed! Christ is Risen, and evil is cast down! Christ is Risen, and angels rejoice! Christ is Risen, and new life is set free! Christ is Risen, and the tomb is emptied of its dead; for Christ having risen from the dead, becomes the first-fruit of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be Glory and Power forever and ever. Amen!'