



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

AREN't we lucky we don't take the Scriptures literally? If we did it would appear from today's Gospel that only multilingual, snake-wrangling, poison-drinking exorcists, with a gift for healing, would be seen as the genuine Christian article. That would leave most of us out in the cold.

This passage, however, is a dramatic addition to Mark's Gospel to show that even though Jesus is now at the right hand of God, he sends his disciples out to the whole world to carry on his ministry, and that he will protect us when trials come. And even though there have been tragic and shocking chapters in our 2,000 year history, it's good for us to remember what God has done in and through us as



we have gone out and proclaimed the saving love of Christ. Today 33% of the world's population are, at least nominally, Christian, numbering 2.1 billion people, making us the largest religion in the world. Our Catholic family accounts for just over half this group. We have around 1.1 billion Catholic brothers and sisters worldwide. Many Christians continue to be persecuted or discriminated for their faith, and some continue to die for their love of Christ which impels them to seek justice for all.

But the feast of the Ascension is not just an opportunity for us to look back on how we have tried to fulfil the command of the Lord to go out to the world. Indeed, this feast is primarily focused on where we are going from here on in. The Ascension promises us that just as the Father raised Jesus from the dead, so too the Father, Son and Spirit will welcome us into heaven as well, to be at Christ's right hand for eternity. This parable

demonstrates the point.

In 1939 a father and son were famous art collectors. When World War II broke out, the son volunteered. In 1944 the son died in battle while rescuing another soldier. A year later, a young man came to see the father. 'Sir, you don't know me but I was with your son when he died. I want you to know he didn't suffer.'

'I know you both loved art, and though this isn't much, I want you to have it.' He gave the father a package. Inside was a portrait of the son. It was rough work, but the father welled up with tears. 'It was the least I could do for your son because he saved my life.'

A few months later, the father died. At the art auction which followed, investors gathered from around the world. The first item up for bid was the portrait of the son.

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Happy Mother's Day!

- The Ascension of the Lord -

(Year B/2 - May 13, 2018)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

You kingdoms of the earth, sing to God:
praise the Lord, who ascends above the highest heavens;
his majesty and might are in the skies, alleluia.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.
I am with you always, until the end of
the world.

Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**Pentecost Sunday**

1st Reading: Gen 11:1-9
2nd Reading: Rom 8:22-27
Gospel: Jn 7:37-39

**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 (followed by Novena to St Anthony), 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:

April 24-May 14: Martin family, 26 Honey Lane, Batesford

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:

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ANNIVERSARIES:

Michael Shelley, Marjorie Hill, Mary O'Neill, Angelica Miano, Alison Carmody, Lindsay Marifioti, Elisabetta & Vincenzo Pitaro, Marcella D'Aprile'

BAPTISMS:

Emilia Leone, Hugo Greco, Ashleigh Jenyns and Lily Psaila

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Aaron Lyall, Anita Capicchiano, Sandra Klinge, Cheryl Lambert

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



STEWARDSHIP CORNER - 6th Sunday of Easter

"This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." (1Jn 15:12-13)

Do you love Jesus? Do you consider him your friend? Jesus says that if we love him we would be willing to offer whatever we have to him, not because we want praise and glory, but simply because we love him. Does your giving seem mechanical out of obligation, or do you share freely out of love?"

Roster for Next Sunday

(3rd Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S - 5.00PM

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

Co-Ordinator

K Maddalena

K Maddalena

D Whelan

M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

Co-Ordinator

8.00AM

K Saunders

A Vanjek, P Ruggeri, R Culo

L Allum, P Ruggeri, R Culo

R Allum

HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM

M Kroger

J McKenzie

L Fossey, L Stalio, R O'Neill

L Fossey

F Kearney

9.30AM

A Scaddan

H Verdnik, T McMahon

C Taylor, M Fiorillo, I Raj, T Herath

E Dalton

C Resciniti

J Mann, 0488 784 802

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:

TUESDAY MAY 22ND, 2.30PM
PARISH OFFICE
FR MICK'S MATES ORGANISING COMMITTEE
OPEN DISCUSSION ON THE FUTURE OF FR MICK'S MATES.
ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND!

- ♦ **SACRAMENT OF FIRST EUCHARIST:** Over the coming weeks of **May 20 and May 27**, Grade 4 children from Holy Family, Holy Spirit and St Patrick's School will be making the Sacrament of First Eucharist. We wish them all the best for their special day.
- ♦ **THANKSGIVINE ENVELOPES:** There is a set of envelopes for all **weekly and monthly** contributors in the foyer today. With changes to Masses some people may now go to a different Church in the Parish. If you can't see your set of envelopes in the back of this Church today, please contact the Office to see where they were sent. Please let us know which Church you prefer for next time. 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 on 5278 1343 or email bellpark@cam.org.au. Thankyou all for your continuing regular support.
- ♦ **MOTHER'S DAY SPECIAL FLOWERS:** Special flowers will be available to purchase on **Sunday May 13** at the 8am and 9.30am Masses at Holy Family Church. Money raised will go to help the Missions in the Philippines and Kenya.
- ♦ **PLEASE JOIN US TO CELEBRATE THE FEAST DAY OF OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS:** Saturday May 19 at Ss Peter & Pauls with Rosary at 4.30pm and Mass at 5pm and on Thursday May 24 at Holy Family with Rosary at 8.45am and Mass at 9.15am on the Feast Day of Our Lady Help of Christians.
- ♦ **CHAPLAINCY SUNDAY APPEAL SUNDAY MAY 20:** Next weekend is Chaplaincy Sunday and the Melbourne Catholic Archbishop's Charitable Fund conducts a special collection in all parishes for the purpose of supporting the vital work of our Catholic Chaplains. The focus for 2018 is Prison Chaplaincy. If you would like to donate to this appeal, envelopes will be available at all Masses over the next two weekends.
- ♦ **INVITATION - Columban Centenary Celebrations:** Frs Kevin and Peter O'Neill and the Columban Missionaries cordially invite the parishioners of St Michael's Parish to attend Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral on **Sunday June 24** at 11am. Refreshments to follow at the Cardinal Knox Centre next to the Cathedral. **Refreshments RSVP by May 30** to Fr Peter O'Neill on 9375 9475 or email Poneill@columban.org.au
- ♦ **ST MICHAEL'S CONVERSATION, FRIENDSHIP CRAFT GROUP:** You are all welcome to attend the craft conversation friendship group. Contact Debbie on 0409 416 945 for further details. Dates are 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.
- ♦ **NOVENA TO ST ANTHONY:** A Novena to St Anthony will be said after the 9.15am Mass on Tuesday - all welcome to stay and join us in this prayerful celebration.

Community News:

- May 17...** **CIRCLE OF MERCY:** We are holding our second Circle of Mercy Evening for this year from 7-8.30pm at the Celies Hospitality Centre, Sacred Heart College. Sarah Afshar will present **Baha'i Faith** - light refreshments provided afterwards. All welcome. RSVP by **Friday May 11** to Rita Chiavaroli rsvp@shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au or ph 5222 0467. **Save the Date** for Fr Richard Leonard SJ Thursday 23 August and Naomi Wolfe Thursday 18 October.
- May 20...** **CASSEROLE LUNCH:** 12noon Belmont Seniors Centre, 52 Thomson St. Invitation to KSC members, family and friends, cost \$10/head. Drinks included, bring a casserole or a sweet. Ph Joe Lambert on 5229 8442 to confirm attendance. Proceeds to local and overseas charities.
- "** **PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP:** the Nazareth Parish Group will celebrate 20 years in the Parish with a **High Tea** at Lisieux Centre, St Therese Torquay, from 3.30-5.30pm. Existing and former members are cordially invited to attend. Please ph Jill & Bob Healy on 5241 4070 / 0427 414 070 if you would like to come for catering purposes.
- "** **ST BERNARD'S CHURCH ANNUAL BOOK FAIR:** Clairvaux School Hall, Reynolds Rd Belmont, 8am to 3pm. Come along and browse through a huge selection of second-hand books - all at bargain prices. Jigsaw puzzles, board games, DVDs, CDs and a Cake Stall. Something for everyone!
- May 24...** **CATHOLIC MAN BREAKFAST SERIES:** Featuring Daniel Wells, current Collingwood Champion. The venue is the CQ Club, 113-123 Queen St Melbourne, 7-9am. \$45/head, enquiries and bookings ph Michael Bohan on 0439 172 465 (michael.bohan@menalive.org.au) This Breakfast Series is an opportunity for men to gather and to be encouraged and inspired in their faith.
- May 26...** **PAMPER DAY:** Do you need time to de-stress and relax? Pastoral Healthcare Network Geelong and Geelong Natural Therapies invites YOU to a relaxing afternoon of pampering and pastoral healthcare. Come along and choose from a range of treatments including hand, shoulder and foot massage, Bowen and Myotherapy, blood pressure testing, meditation and afternoon tea. Please come and join us for a wonderful opportunity for relaxation and socialising. 1pm until 3.30pm (ten minute meditation at 2.30pm) at Geelong Natural Therapies, 36 Shannon Ave Geelong West. Cost \$10 - enquiries and bookings phone Carmel 5229 7954. Please RSVP by **Wed May 23** for catering purposes.
- May 27...** **MASS FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS:** The Life, Marriage & Family Office invite all expectant mothers and their families to this special Mass which will be celebrated by Archbishop Denis Hart at St Patrick's Cathedral at 11am. Registrations ph 9287 5587 (lmf@cam.org.au) **Registrations close Friday 18 May.**
- June 21...** **PEOPLE COME FIRST:** Bro Mark O'Connor, Pope Francis Fellow, Newman College University of Melbourne, will give a reflection on the Pastoral Theology of Pope Francis at St Bernard's Church, Fryers Rd Belmont, at 7.30pm. Presented by the Geelong Catholic Deanery, Bro Mark will speak on the pastoral revolution of Pope Francis during his five years in office and his emphasis on **"the first and living rule is the person of Jesus Christ, his humility, his gentleness, his joy and his love"**. Everyone across the Deanery is welcome to attend. For further enquiries please contact Catherine Moon on 0409 007 913.
- June 21-23...** **HEART WOMEN'S CONFERENCE:** A time to come together as women to be refreshed and renewed in our busy lives. Cost \$199 (see our website for other registration options). Venue: Ibis Melbourne. To register: Heart.TheCatholicGuy.com Email: heart@TheCatholicGuy.com Ph: 1300 734 880
- ♦ **FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE:** The ACU Centre for Liturgy is offering a public short course **"From Death to New Life: Preparing and Celebrating Catholic Funerals"** over two Saturdays (June 16 and June 23) at St Mary of the Angels Pioneer Room and Basilica, 150 Yarra St Geelong. Leading scholars will investigate a Christian theology of dying and death and explore how the Order of Christian Funerals celebrate death in a specifically Catholic way. Experienced Priests and Funeral Directors will discuss how they care for the dead and for those who grieve. There will also be an opportunity to prepare a Catholic Funeral for yourself or a loved one. Registration is essential at acu.edu.au/acu_centre_for_liturgy/short_courses. For more information ph (02) 9701 4751.

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The auctioneer tried to start the bidding, '\$200 ...\$100 ...Any bids? Any at all?' The investors called out, 'Skip this one. Where are the Rembrandts?' Just then a man spoke up from the back. 'I'll give you ten dollars for the painting. It's all the money I have.' It was the gardener at the father's estate.

So the auctioneer brought down his

gavel. 'Sold for ten dollars!' An investor called back, 'Can we now get on with it?'

But the auctioneer continued, 'The auction is over. According to the will, whoever bought this painting would inherit the estate, including all the art.'

No matter what they said the wealthy investors couldn't buy their way into the inheritance. Only the one who had the eyes

of love, and knew what he was looking at, inherited everything the Father and Son had to offer.

May we go out from this Feast of the Ascension so confident of our spiritual inheritance to come, that we lavish its riches on all we meet right now. Because when it comes to Christ's kingdom, there's plenty for everyone.