



# 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](http://www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au)

**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](mailto: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

**Homily by Fr Michael Tate****The Sowing of the Seed**

In Australia, so far as I know, a farmer ploughs the land and *then* plants the seed. In Galilee, the farmer scattered the seed on the old field and therefore on tracks which people made walking across it after cropping, on thorny areas, and also on what he hoped was good soil. He *then* ploughed in the seed.

It is a wonder that anything grew, and generally the return was about 7:1. In a previous parable Jesus had spoken of the Kingdom he was inaugurating as if it would turn out to be like a bumper harvest of up to a hundredfold.

What would such a harvest mean for a peasant tilling the rocky soil of Galilee? It would mean release from the endless servitude to a landlord, generation after generation. It would mean liberation, not only from hunger, but from the power structure

which was quite content with a permanent underclass of subsistence farmers.

In other words, Jesus was telling his listeners that God's Kingdom would turn the world as they knew it 'upside down'. As Mary sang in the Magnificat: 'The hungry he has filled with good things, the rich sent empty away.' Power structures would be shattered by the impulses of the Gospel to create a society where there was a just distribution of the world's resources.

Naturally, the peasant farmers of Galilee wanted to know 'when' and 'how'. We want to know the 'when' and the 'how' of the fulfilment of the Kingdom of God.

Jesus' answer to them, and to us, is basically: 'It is not for you to know. Just get on with the sowing of the Gospel seed. Something will happen with the seed you sow, something out of all proportion to your part in the process.'

Our Lord pictured this by contrasting the tiny

mustard seed and the mustard bush which he even exaggerates into a tree in which birds could find shelter!

In this parable Jesus says: 'Be patient, allow the creative power of God to work in the earth and the small seed will be "raised up".'

When did God's creative power work in the depths of the stony ground so that the Gospel Seed was raised up? The answer is, of course, in the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

And what effect did this have? We read in the Acts of the Apostles concerning the early Christian community that 'The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.' (Acts 2:44)

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**- 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time -**

(Year B/2 - June 17, 2018)

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the Word of God,  
Christ is the sower;

all who come to him will live forever.

Alleluia!

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**

Nativity of St John the Baptist

1st Reading: Is 49:1-6

2nd Reading: Acts 13:22-26

Gospel: Lk 1:57-66,80

**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:

**June 11 to July 2:** Bourke family, 36 Pleasant 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:

Theresa Radojevic, Anto Bilic, Joseph Pearl, Maria Coppe, Ivy Keys and Nikola Spiranovic

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Alina Syndradzki, Ivan Bicanic, Giuseppe & Maria Teresa Pitaro, Francesco & Serafina Lecchino, Hilda Smith, Jim Hudson, Colin Henderson, Salvatore & Antonio Rotiroti and 1 year anniversary of Francesca Napoli and Robyn Johnson.

### BAPTISMS:

Grace King, Zara Kovacevic, Jack Bradby, Scout Macleod, Henry Wride, Jack, Alexander and Xavier Gilham.

### PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Aaron Lyall, Anita Capicchiano, Sandra Klinge, Cheryl Lambert, Ana Siketa, Antonio Resciniti



## STEWARDSHIP CORNER - 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive good or evil, according to what he has done in the body."*  
(2Cor 5:10)

We are all accountable for the gifts God has given us - our time, our talent and our treasure. Each of us is accountable not only for our own life but for the lives of others as well. One day God will ask each of us what did we do with the gifts we were given.

How will you respond?

## Roster for Next Sunday

(4th Sunday of the Month)

### Ss PETER & PAUL'S - 5.00PM

Commentators A Henderson  
Lectors G Tolan  
Special Ministers A Henderson, G Tolan  
Welcomers J Cowell  
Projectionist B Middleton  
Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

### HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM

M Burn  
J Fraatz  
L Fossey  
D Dougherty  
A Zarb

### HOLY FAMILY

#### 8.00AM

Commentators F O'Neill  
Lectors L Kelly  
Special Ministers L Sells, E Kelly  
Welcomers E Kelly, L. Allum  
Projectionist R Allum  
Co-Ordinator L. Kelly, 0409 291 138

#### 9.30AM

M Lukesic  
M Baird, P Gizycki  
D Lunn, C Simpson, V Resciniti  
A Sare, A/I Dugandzic  
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. <b>BYO casserole &amp; drink to share.</b>
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.pastoralclusterqeelong.org](http://www.pastoralclusterqeelong.org)**

## Australia's debt dilemma

Six out of every 10 Australians say their current financial situation causes them stress or loss of sleep, according to one report. The average Australian mortgage borrower has \$393,200 against their name – a record high, according to the Bureau of Statistics – and can't get a pay rise.

The average level of household debt for each man, woman and child in Australia has increased from \$11,837 in 1990 to \$93,943 now. "In 1990, there was an average \$70 of household debt for every \$100 of average household income after tax. Today, it is nearly \$200 of debt for every \$100 of after-tax income." (AMP chief economist Shane Oliver)

"The more debt you have, the more vulnerable you are to things going wrong. If you don't have any debt and interest rates go up, who cares? It's irrelevant to you. But if you have a lot of debt and they go up even a little bit, that can [spell trouble]." (Stephen Koukoulas, Market Economics) Simply as a result of all this debt, a single interest rate move now has about three times the potency of one 25 years ago.

A surprising figure in the debt debate is Pope Benedict XVI. In his book *Light of the World*, he pointed to a deep moral issue associated with the running-up of high levels of private and public debt. "The willingness on the part of many people and governments [to run up debt] means we are living at the expense of future generations. Someone has to pay for all this debt. Clearly, many Western Europeans and Americans seem quite happy for their children to pick up the bill. That's a flagrant violation of intergenerational solidarity."

"If we choose to live our lives dominated by immediate gratification or pursue economic policies forever focused on the short term, then living off debt is entirely rational. But what does that say about our priorities and conception of [long term] human wellbeing?"

"Taking on debt is not intrinsically evil. In many circumstances, it's an entirely reasonable decision. Nevertheless, a situation of inexorably increasing debt and a failure to confront its moral and economic causes can slowly corrode our personal sense of responsibility and tempt us to live in a fantasy world of moral and fiscal unreality."

"Such attitudes don't just weaken economies. The damage to our personal moral well-being, not to mention an entire society's moral ecology, is ultimately devastating."

**Contributors to this article Chris Kohler *The Age* Feb 19, 2018 and Pope Benedict.**

(Kevin Fell)

## St Michael's News:

- ♦ **EUCCHARIST:** Starting in June and continuing through the colder months, a decision has been made to offer Eucharist of one type **only** at our Masses. This will be re-addressed in September.
- ♦ **ST VINCENT DE PAUL - HOLY SPIRIT CONFERENCE, MANIFOLD HTS** will hold their 2018 Winter Appeal at the 11am Mass on Sunday June 24 with a special collection. The funds raised are used to directly assist those experiencing hardship and disadvantage in our community.
- ♦ **ST ANTHONY'S FEAST DAY CELEBRATION:** There will be Mass in Italian to be held at Holy Family Church on **Sunday June 24 at 2pm.** All are welcome!
- ♦ **ROSARY - FR MICK FITZPATRICK:** There will be a Rosary at Fr Mick's graveside, Eastern Cemetery (MacKillop St entrance) on **Thursday June 28** beginning at 11am. All most welcome!
- ♦ **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 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.



## FATHER MICK'S MATES

**T**hankyou to the parishioners of St Michael's. Our team was formed in 2007 and in the last 12 years through your participation and generosity, we have raised **\$146,090.50** for the Vic Cancer Council. All funds raised are used for research in fighting this deadly disease. The organising committee has decided to continue for another year as long as **YOU** continue to support our "fundraisers", and we would welcome further assistance in setting up and cleaning up at our functions.

### Planned Fundraising:

**October...** Distribution of Rotary Raffle Books at all Masses

**Nov 6...** Melbourne Cup Day Luncheon

**December...** Christmas Stalls at each Church. (Due to workload, Hampers will need to be 'ordered' for pick-up after Masses. Details later.)

**Feb 2019...** Movie Night at Barton St Lifestyle Village

**Mar 2/3...** Relay for Life Weekend - St Albans Reserve, Whittington.

Over the last two years we have not held "Registration Campaigns, cost of \$25 per adult" for the weekend event, as the numbers participating reduced significantly. This year Fr Prakash has agreed to hold a Leaving Collection for those who would like to contribute to the Cancer Council. Date to be finalized in August or September.



On behalf of the Committee again I thank you for your generosity and trust that it will continue in memory of Fr Mick. Any questions or clarification please contact David Lunn on 0408 378 982.

## Community News:

**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. For further enquiries please contact Catherine Moon on 0409 007 913.

**June 22...** **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Social Luncheon/Meeting - ladies invited to attend. 12noon at White Eagle, Fellmongers Rd Breakwater. Opportunity to gather together and keep up to date with Branch activities. For bookings ph Frank Khan on 5243 4926.

**June 23...** **PAMPER DAY:** Pastoral Healthcare Network Geelong invites you to a relaxing afternoon of pampering and pastoral healthcare. Treatments include hand, shoulder and foot massage, Bowen and Myotherapy, blood pressure testing, meditation and afternoon team. 1pm until 3.30pm with a ten minute meditation at 2.30pm. **New Venue** - St Bernard's Church Foyer, 74 Reynolds Rd Belmont. Cost \$10 - enquiries/bookings phone Carmel 5229 7954 by **Wednesday 20 June** for catering purposes.

**June 28...** **VINNIES CEO SLEEPOUT:** The Vinnies CEO Sleepout is one of the highest profile corporate fundraisers for addressing homelessness and poverty. For the first time in regional Victoria, Geelong is having its own CEO Sleepout at the GMHBA Stadium thanks to the Kardinia Park Stadium Trust. Further information or to register please visit [ceosleepout.org.au](http://ceosleepout.org.au) or contact our CEO Sleepout Manager at [Melbourne@ceosleepout.org.au](mailto:Melbourne@ceosleepout.org.au)

♦ **SAMARITAN HOUSE GEELONG:** An overnight crisis home for homeless men which rely on your generosity. Please consider making a donation to our Winter Appeal so we can continue to provide a place of warmth, sanctuary and hope. Donations are fully tax deductible and can be made directly through [samaritanhousegeelong.com.au](http://samaritanhousegeelong.com.au)

♦ **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA INC:** Three Choirs Special Save \$15 - three wonderful concerts at St Mary's Basilica - **Australian National Youth Choir** Thursday July 5 7.30pm \$30/25; **Melbourne Chamber Choir** Sunday 19 August 3pm \$30/25; **Australian Chamber Choir** Sunday 26 August 3pm \$40/35. Tickets available at the door and also as a Three Choirs Special. [www.Trybooking.com/WEAS](http://www.Trybooking.com/WEAS). Package prices are \$85 full/senior or \$70 conc, a saving of \$15. To buy a package by phone call Jan Lavelle on 0407 095 498.

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In other words, the social system was being subverted by the power of the Gospel. A more just distribution of resources was taking place in the immediate aftermath of the proclamation of the Resurrection by Peter on the Feast of Pentecost.

I think it is very telling that a little further on in the Acts of the Apostles we read:

'The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no-one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common. The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power.' (Acts 4:32-33)

There is a correlation between the commitment of Christians to a just distribution of the world's resources and the proclamation of the Lord's resurrection. Only if the

commitment is authentic and real will the proclamation be powerful and effective.

So, let us lead lives with an authentic dimension of social justice, let us get on with sowing the seed of the Gospel whenever we get the opportunity, let God get on with germinating that seed with the power of the Resurrection so that the Tree of Life may grow to such a height that all peoples 'can shelter in its shade.'