



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****OFFICE:**

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Mon-Wed, Fri 9am-5pm, Thurs 9-2pm.

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Holy Family

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Separation St, Bell Park

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Holy Spirit

Rachel Holdsworth

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St Patrick's

John Grant

Petrel St, Geelong West

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Web Page Address:www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au**Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ**

Many centuries ago the Pope decided that all the Jews had to leave Rome. Naturally there was an uproar from the Jewish community. So the Pope made a deal. He would have a religious debate with a member of the Jewish community. If the Jews won, they could stay. If the Pope won, the Jews had to leave. The Jews realised that they had no choice. Problem was that no one wanted to debate the Pope. The only volunteer was a poor, simple, old man named Moishe who opened the door to the synagogue each Friday night. Not being used to words Moishe asked for only one addition to the debate – that neither side be allowed to talk. The Pope agreed.

The day of the great debate came. Moishe and the Pope sat opposite each other. The Pope raised his hand and showed three fingers. Moishe looked back at him and raised one finger. The Pope waved his hand in a circle around his head. Moishe pointed to the ground where he sat. The Pope pulled

out a wafer and a glass of wine. Moishe pulled out an apple. The Pope stood up and said, 'I give up. This man is too good. The Jews can stay.'

Later, the Pope explained what happened: 'I held up three fingers to represent the Trinity. He responded by holding up one finger to remind me that we believe in the same one God. Then I waved my hand around my head to show that God was all around us. He responded by pointing to the ground, showing that God was present right here. I pulled out the bread and wine to show that God has given us the Eucharist. He pulled out an apple to remind me of original sin. He had an answer for everything. What could I do?'

Meanwhile, Moishe explained to the Jewish scholars how he won the unwinnable debate. 'Well', said Moishe, 'First he said that the Jews had three days to get out of Rome. I told him that not one of us was leaving. Then he told me that this whole city

would be cleared of Jews. I let him know that we were staying right here.' 'And then what clinched the debate?' asked the Rabbi. 'I don't know', said Moishe. 'It was strange. He took out his lunch, and I took out mine!'

Life always depends on how we read the signs!

In today's Gospel Jesus tells the twelve apostles that they should embody three signs: simplicity of lifestyle, dependence on others and hospitality.

These instructions are such a contrast to what most of us value today, where it is often the rich and powerful, the independent and the inhospitable who are thought to be the best leaders.

For Jesus, however, the one truly sent in his name is the one who knows that another's worth comes from who they are, not what they have.

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- 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year B/2 - July 15, 2018)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**16th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Jer 23:1-6

2nd Reading: Eph 2:13-18

Gospel: Mk 6:30-34

**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:

July 23-Aug 8: Mileto family

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:

Ana Buic and Peter Saric

ANNIVERSARIES:

Romeo Zanoria, Maria Nekrep, Brian Dobbyn, William Vickers and 10 year anniversary of Cosimo Nadile

BAPTISMS:

Tylah & Lily Klug, Oscar & Neave Sullivan, Isla & Alexandra Broom, Charlie Middleton and Lexie Slattery

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Aaron Lyall, Anita Capicchiano, Sandra Klinge, Cheryl Lambert, Ana Siketa, Brian Biviano



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

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"He instructed them to take nothing for the journey but a walking stick - no food, no sack, no money in their belts." (Mk 6:8)

How different we are from the Apostles, who took nothing when they ventured out to serve God. Today, we make our life's journey more difficult because of all the material baggage that we drag along. When we really put God first in everything and put money and possessions second, we experience more freedom to joyfully serve God and others.

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. 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.pastoralclusterqeelong.org

Laws requiring Catholic priests to break the confessional seal would achieve nothing.

In its report into the criminal justice system, the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse has made 85 recommendations aimed at better protecting children. One of them is that priests should no longer be able to use the secrecy of the confessional to avoid reporting allegations of child sexual abuse. Politicians and social commentators are now calling for new laws to force priests to reveal what they might hear in confession on this issue.

In 2012 [Waleed Aly \(a Muslim and respected social commentator\) explained why this would be a totally ineffective strategy because it's the kind of thing you do when you don't understand the problem you are trying to solve.](#)

"The anti-confessional argument rests on an assumption that these confessions are actually taking place. Even if that's true - and there's little evidence of it - there's no reason to assume they will keep coming. When people confess, they do so with a guarantee of confidentiality. Do we really think people will continue to confess if we take that guarantee away? And if the confessions stop, does that really help at all?

The confessional seal means the priest cannot reveal the identity of the paedophile. But he can encourage the paedophile to turn himself in to the authorities or get psychiatric treatment. He could recommend the paedophile resign from his position. He can even warn a third party that a particular child is at risk of abuse, provided he doesn't say from whom. Sure, that's not as satisfying as taking a sledgehammer to the abuser. But it's surely better than nothing, which is probably the alternative. I would rather the confession take place confidentially than not at all.

But suppose I'm wrong. Suppose a paedophile's desire for forgiveness and absolution is so strong that they are prepared to take the risk and confess anyway. Then what? Canon law prohibits a priest from revealing a confession even under the threat of his own death. Should we expect him to buckle under the threat of a prison sentence? Here it's essential to understand that any priest who violates the confessional seal faces excommunication.

That might mean nothing to you. You might even see this as the threat that underpins a dangerous fairy tale. But you are not the one hearing the confession. What matters is what this means to priests and, in Catholic terms, excommunication is as serious as it gets - far more serious than any prison sentence. This leaves us searching for a very strange creature indeed: someone devoted enough to enter the priesthood, but not devoted enough to care about eternal damnation. And we need lots of them [to justify such a heavy handed law]. We're betting on a large team of rogue priests. That doesn't sound like a plan to me.

You can't legislate away people's religious convictions, however much you might want to. And you can't ignore them simply because you hold them in contempt. What matters here is the stuff outside the confessional box: the lame responses to abuse that seem calculated to protect paedophile priests rather than their victims; the legal manoeuvring to avoid paying compensation; the failure of police to follow through on investigations. These are the things we should be pursuing relentlessly. This should be the focus of our desire for justice. Let's not dilute that by getting lost on some doctrinal excursion it's clear we don't understand."

From a Muslim who understands the counter productiveness of thinking that demolishing the confessional box with an axe is the solution. How much of this is chest beating by politicians and community leaders as a 'low risk' way of showing they're tough on paedophiles?

Waleed Aly: *The Age*, November, 16th 2012

(Kevin Fell)

St Michael's News:



SR CARMEL'S FAREWELL - Last Saturday at Ss Peter & Paul's at the 5pm Mass. Sr Carmel has moved to her community in Melbourne. St Michael's Parish is grateful for her service and commitment to our parish community, and we wish her good health and a pleasant stay at her new home. Please keep her in your prayers.

OFFICE NEWS:

1. **Parish Liturgy Meeting:**
Tuesday July 17, 7pm at the Parish office.
2. **Parish Leadership Meeting:**
Wednesday July 25, 7pm at the Parish Office.

- ♦ **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.
- ♦ **CWL:** The Manifold branch members are invited to attend lunch at the Leopold Sportsmans Club, 135 Kensington Rd Leopold, on Wed 25 July. Please meet at the Holy Spirit Hall 11am on the day so we can arrange transport. Further details please phone Tricia 0431 512 354 or Bernadette 0417 514 598.
- ♦ **SISTERS OF THE HOLY ANGELS LUNCHEON:** On Wednesday, **August 1st at 12noon** in the Holy Spirit Hall, Bostock Ave. Cost \$10 - all welcome!
- ♦ **ST MICHAEL'S CONVERSATION/CRAFT GROUP:** Ladies - are you interested in meeting new people? Do you want to experience informal conversation practice and improve your conversation? ***We promote cultural inclusiveness and building strong St Michael's Community bonds.*** Bring along your current craft project, hobby, or just come sit and chat and be part of the St Michael's Conversation Craft Group. Contact Debbie 0409 416 945. We meet at Holy Family Community Centre, 147 Separation Street, 2-5pm on 27 Jul, 10 Aug, 24 Aug, 7 Sep, 21 Sep, 5 Oct, 19 Oct, 2 Nov, 16 Nov, 30 Nov.

Community News:

- July 21... MASS OF THANKSGIVING:** In honour of Archbishop Denis Hart's service to the Archdiocese over 51 years and upon his retirement as Archbishop of Melbourne, you are warmly invited to attend this Mass of Thanksgiving to be celebrated in St Patrick's Cathedral at 11am, with refreshments to follow in Central Hall, 20 Brunswick St Fitzroy. RSVP by **Wed July 18** to trybooking.com/WXJV. The Archbishop would appreciate your prayers at this time.
- July 21... STAR OF THE SEA'S OPEN DAY IN TORQUAY:** Are you looking for the very best in aged care? Come along to Star of the Sea's open day in Torquay! 10am – 12pm at 1290 Horseshoe Bend Road, Torquay. Star of the Sea is a brand new residence offering personalised services, dementia care and tailored lifestyle programs. Affordable options available! For more information phone 8593 8444 or visit vmch.com.au
- July 28... FREE ONE DAY RETREAT:** Entrust your Family to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, 9.30am to 3pm with Holy Mass and talks at St Francis Xavier, 143 Bacchus Marsh Rd Corio.
- July 30... SING AUSTRALIA:** On stage Monday 1.30pm Belmont Seniors Concert Hall, 52 Thomson St. Geelong's very own professional singing group who will delight with a wide range of musical talent. Entry \$5 - tea/coffee after.
- Aug 12... FOR THE JOY OF SINGING THE CLASSICS:** No audition required, just come along and sing! The 3-hour session 2-5pm costs \$15 and includes all music and a'noon tea. *Please note rescheduled date and venue.* This session is held at Wesley Uniting Church, 100 Yarra St and conducted by Anne Pilgrim. To register your attendance: 0412 524 316 or pandapilgrim@gmail.com
- Aug 14... LIFEBOAT GEELONG:** A Fundraiser will be held at the Royal Geelong Yacht Club from 5.30-7.30pm with guest speaker Brian Cook, CEO of the Geelong Football Club. Finger food is provided and tickets are \$60/person. Please purchase online at lifeboatgeelong.com.au



/Cont'd from P1...

It doesn't matter whether we're rich or poor. It's the way we use our money for others which reveals whether our wealth possesses us or not.

For Jesus, being 'a rock and an island' was not a sign of strength but one of fear and despair. A strong Christian is the one who rejoices in our dependence on each

other, and is always grateful for the interconnectedness of life.

For Jesus, making room for others, especially toward those in legitimate need and even when it makes a large claim on us, is a pre-eminent sign of his Kingdom.

The Christian life is about reading the signs of the times. May our Eucharistic signs of his

presence amongst us, the bread and wine, change us today, to match it with the best in being simple in lifestyle, happily dependent and extravagantly hospitable with our time, talent and energy for the sake of the Kingdom of God.