



St Michael's Parish

Incorporating the Churches of Holy Family Bell Park, Ss Peter & Paul's Geelong West & Holy Spirit Manifold Hts.

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

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Phone 5278 1343

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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

I read a terrific book the other day entitled 'Shadows and the Dark'. It is by Australian Jesuit Fr John Cowburn who is Professor of Philosophy at Jesuit Theological College, Melbourne. This book explores how we can hold to a loving God in the face of evil.

The idea for the book came when Fr John fell from his bicycle, broke his collarbone and was awaiting surgery in hospital.

While there, an old religious sister came to his room to give him Holy Communion before going to the operating theatre. Fr John told her about the accident. Sister said, 'Well Father, God must have known you needed a little holiday, so he arranged for your fall'. John replied, 'If that's true Sister I'm pleased God didn't want me to take a



sabbatical!' From Jesus' day to ours, when bad things happen to good people it seems easier to blame God or Satan.

By his own admission Fr John had an accident because he didn't take enough care on his bike. End of story. That God can bring something good out of such an accident is grace building on nature. What Jesus confronts in today's Gospel is 'The-devil-made-me-do-it' theology. And his response is as challenging now as it was in first century Palestine.

For as long as we blame our most destructive behaviour on evil acting upon us in all its guises, empty promises and powers, then we remain some way from taking the sort of responsibility for the condition of our hearts that might see them fully converted by Christ's saving love.

This is not to say that evil does not exist or

that it cannot have a powerful effect upon us, quite the opposite. Just as grace builds on love and goodness, evil grows out of estrangement and hatred.

As Christians we hold that God has given us free will, and evil's hold on our hearts is often the result of the poor choices and smaller compromises we have made along the way.

The way we look at the evil in our lives and the world also affects our compassion. For if we're not in touch with the greed that leads to theft, the anger that leads to murder, the desire for power that leads to rape, or the alienation that leads to terrorism, then it's hard for us to be compassionate toward the perpetrators of these evil acts.

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Happy Father's Day!

- 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time -

*(Year B/2 - September 2, 2018)***ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**Alleluia, alleluia!**

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation.

Alleluia!**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:****23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Is 35:4-7

2nd Reading: James 2:1-5

Gospel: Mk 7:31-37

**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:

Sept 3: Hennessy family, 4 Hennessy Ave; **Sept 10-24:** 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:

Vera Prunenko, Tom Gartlan, Pietro Silvestri and Grazia Marchetta

ANNIVERSARIES:

Damiano Fazio, Walter Augustyn, Mate Druzic, Bill Salt, George Bollard, Carmelo DeLuca, Angelo & Elodia Capra, Ana & Luke Cengija, Gert Hennessy, Mary Lewis, Bruno Nicolich

BAPTISMS:

Orbenh Beaumont, Lulu Parsons and Oliver & Grace Bucovaz

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Aaron Lyall, Anita Capicchiano, Sandra Klinge, Cheryl Lambert, Brian Biviano, Michael Walsh, Tony Doyle, Peter Daniels, Val Howard, Joe Vanjek, Frank Mason, Sean Montalto



STEWARDSHIP CORNER - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Be doers of the word and not hearers only." (James 1:22)

It's easy to understand the definition of stewardship. The hard part is living it!

What do you do to live God's word?

Do you use your talent to help those in need? Are you generous with your financial resources?

If not, what are you waiting for?

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 SPIRIT - 11AM

E Strzelecki
M Martin
V Trinder

R Martin

HOLY FAMILY

8.00AM
Commentators M Howard
Lectors F O'Neill
Special Ministers R Allum, J Genova, C Marcantonio
Welcomers C Marcantonio, L Allum
Projectionist R Allum
Co-Ordinator L Kelly, 0409 291 138

9.30AM

C Simpson
D Lunn, A Negro
H Verdrik, M Baird, E Glynn
V Resciniti, E Glynn
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
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

More about happiness

Who are the happiest people in the world? With the benefits we enjoy it should be us in Australia. But not so. We may think we are pretty well off in this country. But that's not the same as feeling *joyful*. There are a number of indicators of having the experience of living in a joyful moment. Have you experienced the following in the last two days? Have you smiled, laughed or chuckled? Have you felt that you are treated with respect? Have you experienced real enjoyment (of food, company, music etc.)? Have you learned something new and interesting? Do you feel well-rested?

These are the kinds of questions a United Nations agency measuring happiness across the World asks people. These questions are not addressing the issue of how contented you are with your lot in life. They're trying to find out how often you get a real buzz or kick out of life.

Latin Americans top the chart for the frequency with which they get a real kick out of life. To be precise the poorest countries in South America are where the most people experience the most positive day to day feelings. You have to get to No. 9 on the list before you hit a non-Latin American country. That's Canada, followed by the Philippines (another poor country).

But the survey also found Latin Americans aren't happy all the time. They also reported above average levels of negative feelings: including experiencing worry, sadness, anger, stress and depression. Crime, corruption and inequality which are rife in those countries take their toll. It's just that the locals seem to have found ways to also experience high levels of daily happiness, despite their economic circumstances. Where do they find that daily joy to cope with the sh** that life throws at them? South Americans are more likely to visit friends and family than Australians.

So is this the secret ingredient to explain their capacity to grab joy where and when they can?

Latin America has 650 million diverse peoples but with a fairly common set of cultural values. This leads to a society that has a slower pace of life and that is not so focused on generating economic growth as it is in living and enjoying life within existing conditions. It is permeated with extended-family values and the community values of indigenous groups, where relatives tend to live together and to be in close contact.

When asked about the frequency of their contact with family members, more than two fifths of Brazilians said they had visited at least one uncle or aunt more than twice in the last four weeks. In Australia, the figure was less than 5 per cent. More than a quarter of Brazilians said they had visited at least one cousin in that same time period, compared to less than 5 per cent of Australians. Half of Brazilians had visited at least one niece or nephew, compared to 10 per cent of Australians. And it's not just family. Latin Americans are more likely to be in close contact with friends too. Two thirds of Brazilians said they visited their closest friend on either a daily basis or at least several times a week. Just a fifth of Australians said the same.

In living their lives do they draw their inspiration from Jesus' words? Or did Jesus draw his wisdom from living for 33 years among people such as these?

"I am telling you not to worry about your [life](#) and what you are to eat, nor about your body and what you are to wear. Surely [life](#) is more than food, and the body more than clothing! So do not worry about tomorrow: tomorrow [will](#) take care of itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." [Matthew 6:31-34](#)

"Two are better than one, because they have a better return for their labour: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken." Ecclesiastes 4:9-12.

"And let us consider how to inspire one another to love and good deeds. Do not neglect to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encourage one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching." [Hebrews 10:24-25](#)

St Michael's News:

- ◆ **TOILET BLOCK AT Ss PETER & PAUL'S:** Work has now commenced on the new toilet block. Temporary amenities are available at Ashby Hall for parishioners during Mass times if required.
- ◆ **AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS:** Parish Edition Spring 2018 - As the Australian Church prepares for the 2020 Plenary Council, we take a look at how the 'People's Church' has changed over the past 25 years, and share some stories about being Catholic today.
- ◆ **THANKYOU FROM CATHOLICARE SUNDAY APPEAL:** CatholicCare is deeply grateful for the support of St Michael's Parish during last weekend's CatholicCare Appeal. Because of our donation of \$1,192.70 and donations from the Catholic Church community, they can continue to support vulnerable and disadvantaged families through a range of social services. Thankyou!
- ◆ **HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP:** Monday 3rd September at 6.30pm will be a Wine and Cheese evening. BYO nibbles and drinks - see you all there!
- ◆ **CWL:** The Annual General Meeting of the Manifold Branch of the CWL will be held on **Wednesday 5th September, 1.30pm in Holy Spirit Hall.** Our guest speaker is Fr Prakash. All St Michael's parish ladies are most welcome. Members are invited to lunch at 12 midday before the meeting. Please bring a small plate to share. For transport please contact Bernadette 0417 514 598 or Tricia 0431 512 354.
- ◆ **THE LEGION OF MARY** are organising a Public Rosary in honour of Our Lady for World Peace at Ss Peter & Paul's Church, in front of the Grotto of Our Lady on **Friday Sept 7 at 1.30pm.** 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 7 Sep, 21 Sep, 5 Oct, 19 Oct, 2 Nov, 16 Nov, 30 Nov.
- ◆ **OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY:** Rosary will be recited on **Sunday Oct 7 October** around 9am in the Sunroom of the Parish Community Centre, straight after Holy Family's 8am Mass and before the 9.30am Mass. Hope you can join us.

MELBOURNE CUP DAY LUNCHEON

When: Tuesday November 6
Where: Holy Spirit Hall
Time: From Noon
Cost: \$20 per person
(All funds going to Fr Mick's Mates helping to fight Cancer)

Come along for a sociable afternoon, lunch and glass of 'bubbly' provided.

Sweeps, Raffles and a congenial afternoon guaranteed!

Book a table or come on your own.

Contact: David Lunn
0408 378 982

Margaret Haines
0413 690 625

Amie O'Brien
0427 866 891

Desma Dougherty
5244 5459

Melbourne Cup Day?
Cluster Office
5278 1343

Tickets available from Sunday September 16th.

Community News:

Sept 13... ARCHBISHOP'S CATHOLIC MAN BREAKFAST SERIES: Featuring our new Archbishop, Peter A Comensoli. Come along and support the new Archbishop at the CQ Club 113-123 Queen St Melbourne, cost \$45 7-9pm. Enquiries Michael Bohan 0439 172 465. The **Catholic Man Breakfast Series** is an opportunity for men to gather and be encouraged and inspired in their faith.

GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS' CLUB: Come join us for a 2-course evening meal, an interesting guest speaker and the opportunity to meet new friends. We are open to members of all faiths. Appetisers begin at 6.15pm on **Tuesday 11 September** followed by the meal for only \$33/person. Due to remodelling at our usual venue, we will be located at the **Eastern Hub Geelong, 285A McKillop St.** Our guest speaker for this month is Ric Lasslett, who will be speaking to us about Victoria Emergency Service. For more information and reservations, please phone or text Michael Belleville at 0431 959 584 by **Friday 7 September**, the deadline for catering purposes.

ST MARY'S PARISH PANTRY FUNDRAISING EVENT: Come along and support a great cause, providing assistance to those less fortunate by buying a ticket to St Mary's Parish Pantry Fundraising Event which provides food to people who come from all over Geelong and District. Held at St Mary's Football Club, Kardinia Park West Oval, on **Friday 12 October 7pm.** A fun night of dancing with music by DJ Graham, catering by Steampacket, drinks at bar prices, door prize, table lotto, raffles and more. Tickets \$50pp from St Mary's Parish Office - 5222 1977, Gary McIlvena 0447 599 059 or Catherine Moon 0409 007 913 or cmoon2@bigpond.com

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The degree to which we know what our hearts are capable of leads us to be grateful for the graces we receive and cultivate, and to be compassionate

toward those who have missed out on this good news and who, by nurture or free will, have chosen evil as their fundamental option.

May this Eucharist enable us to take in the broken body of Christ because we know we

are a broken people in need of its power, and as Christ's blood is poured for us, may we be poured out in love, so that, through us, others might hear His call to a conversion of heart.