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Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ

Homily from Richard Leonard is not available today. Instead, we have a Creative Ministry Resources monologue on the altercation between Jesus and Peter described in today's Gospel.

PETER'S MONOLOGUE – GET BEHIND ME SATAN!

What does he expect of me? One moment my word is law, in heaven and on earth. The underworld cannot stand up against me. The next, I'm Satan and I am getting in his way. Then to get anywhere we all have to die. I simply don't understand.

Things have been going fine, up 'til now. The people have been really responding to what he says and does. There have been miracles of course, but it's been what the people see in him that really makes you think. They have so much hope. In him, they see God reaching out to them; in their poverty, in their disbelief, in their sinfulness. And so do l.

So when he asked us, 'Who do people say I am?' we gave him the standard answers: Elijah, Jeremiah, one of the prophets, even John the Baptist.

When he asked us who we thought he was, the answer was clear. He was the hope of the poor, forgiveness for sinners, justice for all people. He is the Christ. He is the Son of the living God. I was only saying what everyone else was thinking. You couldn't travel with him and share his life, like we did, and not come to really know him.

He seemed happy at first. I don't really understand what he said next, but it was pretty full on. The Father revealing; me being a rock, changing my name, the power to bind and loose... He was very excited. But then suddenly his mood changed.

He said he was planning to go to Jerusalem. I could not believe it. The people loved him. But because of this the Chief Priest, Scribes and most of Pharisees saw him as a threat.Jerusalem. The Roman are bad enough, but with all the others, Jerusalem is the last place he needs to be. He knows that, we know that, so why do it? It makes no sense.

So took him aside and I told him: He can't let this happen! We were sitting by the road a little further along than the others. He was looking tired and worried.

He looked up at me and said it. I'll never forget it. 'Get behind me! Satan.' /Cont'd P4...

- 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year B/2 - September 16, 2018)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world. **Alleluia!**

Allelula!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: 2nd Reading: Gospel: Wis 2:12,17-20 James 3:16-4:3 Mk 9:30-37



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:

Holy Spirit, Manifold Hts:

11am Sunday

Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West: 5.00pm Saturday

5.00pm Sa

English...8am and 9.30am Sunday11anCroatian...11am SundaySlovenian...12.15pm every 2nd Sunday of the month

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Holy Family:9.15am Tues (followed by Novena to St Anthony), 9.15am ThursHoly Spirit:9.00am Wed, 11am Fri and 9am 1st Sat.Reconciliation after Saturday MassMcKellar 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 Tues... Meditation Group Wed... Prayer of the Church Holy Family Women's Prayer Group Wed... Italian Prayer Group Thurs... Fri... Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Fri... Divine Mercv Rosary Sat...

10.00am 5.30pm Before 9am Mass 10.00am 10.00am After 11am Mass 3.00pm After 9am Mass Holy Family Community Centre Holy Family Community Centre Holy Spirit Church Holy Family Community Centre St Patrick's Chapel Holy Spirit Church Holy Spirit Church Holy Spirit Church

OUR LADY'S STATUE:

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:	Brian Biviano, Maria Goda, Matthew Ryan and Sr Cesarina Paolini	
ANNIVERSARIES:	Carmel Torre, Adela Resciniti, Giuseppa Ragana, Valli Glynn, Tony Past, Tilly Past (1 year anniversary) and 1 year anniversaries of Amy Hancock and Frank Colombo	
BAPTISMS:	Chloe Dixon, Abbie Lorimer, Lachlan Bishop, Julian Darburn, Isla Majewski, James Smilovic and Sophie Tung	
PRAY FOR THE SICK:	Brian Biviano, Michael Walsh, Tony Doyle, Peter Daniels, Val Howard, Joe Vanje	k, Frank Mason,

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me." (Mk 8:34) When we truly believe that all we have is a gift from God, then we must be willing to give up some things so that

we can share our blessings as God intended.

Living a stewardship lifestyle means not only being responsible for our own life,

but the lives of others as well.

Roster for Next Sunday

(4th Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S - 5.00PM

Commentators Lectors Special Ministers Welcomers Projectionist Co-Ordinator

HOLY FAMILY

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

<u>8.00AM</u>

F O'Neill L Kelly L Sells, E Kelly E Kelly, L. Allum R Allum L. Kelly, 0409 291 138

HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM

M Burn J Fraatz L Fossey D Dougherty A Zarb

<u>9.30AM</u>

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... Holy Family Luncheon.. Holy Family Women's Group... St Vincent de Paul...

Legion of Mary... Baptism Preps Holy Family Choir Practice... Manifold CWL... Italian Mass... Catholic Diners' Club... First Sunday of each month at the Holy Spirit Hall from 12noon. BYO food and drink to share. Third Sunday of each month at the Community Centre from 12noon. **BYO casserole & drink to share.** First Monday evening of each month at the Community Centre 6.30pm 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 Every Friday 9.30am in the Holy Family Community Centre 4th Mondays 7.30pm in the Community Centre Every Wednesday night at Holy Family Church 7pm Holy Spirit Hall, 1st Wednesdays in the month First Thursday of the month in St Patrick's Chapel 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

Good manners are the mark of an honourable person

Serena Williams rips shreds off an umpire. Her imperative is to let him and everyone else know how angry she is to have missed out on a win that would have matched Margaret Court's record. She was so caught up in her own anger and the need to vent that she failed to understand the impact her behaviour was having on her opponent, who had just beaten her in an amazing performance. The young woman stood there at the winner's ceremony, hands covering her face, crying uncontrollably. Serena had ruined her moment of glory. Serena was kind enough to the young outsider. She had not directed her anger at Naomi Osaka. But her lack of restraint had the unintended consequence of debasing the whole event. And now a debate rages about who was the guilty party in all this. The angry exchanges continue in the press; everybody putting in their two bob's worth. And we've all largely forgotten the young Japanese heroine's amazing achievement. That's the poison unrestrained anger generates.

I was fortunate to have witnessed the West Indian Cricket Tour. Those well-mannered black men charmed us out of our trees; at a time when the White Australia policy was tightly enforced. At a time when marrying a black person was a scandal. There were unfortunate incidents and, in our naivety as a nation of unconscious racists, interviewers asked questions that nowadays would make us cringe. But those black men let all that crap go through to the keeper. Cricket culture then was about restraint and understatement.

There was a giant culture shift in the 1960's. The new take on things was that honesty is the highest virtue. Be who you are. Say what you think. All those stuffy old fashioned constraints and obsession with good manners got in the way of authentic human relationships. And where has it led us? In this new culture within which we operate we seem to lack the ability to be ashamed, or we have convinced ourselves that feeling shame is a weakness. We appear on television and, even worse, on social media saying things to each other and doing things to each other that decent human beings should not reveal they feel. And viewers applaud. And people on social media gleefully add their own vitriol.

I have a friend who is a thoroughly decent man but he has an outraged intolerance of gay people. The same sex marriage debate sent him into a frenzy. Because he feels comfortable with me, he has let me have his opinions full bore, language unrestrained. His main point was that gay marriage would undermine the whole concept of marriage and corrupt our respect for the institution. That same man is an avid viewer of two shows: *The Bachelor/Bachelorette* and *Married at First Sight*, which he calls harmless entertainment.

I have tried to put the following proposition to him. It's not gay unions that debase the sacredness of marriage. The debasement began in shows like these; shows "where complete strangers get married for money and entertainment value. It demeans the often decades-long love that many same-sex couples share. And it makes a mockery of the argument that same-sex marriage makes a mockery of marriage, or devalues in it any way."

It is forgivable to let off steam and let down your public image in the privacy of your home or among your most intimate friends. Few of us can live up to the ideal that Jesus asked of us: to conduct ourselves with compassion, tolerance and kindness in every second of our waking lives. **But it's not hypocrisy to have a private persona and a different public persona.** Manners are not a form of hypocrisy, the sign of a false and inauthentic person. Many of the things we feel ought to be suppressed, and many of the truths we know ought not to even be whispered. Indeed, the whisperer, when revealed, should feel shame. Without the ability to feel shame, humans are barbarians. It is manners, however false, that create the framework in which shame can be felt. When we consider public life today, the inflicting of shame has been released from the restraining force of manners, to being celebrated as the ability to intimidate those you disagree with. As Francois de La Rochefoucauld said, "Hypocrisy is the tribute vice pays to virtue." Today, vice feels little need to apologize for anything.

And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them. Luke 6:31

Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. Ephesians 4:29

It is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but what comes out of the mouth; this defiles a person. <u>Matthew 15:11</u> - *Kevin Fell*

St Michael's News:

- COMMUNION TO THE SICK/HOUSEBOUND: If you know of anyone in the Parish who is housebound and would appreciate a visit and Holy Communion, please leave the details with Bernadette at the Parish Office.
- EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS: If you are a Eucharistic Minister and would be prepared to visit a housebound person to take Holy Communion to them on a monthly basis, please leave your details with Bernadette at the Parish Office.
- 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.
- SISTERS OF THE HOLY ANGELS LUNCHEON: Will be held Wednesday October 3, 12noon in the Holy Spirit Hall. 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 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.

Community News:

- Sept 22... PAMPER DAY: Pastoral Healthcare Network Geelong invites you to a relaxing afternoon of pampering and pastoral health care. 1pm-3.30pm with ten minute meditation at 2.30pm, in the new venue St Bernard's Church Foyer, Fryers Rd Belmont.
- Sept 26... FUNDRAISER FOR THE GEELONG INTER-CHURCH SOCIAL JUSTICE NETWORK FORUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY: At St David's Uniting Church, cnr Aphrasia & Talbot Sts Newtown, 7pm. \$20 online, \$25 at the door, \$10 children and Concession price. Movie - *The Gods Must Be Crazy*. For tickets: <u>socialjusticegeelong.org.au</u>

ST MARY'S PARISH PANTRY FUNDRAISING EVENT:

Come alone 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 <u>cmoon2@bigpond.com</u>

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I must've looked shocked, but he kept on. 'You are an obstacle in my path. Your way of thinking is not God's way.'

I was so angry. He turned and walked back to the others. Slowly

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I walked back.

He was sitting, eating some bread, and as he ate he began to speak. 'If you want to follow me, forget yourself, your life, your fear, and follow me. Even to death.' What does he expect of us? We have all given up so much for him. We believe in him. We know him to be the Christ. Yet he wants more! Do we follow him to death in Jerusalem?

What does he expect of me?

MELBOURNE CUP DAY LUNCHEON

LUNCHEON		
When:	Tuesday November 6	
Where:	Holy Spirit Hall	
Time:	From Noon	
	\$20 per person ads going to Fr Mick's Mates elping to fight Cancer)	
	long for a sociable afternoon, nd glass of 'bubbly' provided.	
	ps, Raffles and a congenial fternoon 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 Cluster Office	
	5278 1343	
Tickets av	ailable from Sunday Sept 16th	