



# 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:**  
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Holy Family

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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**

It's hard to see what the disciples don't get when Jesus tells them in fairly plain language that because of the way he lives and what he says he will be put to death by the power barons of his day. The disciples seem to think the Passion is going to be an event out of *Boy's Own Annual*, where the ensuing campaign will see greatness thrust upon them. In this context, Jesus takes the smallest and most vulnerable of people in their society and teaches the disciples that greatness comes through care of the least.

This is a powerful lesson. Greatness in the world – power, connections, wealth, influence, reputation and learning – only counts for something in the Kingdom of God when put at the service of the most vulnerable of our society. Greed, riches and pride

are so alluring, so seductive for us in the Church, as much as for those outside it, that we need to regularly examine our consciences to assess the motivations and results of what we are doing, and why we are doing it. When I read today's Gospel, however, I also feel sad. I cannot help but reflect on how unintentionally prophetic Mark was being in linking the prediction of Jesus' passion with the status of a child.

The safeguards now needed in response to the criminal and scandalous behaviour of a very few leaders in the Church, means that many bishops, priests, religious and teachers can no longer follow Jesus' example and take children in our arms. I fully understand why this is the case, but the fact that we have to be so careful about the care of our children and have strict

protocols and legislation that covers such behaviour toward children is a necessary and, nonetheless, tragic moment. It's also a moment for us to remember the passion of those who have had to endure the trauma of destructive behaviour. As the Jews say of the Holocaust, 'to forget is to commit the same mistake again'. At its most basic level the latter part of today's Gospel reveals what we would expect of Jesus – he likes children and they like him.

It's amazing how a couple of pieces of information can sometimes change the way a scriptural story is read, and its importance for our lives today. We know from other documents of the same period as the New Testament that children in first century Palestine had no rights.

*/Cont'd P4...***- 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time -***(Year B/2 - September 23, 2018)***ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.  
Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them,  
and I will be their Lord forever.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

The Lord upholds my life.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
God has called us with the gospel  
to share in the glory of Our Lord  
Jesus Christ.  
**Alleluia!**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:****26th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Num 11:25-29

2nd Reading: James 5:1-6

Gospel: Mk 9:38-43,45,47-48

**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 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:

Gracijela Krsul

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Nobby DaCosta, George Carmody, Maria, Antonio, Benito & Rosa Deangelis, 1 year anniv of Rosa Arrigo, Alberto Romano and Philip Mackie, 10 year anniv of Harry Gazenbeek and 1 month since death of Salvatore Fazio

### BAPTISMS:

Toby Gower, Arlo Harding and Charlie Santoro

### PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Michael Walsh, Tony Doyle, Peter Daniels, Val Howard, Joe Vanjek, Frank Mason, Sean Montalto, Val Howard, Kylie Kotic, Anita Capicchiano



## **STEWARDSHIP CORNER - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*"If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all." (Mk 9:35)*

Jesus teaches us that we are called to serve one another. Sacrifice is not a word that many people like to hear.

We think it means that we must give up something that we want. However, the literal meaning of sacrifice is

'to make holy', from the words "sacer" = sacred and "facere" = to make.

In other words, we make our lives holy by sharing our gifts in the service of God.

## **Roster for Next Sunday**

(5th Sunday of the Month)

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

Commentators C O'Brien  
Lectors Sr J McGonigal  
Special Ministers N Neeld, P McGlinchey  
Welcomers  
Projectionist D Whelan  
Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

### **HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM**

C Nielson  
B Middleton  
G Wright  
I Cleary, L Fossey  
L Coles

### **HOLY FAMILY**

**8.00AM**  
Commentators R Allum  
Lectors V Pavlovic  
Special Ministers J Bartolo, I Baulch, Peter McBride  
Welcomers K McArthur, L. Allum  
Projectionist R Allum  
Co-Ordinator L Kelly, 0409 291 138

### **9.30AM**

J Siketa  
C Taylor, M Bird  
P Carmody, B Kline, Horoba  
M&E Hoffman  
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
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](http://www.pastoralclustergeelong.org)**

## Anger

One outcome of the Serena Williams outburst is that a journalist in the UK has announced that women need to get better at rage. She called the outburst a triumph and a reminder of why women need to get better at rage. "Wasn't Williams magnificent? I would give anything to be able to express my own long-repressed rages so openly. That kind of rage can't be expressed on social media - where every woman who *loses it* gets buried - and it can't be expressed at home, where as wives and mothers we are supposed to be Zen Buddhas calming everyone else down. But oh, the power of female rage when unharnessed!"

God help all of us if women allow themselves the self-indulgent permission that far too many men allow themselves. That's why 88% of all homicides are committed by men and 96% of prosecutions for domestic violence are men. The first step to violence begins with the habit of not self-restraining animal rage. Male anger is a toxic poison in our society. It may be unfair and it may be unequal but we do rely on the role of women to provide the ballast in our society to stop us all degenerating into barbarism. Low levels of self-control are associated with eventual criminal activity. Fortunately the majority of men have learned to exercise self-restraint.

But anger is largely a male thing. Males do engage in more physical and verbal aggression. While females engage in milder forms of aggression such as rumour spreading or gossiping. So why do so many of our politicians use anger and rumour mongering as strategies to achieve their aims? When research shows that only a small percentage of males are perpetrators of extreme verbal aggression, why do some politicians pander to that section of *lowest common denominator* males with their own *clever* use of verbal aggression?

The strategic use of anger is dangerous. It's not very clever. You end up with a Donald Trump leading the country. Or worse, you end up like the Middle East. Go and see the movie *The Insult* (now showing in selected cinemas). Set in Lebanon, an incident involving a few angry words between a Christian and a Palestinian refugee is hijacked by politicians and the media to feed the grievances that eat away at the any attempt to achieve social cohesion. The inevitable result is violence feeding the endless cycle of hatred and revenge.

Our new Prime Minister last week pledged not to 'pit one Australian against another'. He undertook to 'work for the unity of all Australians'. He might usefully begin with the bear pit of parliament. He could start by requiring his Party's politicians to shout less and refrain from strategically feeding the anger of those addicted to the messages of shock jocks. The cynical use by politicians of social media to amplify the echo chamber of grievances and grudges that inevitably exist between different groups in our society undermines National unity. We have just discarded a Prime Minister; discarded by a minority in his own party driven by little more than unresolved venom. It has resulted in chaos for the Party and for stable government. That is what *The Insult* points to.

Words matter. Angry words wound. Angry words amplify divisions. "Today, we are burdened by politicians who have decided that honesty requires that they show how deeply they detest each other, and a culture has emerged where groups feel free to display their contempt for any with whom they disagree. Our opponents have become our enemies, and our enemies have become monsters. This has become true for all political factions, and all political factions believe it is true only for their opponents. The idea that it is proper to hide and suppress our malice because not doing so is bad manners has been lost on all levels. With this has been lost the idea that it is possible to disagree on important matters, yet respect and even honour your opponent." (George Friedman)

No faction is willing to be the first to break the cycle. "We're not going to change until they do." Our politicians provide a corrupting model for us all. It is an unrelenting descent into discord.

*Put immature behaviour behind you and pursue righteousness. Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies; you know that they breed quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with reasonableness. God may perhaps grant them knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil. Timothy 2:22-26.*

*He who controls his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool head has understanding. Even a fool who keeps silent is considered wise; when he keeps his mouth shut, he is deemed intelligent. Proverbs 17:27-28.*

And the hardest of the lot:

*You have heard that it said: 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on [your] right cheek, turn the other one to him as well.*

A cricket expression: Let much of what gets bowled at you go through to the keeper.

- Kevin Fell

# St Michael's News:

- ◆ **OFFICE CLOSURE:** Please note - the Office will be closed on **Friday September 28th** - public holiday.
- ◆ **SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY - Sept 30:** Next weekend we celebrate Social Justice Sunday. This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: *'A Place to Call Home: Making a home for everyone in our land'*. The Statement challenges us all to confront Australia's growing rate of homelessness and unaffordable housing.
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **EUCCHARISTIC 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 5 Oct, 19 Oct, 2 Nov, 16 Nov.
- ◆ **OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY:** Rosary will be recited on **Sunday Oct 7** at 9am in Holy Family Church, after the 8am 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

Parish Office  
5278 1343

*Melbourne Cup Day!*  
Tickets available from Sunday Sept 16th.

# Community News:

- 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: [socialjusticegeelong.org.au](http://socialjusticegeelong.org.au)
- Oct 11... CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME:** A Climate Change and Sustainability Forum with the key question *"Individually and collectively: what can we do?"*. This Forum seeks to bring a Christian perspective to the crisis of climate change and to work with concerned like-minded people to develop environmentally sustainable and socially just ways to 'Care for our Common Home'. Geelong West Town Hall, 7-9.30pm. Free event! Further details [socialjusticegeelong.org.au](http://socialjusticegeelong.org.au)
- Oct 12... ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE BOARDERS' REUNION:** Past boarding students are invited to join us at 11am. For enquiries and bookings please contact Julie Cole on 5226 8149 or email [julie.cole@sjc.vic.edu.au](mailto:julie.cole@sjc.vic.edu.au)

## 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 [cmoon2@bigpond.com](mailto:cmoon2@bigpond.com)

/Cont'd from P1...

They were possessions of their fathers, and they could be bought and sold, exploited and even killed without any recourse to the religious or civil law.

One way in which a child was publicly claimed in this society was that only their immediate family could touch them. The

story, then, of Jesus embracing the child in public was in itself a social challenge to accepted customs. But it's much more than that. In taking the children in his arms, Jesus declares that they are possessions of no one, but they belong to us all as gifts. In the family of God, children are accorded the dignity and respect we would give to God.

Today's Gospel tells us that those who deserve our attention and esteem are the ones who are the least, the most at risk or those who put their talents and gifts at their service by making the world a better place for them. Just as he did in the market place of Galilee when he took the children in his arms, Jesus has a habit of turning our world's values upside down.