



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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Petrel St, Geelong West

Phone 5229 4412

Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ

It is amazing to note how leaving out just one half of one verse of the Gospel can affect the Christian life for centuries.

All of us know by rote the command of Jesus that we must love God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength and we must love our neighbour.

But the second half of verse 31 is not usually quoted because, sadly, it is not as imbedded in our memory. It reads: 'You shall love your neighbour AS YOU LOVE YOURSELF.'

There are very clear historical reasons why the second part of Jesus' summary of the commandments was quietly forgotten. Given the chequered personal experience he had of his own body, St Augustine, in the fifth century, had very ambivalent feelings about the human body. He thought that, generally, it was to be feared as the instrument through which we would sin. He encouraged us to tame it through prayer, mortification and penance. Augustine's ideas about the body held sway until Thomas

Aquinas in the 13th century and the Jesuit Theologians of the 15th century argued that while the body can lead us to sin, it is also a temple of the Holy Spirit and a vehicle of God's love and grace.

In the 16th century Cornelius Jansen denounced Aquinas and the Jesuits and argued that Augustine held the correct Christian view. No matter what the Church did to denounce Jansen at the time, his thinking took deep root in Europe, the USA and missionary countries throughout the world. Jansenism, the belief that our body and its desires are evil and that we need to harshly mortify ourselves, is, tragically, still active in Christian thought today.

Jansenism is irreconcilable with today's Gospel where Jesus tells us that the love of God, the love of neighbour and the love of self are the cornerstones of the Christian law. And the opposite must be true too. We CANNOT call ourselves Christian if we hate God, hate our neighbour or hate ourselves.

Some people argue that Western society has already gone too far in the direction of self-

love. They maintain that the lengths some people go to achieve a sculptured body, the use of steroids, the growing frequency of eating disorders, the adoration of sportsmen and women, the cult of the gym and of the sex industry all point to a culture too much in love with itself. Some argue what we need is a good dose of self-control. They are only half-right.

The problem with the term 'love of self' is that we often hear in it an encouragement to 'adore self'. Nothing could be further from what Jesus is saying. We are called to love our body, not worship it. Jesus is not calling us to a narcissistic love, like we see in the sex industry and the gym cults, where the only thing we love is ourself. If we have no sense of our own self worth, our own dignity and the personal love of God for each of us, it is impossible for us to give the same to others and to claim from others the dignity we deserve. We will either treat others as our inferiors on the one hand, or allow others to walk all over us, on the other.

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- 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year B/2 - November 4, 2018)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me!
Make haste and come to my help,
O Lord, my strong salvation!

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

I Love you, Lord, my strength.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**Alleluia, alleluia!**

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them,
and we will come to them.

Alleluia!**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:****32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: 1Kg 17:10-16

2nd Reading: Heb 9:24-28

Gospel: Mk 12:38-44

**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:

Oct 29-Nov 12: Spitale family, 4 Marathon Ave.

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:

Fr Leo Griffin

ANNIVERSARIES:

Francis Murphy, Marie Gallagher, Ernest & Michael Henderson, Rodolfo Accheni, Georgina (Gina) DiDomenico and 1 year anniversary of Giovanna Ricciardi and Esme Hardiman

BAPTISMS:

Miles Corbett, Anais Cortous, Max Kilcullen, Sebastian Santoro and Niamh Gibbons

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Joe Vanjek, Frank Mason, Val Howard, Kylie Kosic, Anita Capicchiano, Sandra Klinge, Allan Ansell, Marie Brown

PRAYING FOR ALL SOULS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER:

Tues Nov 6... Cengija, Fantella and Barbig families

Wed Nov 7... O'Neill and Wallace families

Thurs Nov 8... Helena, Stemislav Potrawski, Amolej, Waleria Koruzykowski and Ivan Wamlak

Fri Nov 9... Hennessy and Kinsella families



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

Sport is in the news again

And in some respects it's providing a parable on the whole culture of our society. The latest report on Cricket Australia indicates that the organization has shallow values and principles focused on winning without counting the cost. The imperative to win deadens an ethical perspective, which parallels what's been happening in our banks, insurance companies and political parties.

And on the World stage we have an American President for whom there is no such thing as win-win. Winning must involve humiliation and subjugation of your opponent. In recent times Mr. Trump has not even bothered to confine his bullying to his opponents. The latest country he has humiliated is one of Washington's long-standing allies and closest cultural neighbours, Canada. In remarks made to the Bloomberg news agency but later [reported](#), Trump insisted that any trade deal with Ottawa would be "totally on our terms" but that he could not say this publicly because "it's going to be so insulting [that] they're not going to be able to make a deal." Well Mr. Trump why bother to say it at all?

This way of conducting yourself begins in small ways. In cricket it began with sledging. Sledging is the practice of gaining an advantage by insulting or verbally intimidating the opposing player. The purpose is to try to weaken the opponent's concentration, thereby causing them to make mistakes or underperform. In other words your strategy is to destabilize your opponent. And after the combat is over *rub their noses in it*.

Australia has had some brilliant sledgers, who have incrementally undermined the whole gentlemanly culture that prevailed in cricket before the 1960's.

Dennis Lillee had a sledge that he employed against many batsmen during his long cricket career.

"I can see why you are batting so badly, you've got some shit on the end of your bat."

At this point the batsman would usually flip his bat over and examine the end, to which Lillee would respond: "Wrong end mate."

[Daryll Cullinan \(South Africa\) and Shane Warne \(Australia\)](#)

As Cullinan was heading out to the wicket, Warne told him he had been waiting 2 years for another chance to humiliate him.

Cullinan replied: "Looks like you spent it eating."

This sort of thing is entertaining to begin with but as individuals try to outdo each other in the *outrageousness* stakes, the sledging has got progressively nastier and more unpleasant, with commentary about the sexual behaviour of opponents' wives and children; all too offensive to report in this bulletin.

Donald Trump began small(ish) in his election campaign. He found *put down* labels for each of his opponents which he repeated ad nauseam to his fanatical and ecstatic supporters. The more they bayed their approval, the more he did it.

Mitt Romney: he simply called him "failed" while discussing him. Hillary Clinton:

Crooked Hillary. John Kasich (his former GOP rival, Ohio Gov.): the absentee governor. Carly Fiorina (GOP candidate for president): "zero chance." Michael Nutter (Philadelphia Mayor): "low-life." Needless to say he had names for reporters. Megyn Kelly (Fox News who asked him difficult questions): "Crazy Megyn." John McCain (a genuine war hero): "a loser." The list goes on. And now it's out of control. Trump now conducts international relations using such *put downs*, even against allies.

It takes three to tango. One to do the sledging. An audience to cheer it on. And a culture to sanction it as normal and appropriate. The conditions for the development of a culture which accepts this way of public conduct comes from a world-wide loss of faith in economic neoliberalism and its use of deregulation and privatisation to pursue the supposed paradise of Smaller Government. Unfortunately this flawed neo-liberal ideology has been replaced by unthinking populism spewed from the angry mouths of shock jocks and politicians who cynically ride to power on the backs of disillusioned, angry and naïve voters.

Pope Francis has warned against the climate of hate and violence that is developing throughout the world. He prayed: "May the Lord help us to quench these hotbeds of hate that are developing in our societies, by reinforcing the sense of humanity, the respect for life, moral and civil values, and the holy fear of God, who is Love and the Father of all." He recalled the rise of populism in Europe in the 1920s and its consequences, and warned us against the growth of hate in today's world as a result of the emergence of new populisms. His words are particularly relevant in the light of the political climate in the United States and Europe today. A change in this culture begins with each of us curbing our tongues and telling our leaders to curb theirs.

- Kevin Fell

Liturgy at St Michael's:

- ◆ This weekend at all Masses the focus of our Mass will be **Remembering and Praying for our Deceased Loved Ones**. As part of the Bereavement Mass there are notelets entitled "**In Loving Memory Of**" which will be placed at the foot of the Cross. At the Remembrance Mass please do not put the notelets at the foot of the Cross until directed by the Priest.

St Michael's News:

- ◆ **HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP - Melbourne Cup Eve Monday 5th Nov at 6.30pm.** Meal provided, BYO drinks and dress up if you wish. A fun evening for all members. See you all there!
- ◆ **MELBOURNE CUP DAY LUNCHEON: Tuesday Nov 6** from noon in Holy Spirit Hall. Cost \$20/person with all funds going to Fr Mick's Mates helping to fight cancer. Sweeps, raffles and a congenial afternoon guaranteed with lunch and glass of 'bubbly' provided. For tickets ph David Lunn 0408 378 982, Margaret Haines 0413 690 625, Amie O'Brien 0427 866 891, Desma Dougherty 5244 5459 or the Parish Office on 5278 1343.
- ◆ **SISTERS OF THE HOLY ANGELS LUNCHEON: Wednesday November 14** at 12noon in the Holy Spirit Hall. Cost \$10 - all welcome!
- ◆ **CWL:** The next meeting of the Manifold branch of the CWL will be held **Wednesday Nov 21 (not the 7th)**, 1.30pm in Holy Spirit Hall. This will be followed by a Thankyou Afternoon Tea for all the volunteers who have kindly helped our funeral catering. For transport please contact Bernadette 0417 514 598 or Tricia 0431 512 354.
- ◆ **THANKYOU:** To those who donated Rosary cards and Holy pictures and those who joined us for the Rosary on Sunday Oct 7th. We joined with 58 nations in 194 locations around the world.
- ◆ **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 16 Nov.



Melbourne Cup Day!

FR MICK'S MATES:

Christmas Markets will be held on the following dates:

Sat Dec 8... Ss Peter & Paul's after the 5pm Mass

Sun Dec 9... Holy Spirit after the 11am Mass

Sun Dec 16... Holy Family after the 8am and 9.30am Masses

Reminder - Christmas Hampers will be made to order. If you want one please call Margaret Brown 5229 1280 or Betty Rice 5229 4530.

Thankyou for supporting Fr Mick's Mates.



Community News:

- Nov 10...** **ST JOSEPH'S OLD COLLEGIAN'S ASSOCIATION REMEMBRANCE MASS:** Please join us for our annual Remembrance Mass, paying tribute to past students, staff and benefactors of the College. The Mass will be held in the College Chapel at 10am to be followed by light refreshments. Enquiries: Julie Cole 5226 8149 or julie.cole@sjc.vic.ed.au
- Nov 11...** **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Annual Deceased Members Mass 11am at Holy Spirit Manifold, followed by Awards Luncheon in the Hall afterwards. Cost of lunch \$25 per head incl. drinks. Open invitation to members, ladies and family to please attend. RSVP to Denis Turnbull on 5242 8663.
- Nov 20...** **2018 RERUM NOVARUM ORATION - WIDENING THE DOOR OF HOPE, A Response to the Victorian Assisted Dying Legislation.** 7.30pm start, 7pm light refreshments - Mercy Theatre, Australian Catholic University, 115 Victoria Pde Fitzroy. RSVP/inquiries by Mon 12 Nov - justice@cam.org.au or 9926 5727.

GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS' CLUB: Come join us for a 2-course evening meal and the opportunity to meet new friends. We are open to members of all faiths. Appetisers begin 6.15pm on **Tuesday Nov 13** 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**. This month we will be having our Annual General Meeting after dinner. Instead of a guest speaker we are delighted to have the St Joseph's Celtic Ensemble to entertain us. For more information/reservations phone or text **Michael Belleville at 0431 959 584** by **Friday 9 Nov**, the deadline for catering.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

"And 'to love him with all your heart, with all your understanding, with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself' is worth more than all the burnt offerings and sacrifices. (Mk 12:33)

Of all the gifts that God gives us, the one he wants the most is our heart. He wants us to share out of love, not out of obligation. Using our talent in parish ministry and contributing money to support our parish mission is important, but it's more important to spend time in prayer with God daily and discern how he is calling us to be generous with all of our gifts. Not just the visible ones, but the invisible ones like love, mercy and forgiveness.

/Cont'd from P1...

Love of self is not about canonising a loss of self-control. Jesus shows us by the way he loved his Father, us and himself that true love always involves sacrifice. If we love our self in the right way, we have the self control to forgo those things that are most

destructive in our life and we have the generosity to do for others the things that will enrich their lives. Jesus knew, that we can never love others if we hate ourselves.

Let's pray in this Eucharist, then, that we will develop our mind, heart, soul and strength to

love the One who has created us in love and love those given into our care with the same love we lavish on ourselves. The Gospel of Jesus Christ demands nothing less!