



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: www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au
OFFICE:	147 Separation St Bell Park 3215			
	Phone: 5278 1343	Fax: 5278 4618	Email: bellpark@cam.org.au	
OFFICE HOURS:	Mon-Wed, Fri 9am-5pm, Thurs 9-2pm.			
PARISH SECRETARY:	Bernadette Bilogrevic	Phone 5278 1343	Email: bellpark@cam.org.au	
PASTORAL WORKER:	Sr Anne Lourey	Phone 5278 1343	Email: anne.lourey@cam.org.au	
SCHOOL PRINCIPALS:	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

A teacher told me recently that when she asked her grade fours to draw a picture of the Ascension, not unsurprisingly most of them did a fairly conventional portrait of Jesus rising up on a cloud. One of her students, David, who is a particularly gifted artist, had Jesus blasting off into the sky. Down the side of Jesus' pure white garment was the word NASA and David provided all the sound effects for how he imagined the scene of the first Ascension. He concluded, without a hint of irony, that, 'the Ascension must have been a real blast!'



None of us can blame David for marrying our modern culture with an ancient story. In fact if some of us are honest, David's 'space shuttle Jesus' is not far from what we think as well.

The Ascension stories, however, are not primarily interested in how or when Jesus got back to heaven. John and Paul never mention it at all. Mark and Matthew have it happening on the same day as the Resurrection and Luke has it occurring 40 days after Easter on the same day as Pentecost. The one thing, on which all the New Testament writers agree, is where in heaven Jesus went and where he is presently – at God's right hand.

Even to this day, being on

someone's right is a place of honour. In the Old Testament being on the right hand of David, Samuel or Elijah was to be the anointed and favoured one, the true son or daughter. In telling us, then, that Jesus is now at God's right hand, the Gospels use a formal phrase to announce that God affirms everything Jesus said and did on earth and that he is the way for us to follow.

That can be all well and good, but Jesus goes one step further and that's why this feast is so important. Jesus taught us that where he is, so shall we be, that he was going to prepare a place for us and that, in and through him, we will have life and have it to the full.

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We welcome and pray for the children receiving the Sacrament of First Eucharist this weekend.

- The Ascension of the Lord -

(Year C - June 2, 2019)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

You kingdoms of the earth, sing to God; praise the Lord, who ascends above the highest heavens; his majesty and might are in the skies, alleluia.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel, I am with you always, until the end of the world. **Alleluia!**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Pentecost Sunday

1st Reading: Acts 2:1-11
2nd Reading: Rom 8:8-17
Gospel: Jn 14:15-16



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:

May 27-June 10: Bird family, North Geelong

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:

Aldo Accheni and Agnes Accheni

ANNIVERSARIES:

John Bove, Eileen Doherty, Carmelo De Luca,
Filippo Caccamo, Duilio Magurno, Robert Salt,
Gerald Drew

BAPTISMS:

Michael Walker, Garland Anderson, Finnley Cahill,
Alba Lettieri and Tahlia Miletic

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Allan Ansell, Alexander, Sandra Klinge, Amalia Zaino, Cheryl
Lambert, Erin Kinch, Veronica Werzak, John McDonald, Andrew
Kelly, Cassie McColl, Margaret Barry



After approx 5 weeks names will be taken off sick list. Please contact Office if you wish names to be reinserted.

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 K Saunders
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:

Rosary...	The Rosary is recited at 8.45am Tues and Thurs in Holy Family Church prior to the 9.15am Masses
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

St Michael's News:

- ♦ **ATTENTION LECTORS AND SPECIAL MINISTERS:** There are currently a few vacancies to fill at our weekend Masses for Lectors and Special Ministers. If you are interested, please contact Bernadette at the Parish Office on 5278 1343.
- ♦ **CWL:** The next meeting of the Manifold branch of the CWL will be held on **Wednesday June 5, 1.30pm** in St Michael's Parish Community Centre, 147 Separation St Bell Park. All St Michael's Parish ladies are most welcome. For transport please contact Bernadette on 0417 514 598.
- ♦ **ST MICHAEL'S CONVERSATION/CRAFT GROUP:** We meet at St Michael's Parish Community Centre, 2-4pm on the following afternoons - 31 May, 14 June, 28 June, 12 July, 26 July. Extra dates will be added in a few weeks. Bring along your craft project, sit, chat and make new friends. Contact Debbie 0409 416 946
- ♦ **AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS:** Winter Edition 2019 - In this issue of Australian Catholics we explore some issues related to mental health in schools and the broader community. We look at mental health and wellness and how we can better support people who are living with mental illness. Pick up your free copy today!
- ♦ **HOLY SPIRIT HALL UPDATE:** The demolition of the existing hall and building of a new Childcare Centre and Parish Hall next to Holy Spirit Church is close to commencement. Hopefully in the next few weeks detailed plans will be available for viewing by parishioners after Mass. A list of surplus items currently in the hall will be published and available for sale (details to be advised). If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the parish office on 5278 1343 or contact Michael Scaddan, David Lunn, Meg Kroger or Lane Kelly.
- ♦ **CUP OF TEA AND COFFEE AFTER THE 9.30AM HOLY FAMILY MASS:** An invitation is extended to all parishioners to join us after the 9.30am Mass each Sunday at Holy Family Church for a Cuppa. All are most welcome!
- ♦ **HELP!!** Two overseas university students looking for accommodation. Anyone know of any rental accommodation? References provided. Contact Fr Prakash or the Parish Office on 5278 1343 if you can help.



Community News:

Sept 21... ALIGHT FAMILY FIESTA - St Bede's College, Mentone. At a time when living Christian family life can feel like swimming against the tide, Alight is an event that will strengthen everyone, especially parents, to be renewed in their mission. Fr Leo Patalinghug, a Priest and chef, will serve up a creative presentation of faith and food that will have the whole family wanting more. Rides, food and live music will help to make this a joyful celebration for the whole family! To register or for more info, look for the Alight flyers or visit cam.org.au/alight19

SAMARITAN HOUSE GEELONG 2019 WINTER APPEAL:

Homelessness can happen to anyone. Winter is the toughest time of all for those affected by homelessness in the Geelong community. Samaritan House Geelong provides crisis accommodation and support for homeless men. Please consider making a donation to our 2019 Winter Appeal so we can continue to provide a place of warmth, sanctuary and hope. To make a gift online go to samaritanhousegeelong.com.au/donate

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 June 11**, followed by a delicious meal for only \$33 per person. We meet at **Capri Receptions** located at 258 Pakington St Geelong West. Our guest speaker is **Peter Hutchinson**, long time Geelong Solicitor. For more information and reservations, please phone or text **Michael Belleville at 0431 959 584** by **Friday June 7**, the deadline for catering purposes.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL - St Ignatius College:

St Ignatius College would like to reach out to parishioners of the Deanery to promote an exciting opportunity for young people. The College is working with the Archdiocese Office for Youth and Archbishop Peter's vision for our Church, and are for the first time taking students to the Australian Catholic Youth Festival in Perth this December. We would like to ask parishioners from across the Deanery to open up a conversation with family members that have a young person in Years 10-12 at St Ignatius College about this festival and encourage them to apply to be part of the St Ignatius contingent. As this is the first festival we are attending as a College community, we would love your support in promoting this faith filled contemporary experience. Further details can be gained by contacting Brendan Nicholls (Australian Catholic Youth Festival Co-ordinator) via email at nichollsb@ignatius.vic.edu.au or the CEM ACYF website at cam.org.au/acyf19

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Our Risen Lord knew that we are naturally, collectively human-centric. He withdrew His risen mode of appearance (what we call 'the Ascension') to make it clear that the whole Universe, including planet Earth, is filled with the presence and power radiating out from his Risen Humanity.

As St Paul wrote in the Epistle to the Romans: 'Creation still retains the hope of being freed from its slavery to decay, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God.' How is the Risen Lord beginning to fulfil this hope?

At Mass, fractions of creation – the Bread and Wine consecrated for Holy Communion – are transformed into the Real Presence of the Risen Lord.

Eucharistic Prayer III begins with: 'You are indeed Holy, O Lord, and all you have created rightly gives you praise...' How can all creation give God praise? As the ancient church used to teach: Each of you is a microcosm of the macrocosm, called to be a priest for the Cosmos. Through your enlightened mind and inflamed heart, the Cosmos knows that it exists and that it is loved by its Creator. It is beginning to share the freedom and glory of the children of God.

We could pause for a moment, stop staring into Heaven, and ready ourselves to receive the Holy Spirit so as to be what St Paul calls 'the Church which is His Body in whom the fullness of creation dwells'.

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The feast of the Ascension is the day, each year, where we remember and we celebrate that, just as Jesus was welcomed to God's right hand, so, too, shall we be welcomed to the right hand of Jesus. This is his promise, this is our faith and this is the hope we are called to proclaim to the world. And let's be clear about the invitation. There is nothing we have ever done, are doing, or will do, that will get our name removed from the invitation list to

the feast of Christ's kingdom. The challenge is accepting that we have a standing invitation and living lives worthy of the love that places our name on the list. The feast of the Ascension announces that Jesus will faithfully accompany us no matter how far we lose our way and that by our fidelity to Christ we accept or reject the standing offer.

And because the Ascension is an Easter feast it develops even further that there is nowhere, bar evil, where God does not dwell. Because of the

Resurrection and Ascension we can find God everywhere we want to: in our homes, our work, our suffering, our old age, our emotional, sexual or financial turmoil – and even in our death.

Even though the writers of the New Testament are not too clear on the details of how the Ascension happened, what we initially see in this wonderful feast is not what we get. Thanks be to God, it's so much more.