



# 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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Phone 5229 8298

St Patrick's

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Petrel St, Geelong West

Phone 5229 4412

**Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ**

Did you know that Lincoln's Gettysburg address was 250 words long? The man before Lincoln spoke for over an hour. The man who followed Lincoln spoke for even longer. No one remembers today what they said. Lincoln's two and a half minutes, by contrast, changed the USA's history and the mentality of the western world. This call to brevity is always a good challenge to preachers too!

Luke's version of the Lord's Prayer, which has 38 words, is another example of how a few sentences have changed history.

Around 50 years after the death of Jesus, Luke's Gospel was written for the Christian community in Antioch, which was the political and cultural capital of the Roman Province of Syria. There are six major themes running throughout this Gospel: prayer, hospitality, compassion, forgiveness, the common life and care for the outsider.

Most of them are expressed in the 38 words of this prayer.

We declare that we belong to God in the most intimate of ways, as members of God's family, and therefore we belong to each other. We pray that God's Kingdom will come here and now, and, through our gratitude for God's generosity and forgiveness, we can be saved from evil.

I think Christians should keep saying this prayer with great urgency. In most western countries today there are strong right wing political movements who say they are for Christ or that they want our country to return to 'Christian values', but these policies are irreconcilable with the Lord's Prayer. Indeed one politician I heard recently argued that the Immigration Act should be reviewed so that only Christians are allowed to settle here. There is little of the Gospel's hospitality, forgiveness, compassion, common life and care for outsiders in the views of these groups. These people, of course, have every right to publicly state

their views on any subject they choose. Morally, however, they must also accept responsibility for what they say and its implications.

It is so easy to allow our faith lives to become compartmentalised. For some, religious belief and practice fits into a nice little box that has no discernible influence on the rest of their lives. Coming to Church is a privatised affair. This may be many things, but it's not Christian. What we celebrate here each Sunday is supposed to have an affect on all areas of our lives, every day. Though we can try to make ourselves feel better by turning religion into a weekly spiritual bonbon, that is not what Jesus and the martyrs of our faith gave their lives for.

There is no question that these right-wing groups appeal to many of our compatriots because of the difficulties in rural areas, the demoralisation of high unemployment and the growing inequity in wealth distribution. /Cont'd P4...

**- 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time -***(Year C - July 28, 2019)***ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

God is in his holy place,  
God who unites those who dwell in his house;  
he himself gives might and strength to his people.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

Lord, on the day I called for help,  
you answered me.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father.  
**Alleluia!**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:****18th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Eccl 1:2,2:21-23  
2nd Reading: Col 3:1-5,9-11  
Gospel: Lk 12:13-21

**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:

**July 29 - August 12:** Tissera family, 164 Separation 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:**

Dawn O'Reilly and Teresa Pellizzeri

### **ANNIVERSARIES:**

Alois Iskra, Marijan Jelenic, Raffaele Gulli, Angela Zuclich, Garry Dougherty, David Hagebols, 1 month since death of Cesare Ciuffetelli, 5 year anniversary of Patricia McMahon and 10 year anniversary of Cosimo Mileto

### **BAPTISMS:**

Zoe & Eryn Dodsworth, Georgina & Kaitlen Mills and Ezra D'Arcangelo

### **PRAY FOR THE SICK:**

Colleen Laffy, Allan Ansell, Alexander, Sandra Klinge, Cheryl Lambert, Erin Kinch, Veronica Werzak, 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**

(1st Sunday of the Month)

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

Commentators C O'Brien  
Lectors Sr J McGonigal  
Special Ministers N Needl, 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  
M Bird, M Scaddan  
P Carmody, B Kline, Horoba  
M&E Hoffman  
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. <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)

## St Michael's News:

### "COME AND LISTEN TO THE GOOD NEWS"

*Christ is calling for you to Listen!*

A series of Catechesis will be given at St Michael's Community Centre,  
147 Separation St Bell Park **Monday and Thursday evenings from 7-8pm**

*Each evening gives an opportunity to pray, to encounter and experience the Church  
in a deep and enriching way.*

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- ◆ **PHILIPPINES PARTNERSHIP 2019 FUNDRAISING:** Our next meeting is on **Wednesday July 31, 7pm at the Parish Community Centre.** Parishioners are most welcome to attend.
  - ◆ **2019 CATHOLIC MISSION CHURCH APPEAL:** At all Masses this weekend there will be a special Third Collection taken up after Communion. All funds raised will help support the important work of Catholic Mission in Ghana, through programs designed to rescue babies and children who are vulnerable and foster their personal development for a brighter future. Donation envelopes are available at all Churches.
  - ◆ **THANKYOU** to everyone who contributed to the naming of the Bi-Annual Bulletin. The title **St Michael's Messenger** embodies the spirit and image of the parish. The Bulletin will highlight the diversity, inclusiveness, fun and community engagement of the Parish. Phase 2 now commences - obtaining articles, interviews, photos, etc for publication. The Parish has approximately 15+ different groups so your help and assistance in obtaining articles is appreciated. I will be making contact with group leaders in the coming weeks. Further information please contact Debbie on 0409 416 945.
  - ◆ **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!



### KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:

Are looking for active, mature Catholic men to become part of our organisation. Enquiries to Ray Henry 0418 350 679.

# Community News:

- July 28...** **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA 'SEASONS' SERIES: *Brazilian Adventures*** - Windfire Chamber Choir with rarely performed choral gems, music of Villa Lobos. 3pm St Mary's Basilica, tickets \$50/45/40 at the door or [trybooking.com/BABCY](http://trybooking.com/BABCY)
- Aug 11...** **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA 'SEASONS' SERIES: *Terra Australis*** - Australian Chamber Choir links great choral works with voyages in search of Terra Australis, the fabled Great Southern Land. 3pm St Mary's Basilica, tickets \$50/45/40 at the door or [www.auschoir.org](http://www.auschoir.org)
- Sept 15...** **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA 'SEASONS' SERIES: *Lauridsen the Mystic*** - Turod Choristers present contemporary settings of breath-taking music imbued with Greek modes and Gregorian plainchant. Tickets \$35/30 at the door or [ww.trybooking.com/BABDA](http://ww.trybooking.com/BABDA)

## **MERCY: A Seat at the Table - Monday 5 August, 6-8pm in Sacred Heart College Celies Dining Room**

*At Sacred Heart College we strive to empower young people to become agents of change within our world. It is our ardent desire that our graduates have a seat at the table where decisions are made; that they will shape the future of our global community with merciful hearts and minds. Please join us for an inspiring evening and hear from passionate campaigners for justice who will share their journey to the table of the United Nations as agents of change in the world today. Our guest speakers include Sr Angela Reed RSM, Mely Lanario, Mariette Latonia and SHC alumni, Sophia Griffiths-Mark. Tickets \$40 each, includes a 2-course dinner. **RSVP by Monday 29 July** to Rita Chiavari by email on [rsvp@shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au](mailto:rsvp@shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au) All profits donated to ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans)*

## **Reflection by Fr Michael Tate**

*People often imagine huge distance between Earth and a Heaven beyond the horizon of the universe. But Jesus Christ taught us to pray 'Thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven.'*

*How can this come about? Jesus identified two areas on which we need to focus to help make Heaven and Earth share the same space.*

*'Give us this day our daily bread.' This petition is very real for most inhabitants of the world – a plea for the necessities of life to stave off real hunger. If we respond to this plea, we can change a Hellish situation to a place where Heaven and Earth coincide.*

*'Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.' But, first to Shakespeare: 'The quality of Mercy is not strained. It falleth as the gentle rain of Heaven on to the place beneath.'*

*If we develop a hardness of heart which refuses to show forgiveness, then we are like earth concreted over and are unable to absorb God's forgiveness into our own lives. When we forgive someone, we become more able to absorb the gentle rain of heavenly mercy and forgiveness.*

*So, Heaven and Earth need not be as distant as supposed. Our Lord has shown us how we can help make these dimensions of existence coincide.*

*We could take a moment to resolve to pray the 'Our Father' by our lives, helping to provide evidence for our acclamation:*

*'Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Hosts,  
Heaven and Earth are full of your Glory'*

*We could pause for a moment to pray for the Church to show a greater willingness to sit, like Mary, at the feet of Jesus so that we may hear his words: 'You have chosen the better portion.'*

*/Cont'd from P1...*

There is, however, NO solution in using race relations, refugees, migrants, single mothers and the poor as scapegoats for our economic shortcomings. All this does is appeal to the worst traits in our human desires, where someone else is always to blame for our difficulties. Long-lasting, truthful and humanly dignified solutions to our nation's problems are those that embody the sacrificial love and compassion of Jesus. On every occasion racism, sexism, bigotry, violence and greed are sinful. This is the Gospel. This is the teaching of the Church.

Often Catholics argue that the Church's teaching should be more publicly proclaimed and obeyed. In its social teaching, the Church tells us that we should support political parties which best represent these key values in the Gospel. The Church has also taught us about refugees, immigration, gun control, violence, capital punishment and the rights of minority groups. All Catholics are called to hold true to these teachings.

Some Catholics complain that the Church should not speak out on political issues. It is, however, precisely the role of the Church to help people form their consciences and to declare what it sees as evil, sinful or harmful

in society. Christ expects nothing less of all of us. And where the Church has not done this, history has judged it VERY harshly, as in the Church's relatively recent condemnation of slavery.

The old line goes, 'Be careful what you pray because you might just get what you ask for.'

Let's join then with all Christians and be worthy of the one prayer which unites us and, in the spirit of these 38 words, pray fervently that all people everywhere will become one – in Christ – under our one Father in heaven.