



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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Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ

In our desire to affirm that the scriptures are inspired, it can be easy to forget that they come out of the lived experience of a community of faith. Indeed, one of the things that is wonderful about our belief in God's revelation is that it occurs within human experience. Today's Gospel is an excellent example. Jesus predicts that one of the consequences of believing in him is that divisions will follow.

We can tell from the whole text of Luke's Gospel that these divisions were certainly a part of the earliest Christian community which wrote this book and that their faith in Christ led them to confront some very tough issues: how could Gentiles inherit the promises made to the Jews; why the rich members of the community had special responsibility to the poor; the centrality of forgiveness in the Christian life; and what leadership role women should have in the earliest Church. We know that fights over

these issues and faith in Jesus as the Christ or the Messiah, divided families and villages, cities, nations and a religious tradition.

This gospel is both a stark reminder of the costs involved in following Jesus and a comfort to us in the church today. Sometimes we can domesticate the Christian community into a 'feel-good' society. Our religious words and actions, however, are always meant to have an edge; our faith should 'afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted'. If Christians at home, at work, in society and on the international stage just go along with what is trendy or current because we're frightened of conflict or because we want to be seen to be part of the crowd, then we are not worthy of this Gospel.

Sometimes when we hear Jesus use the metaphor of a blazing fire we can see a violent image, but I am not sure if it has to be exclusively interpreted this way. Fire is sometimes necessary and good to clear out the layers of undergrowth built up over time

that smother the soil of a forest and prevent new growth. Fire is a beacon that gives guidance and attracts attention. A blazing fire can attract everyone to its light, warmth and power. So maybe this Gospel is a call to purge the weight of old growth that can stop fresh thinking. Maybe it gives guidance to us in the justice we are meant to live and the attention we must call to the needs of all God's children.

And maybe it is a reminder that the life of our Christian community is meant to be attractive through its gentle power and warmth. If the price we pay for witnessing to any of these values is that we divide the crowd, so be it.

What's comforting about this gospel is that it recognises conflict as a necessary part of the Christian life. There are some who want to pretend that the followers of Jesus should never disagree with one another or with those outside the Church.

*/Cont'd P4...***- 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time -***(Year C - August 18, 2019)***ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one.

One day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Lord, come to my aid!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;

I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**21st Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Is 66:18-21

2nd Reading: Heb 12:5-7,11-13

Gospel: Lk 13:22-30

**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,
2nd & 4th Sundays 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:

Aug 13-26: Cudmore family, 128 Elizabeth 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:

Veronica Hinch, Rocco Verderame and Paul Kennedy

ANNIVERSARIES:

Eileen Pollard, Ivan Jovic, Rachael Peso, Frederick Fusea, Dora Accheni, Giuseppe (Pino) DiDomenico, Simon Began, Almor, Jose & Luis Mairos, Judite DaRosa, Caterina Iannuzzi, Patrick Lourey, Margaret Reid, Kate Depsey, Kath Edwards, Leo & Michael O'Dwyer, Dorothy Cushen, Joseph Moore, Salvatore & Damiano Modica, Salvatore, Antonietta, Rosa, Valentino & Giovanni Bove, Iannotta Ernest and 1 year anniversary of Sam Fazio.



BAPTISMS:

Mia Picak and Alice Robertson

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Colleen Laffy, Allan Ansell, Alexander, Sandra Klinge, Cheryl Lambert, Erin Kinch, Veronica Werzak, Cassi McColl, Margaret Barry, Angelita Obaldo

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

(4th Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S - 5.00PM

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

HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM

M Burn
J Fraatz
L Fossey, L Vannata
D Dougherty
A Zarb

HOLY FAMILY

8.00AM
Commentators F O'Neill
Lectors L Kelly
Special Ministers L Sells, E Kelly
Welcomers E Kelly, L. Allum
Projectionist R Allum
Co-Ordinator L. Kelly, 0409 291 138

9.30AM

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:

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...	St Michael's Community Centre, 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.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au

St Michael's News:



SR KATE O'NEILL will speak at the 5pm Mass, Ss Peter & Paul's Church this Saturday evening, and at the 8am and 9.30am Masses Holy Family Church and 11am Mass Holy Spirit Church next Sunday August 25.

- ◆ **After the 9.30am Mass this Sunday August 18, parishioners from the Iraqi Community will provide a traditional dish to share with other parishioners as part of their celebration of the Feast of the Assumption.**
- ◆ **MINISTRY OF THE PERMANENT DIACONATE:** Brochures available in the foyer in each Church - there will be an enquiry meeting for any interested men held on August 31 from 10-11am at the Catholic Theological College, 278 Victoria Pde, East Melbourne. Further details visit www.cam.org.au/permanent-diaconate.
- ◆ **CWL:** The Annual General Meeting of the Manifold branch of CWL will be held on **Wednesday September 4**, 1.30pm in St Michael's Parish Community Centre. Guest speaker - **Mary Monagle** who will speak about how her faith supports her in very difficult circumstances. A light lunch will be served prior to the meeting at 12noon and non-members who are interested in attending are invited to join us for lunch, cost \$10. Please contact Bernadette 0417 514 598 or Tricia 0431 512 354 for catering purposes.
- ◆ **CANE BASKETS AND JARS:** Glass jars (and lids) and cane baskets are needed in order to make the Christmas Hampers for this year's Markets. If you have any to spare, we would be extremely grateful. Please drop them in at the Parish Office or contact us on 5278 1343.
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **ST MICHAEL'S CRAFT, CUPPA & CHAT:** Are you looking for something to do every second Friday? Come along for a cuppa, chat, bring your craft project and make new friends. We meet at St Michael's Community Centre, Separation St from 2-4.30pm on 23 Aug, 6 Sept, 4 Oct, 18 Oct, 1 Nov, 15 Nov, 29Nov and 13 Dec. More information 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!



Liturgy at St Michael's:

Confirmation Mass - Aug 25... 3pm - Holy Family Church for Holy Spirit School Confirmation
Sept 5... 9.15am - Class Mass for Gr 5/6, Holy Family Church

St Michael's Parish Social Events:

- Oct 19... **HARMONICO FILIPINO with the Quinal's Youth Band:** 2pm at Holy Family Church, followed by Afternoon Tea. All proceeds go to Kuya Centre for Street Children.
- Nov 5... **MELBOURNE CUP DAY Chicken and Bubbly Luncheon:** 1pm at St Patrick's School, Petrel St Geelong West with all proceeds to Fr Mick's Mates, Cancer Council Victoria.
- Dec ???... **CHRISTMAS PRODUCE MARKETS:** Dates to be advised, with all proceeds to Fr Mick's Mates, Cancer Council Victoria
- Early 2020... **FILM NIGHT AND SUPPER:** Date to be advised, at Lifestyle Village Bell Park with all proceeds to Fr Mick's Mates, Cancer Council Victoria

Community News:

- Aug 23... **SACRED HEART COLLEGE CIRCLE OF MERCY: 2109 Challenges to the Church Today (Richard Leonard)** - Going out to the world is not for the faint-hearted. How do we hold a sensible and joyous religious faith, and confidently impart it to our friends and neighbours in the face of serious, secular opposition? 7pm to 8.30pm with light refreshments afterwards at Celies Hospitality Centre, Aphrasia St entrance. RSVP rchiav@shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au or ph 5222 0467 by **Monday 19 August.**
- Aug 24... **PAMPER DAY:** Pastoral Healthcare Network Geelong invites you to a relaxing afternoon of pampering and pastoral healthcare incl hand, shoulder and foot massages, Bowen therapy, blood pressure testing, meditation and a'noon tea. 1pm until 3.30pm in St Bernard's Church Foyer, Fryers Rd Belmont. Donation appreciated - enquiries/bookings ph Gabrielle 0403 500 279. **Please RSVP by Wednesday August 21 for catering purposes.**
- Aug 25... **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Social Luncheon for members and ladies, 1pm White Eagle House, Breakwater. Bookings to Frank Khan 5243 4926. **Note - there will be no normal meeting at St Bernard's in August.**
- Aug 25... **FEAST DAY OF ST BARTHOLOMEW:** Mass will be celebrated 2.30pm at St Mary's Basilica by Fr James Clarke. After there will be a procession around the Church and at 5pm refreshments in the Pioneer Room.
- Aug 25... **ANNUAL MASS OF ALL NATIONS:** Migrants and Refugees Sunday - Rosary 2pm Mass 3pm at St Patrick's Cathedral East Melbourne with main Celebrant Archbishop Peter A Comensoli. *'It is not just about migrants - it's about all of us!'*
- Aug 26... **BELMONT SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE - The Belmont Rhythmic Singers:** Together with Geelong Football Club History presented by Col Hutchinson and Eric Nicholls. 1.30-3pm, entry \$5 with tea/coffee after. This group will sing a mix of songs and old time favourites that will want you to sing along with them. Venue - Belmont Seniors Concert Hall, 52 Thomson St Belmont. More info 5241 1776 or Ross 0431 478 474.
- Sept 10... **LIFEBOAT GEELONG FOUNDATION** invites you to **Twilight at the Yacht Club** with Guest Speaker Dr Peter Larkins, at the Royal Geelong Yacht Club from 5.30 to 7.30pm with delicious finger food served throughout. Tickets \$60 - purchase online: www.lifeboatgeelong.com.au or email admin@lifeboatgeelong.com.au or ph 0439 199 400.
- 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 www.trybooking.com/BABDA
- Sept 20... **CATHOLIC MAN BREAKFAST SERIES:** Features Fr Leo Patalinhug who has a high profile as a chef, TV host and martial arts exponent which are tools in his real trade of 'evangelizing'. His talk will be **"Be a Man and Feed your Family."** Cost \$50 with group discounts available. 7-9pm at the Athenaeum Club, 87 Collins St Melbourne. Enquiries michael.bohan@menalive.org.au. The Catholic Man Breakfast Series is an opportunity for men to gather and be encouraged and inspired in their faith.

LIFEBOAT GEELONG has been established for six years and provides practical and pastoral support for victims of church-related sexual abuse. We are now in a position to employ a part-time "Client Support Officer" (between 12 and 24 hours/week) to provide personal support to individual clients through both personal contact and by phone. You will need to have an appreciation of the plight of those who have suffered sexual abuse from church personnel and its many harmful, lifelong negative effects such as PTSD, compromised education and employment potential, self-esteem issues. etc. Applicants should indicate any professional or experience-based qualifications, availability and motivation for this particular work. Hourly-based remuneration by agreement in accord with Human Resources practice. Applications by email, with supporting information and referees to: admin@lifeboatgeelong.com.au by **August 22**. Enquiries ph 0439 199 400.

/Cont'd from P1...

Conflict in itself, Jesus teaches us today, is an element of our commitment to the kingdom of God. What marks out the way we should disagree with one another inside and outside the Church, however, is that it is conducted with charity, dignity, careful listening and compassion.

Christians always look to put the best possible interpretation on the opinions of those with whom we disagree and to be reconciled to those we have hurt, to heal divisions where we can.

May this Eucharist give us the courage to divide the crowd for the right reasons. May

we be a blazing fire that casts light on darkness where people are exploited and injustice smothers the growth Christ wants to see in the human family. No one promised us that Christian faith was ever going to be a picnic!