



# 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

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John Grant

Petrel St, Geelong West

Phone 5229 4412

**Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ**

Jesus and Satan have an argument as to who is the better computer programmer. This goes on for a few hours until they agree to hold a contest with God as the judge. They set themselves before their computers and begin. They type furiously for several hours, lines of code streaming up and down the screen.

Seconds before the end of the competition, a bolt of lightning strikes, taking out the electricity. Moments later, the power is restored, and God announces that the contest is over. He asks Satan to show what he has come up with. Satan is visibly upset, and cries, 'I have nothing! I lost it all when the power went out.' 'Very well, then,' says God, 'let us see if Jesus fared any better.'

Jesus enters a command, and the screen comes to life in vivid display, the voices of an angelic choir pour forth from the speakers. Satan is astonished. He stutters, 'But how? I lost everything, yet Jesus' program is intact!

How did he do it?' God looks up over his glasses and chuckles, 'Ah you see, Jesus saves.'

Salvation has, rightly, always been the big issue. Who was going to make it, how it was going to happen and when would Christ return in glory have captured the imagination of each generation of believers.

The roots of this thinking can be found in today's Gospel. The earliest Christians, especially the Gentiles, saw that the Jews had been given every opportunity for salvation. They were the Chosen people. They had the Law and the Prophets. They were looking for the Messiah. Jesus, however, did not come as they expected or act as they hoped, so they rejected him and his followers. Within a generation after Jesus' death the Jews were persecuting the Christians and expelling them from the synagogues. The Christians took comfort from saying that in the salvation race the Jews might have started as the favourites,

but they had missed the start and were now coming last.

This way of thinking had a strong effect on the Church. While we have always believed in the mercy and love of God, at different times we have been hostile to other religions, other denominations and the secular world. We have often needed to express this in absolute terms about who was going to be saved and, more importantly, who was not!

The Second Vatican Council, however, reflected on the Church's experience of working side by side with religious people and secular humanists throughout the world who were as committed as we are to justice, love and freedom. In the 'Declaration on the relationship of the Church to non-Christian religions', the bishops thought more generously about how God has a relationship with all people who in turn relate to God, even if they do not name it in the same way we are able to. /Cont'd P4...

**- 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time -***(Year C - August 25, 2019)***ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;  
save the servant who trusts in you, My God.  
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

Go out to all the world  
and tell the Good News.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
I am the way, the truth, and the life,  
says the Lord; no one comes to the  
Father, except through me.  
**Alleluia!**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:****22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Sirach 3:17-20,28-29  
2nd Reading: Heb 12:18-19,22-24  
Gospel: Lk 14:1,7-14

**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:**

Stuart Robley, Theresa Zalac and Meckonen Syim

### **ANNIVERSARIES:**

John DaCosta, Charlie DiDomenico, Francesco Abate,  
Pietro Silvestri, Michael DeGoldi, Ana & Nada Siketa,  
David-Michael Bird and 1 year anniversary of Peter  
Gartlan

### **BAPTISMS:**

Michael Lanteri, Marli Maccoll, Nathan Music, Harvey  
Rovis and Osten Zuzic

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

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



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 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**

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...	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](http://www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au)

## St Michael's News:



SR KATE O'NEILL will speak at the 8am and 9.30am Masses Holy Family Church and 11am Mass Holy Spirit Church this Sunday, August 25.

- ◆ **LITURGY GROUP MEETING:** 7pm Tuesday August 27 in the Parish Office. (Bernadette Middleton 0417 514 593)
- ◆ **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](http://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.
- ◆ **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 6 Sept, 4 Oct, 18 Oct, 1 Nov, 15 Nov, 29 Nov and 13 Dec. More information contact Debbie on 0409 416 945.



## 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

### Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Can the Dalai Lama be saved?

*'[People] from east and west, north and south . . . will feast in the Kingdom of God.' Amongst those people, will there be Buddhists, Muslims, Hindus, atheists?*

*The surprising answer of Catholic Christianity is: 'Yes, but always through the working of the Holy Spirit of Our Lord Jesus Christ, who can prompt the heart of any person anywhere at any time with divine grace so that that person strives to lead a life of compassion and justice and not harming innocent creatures.' Obviously, this work of the Holy Spirit could encompass millions if not billions of people who have never heard the Gospel.*

*If the slogan: 'No salvation outside the Church' is taken to mean no-one can be saved unless he/she is a baptised member of the Catholic Church then it is a heresy explicitly condemned by Popes.*

*Nevertheless, we must pray and work for the conversion of all people so that they might have the advantage of all the aids of Word and Sacrament which we draw on as direction and strength on our journey towards the destiny which God desires for each one of us.*

*We could pause for a moment to acknowledge the boundless mercy of God, but also praying that all peoples might share our privilege of participating in that Holy Communion which is the foretaste of the banquet prophesied by Jesus in today's Gospel.*

## St Michael's Parish Social Events:

- Oct 19...** **HARMONICO FILIPINO with the Quinal 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:** Midday 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 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](http://www.lifeboatgeelong.com.au) or email [admin@lifeboatgeelong.com.au](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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.

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### UNLOCKING THE MYSTERY OF THE BIBLE:

Ever wondered what the Bible is about? How do you read it? Join us in an 8 week course to find out. Each week we'll uncover the story woven in scripture via a simple and engaging video. Each session has questions and these are discussed in small groups after the videos. The session finishes/starts with a quick revision, and we leave with some home reading. All you need is a Bible (Catholic Edition), the Study workbook (\$30) and 1¼ hours. Not much time to find out so much!

St Francis Xavier Corio will begin this study in September. To register and purchase the study book, call Arlean on 0405 529 172. Registrations and payments close Noon September 9, 2019.

/Cont'd from P1...

The Council did not resile from believing that Jesus is the way to the Father, but they also affirmed that God can work in an infinite number of ways to assist people to salvation. It is Church teaching now that our relationship to all people who share the best of our values must be

characterised by acceptance, collaboration, dialogue and charity.

This does not make salvation any less important. It just clarifies for us that it is God, not us, who does the saving and the judging. Christian salvation marks us out as people who know who we are following, where we are going, how we are getting there and why this world, and the next, matters to us.

Salvation gives our lives meaning, direction and purpose.

The way we live out this salvation should be irresistible to others. As the folk hymn sings, 'They will know we are Christians by our love, by our love. Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.'