

Incorporating the Churches of Holy Family Bell Park, Ss Peter & Paul's Geelong West & Holy Spirit Manifold Hts.

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Prakash Cutinha

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### Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ

esus 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.

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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. /Cont'd P4...

## Happy Father's Day!

## - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(*Year C - September 1, 2019*)

#### **ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

# GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!

Take my yoke upon you; learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.

Alleluia!

# **NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Wis 9:13-18
2nd Reading: Philemon 9-10,12-17
Gospel: Lk 14:25-33



### **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: **Holy Spirit, Manifold Hts:** Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West:

English... 8am and 9.30am Sunday Croatian... 11am Sunday 11am Sunday 5.00pm Saturday

Slovenian.. 12.15pm every 2nd Sunday of the month

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

1st & 3rd Sundays 12noon at Holy Spirit, 2nd & 4th Sundays 12.30pm at Ss P&P, BAPTISMS:

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

Holy Family Women's Prayer Group Wed... 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 Divine Mercy Fri... 3.00pm Holy Spirit Church After 9am Mass Holy Spirit Church Sat... Rosary

**OUR LADY'S STATUE:** 

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:** Francesco Bocchinchio, Carmel Bollard, Cathryn Lundie,

Barry Cox and Joanna Guinane

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Damiano Caruso, Walter Augustyn, Pat McGlinchey Snr,

> Ana Cengija, Marianna Boccasini, Francesco Altieri, Francesco & Annunziata Guarnaccia, Margareta & Paulo Tannotona, Olly & Kath McDonald, Gert Hennessy, Mary Lewis, and one month since death of Moya McVeigh and

Ernesto Tannotona

**BAPTISMS:** Anjel Leembruggen-Galvin and Eloise McIntyre

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Colleen Laffy, Allan Ansell, Alexander, Sandra Klinge, Cheryl Lambert,

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**

(2nd Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S - 5.00PM **HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM** 

M Carson E Strzelecki Commentators P Power Lectors M Martin

**Special Ministers** P McGlinchey V Trinder, L Vannata

Welcomers D Dougherty

Projectionist B Middleton R Martin

Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

**HOLY FAMILY** 8.00AM 9.30AM K Saunders Commentators C Simpson Lectors F O'Neill D Lunn, A Negro

Special Ministers R Allum, J Genova, C Marcantonio H Verdnik, E Di Domenico, E Glynn

Welcomers C Marcantonio, L Allum V Resciniti, E Glynn

C Resciniti Projectionist R Allum

L Kelly, 0409 291 138 J Mann, 0488 784 802 Co-Ordinator

### RECURRING ACTIVITIES IN ST MICHAEL'S:

Rosary... St Michael's Luncheon...

Holy Family Luncheon..

Holy Family Women's Group... St Vincent de Paul...

Legion of Mary... **Baptism Preps** 

Holy Family Choir Practice... Manifold CWL...

Italian Mass...

Catholic Diners' Club...

The Rosary is recited at 8.45am Tues and Thurs in Holy Family Church prior to the 9.15am Masses First Sunday of each month at the Holy Spirit Hall from 12noon. BYO food and drink to share.

Third Sunday of each month at the Community Centre from 12noon. BYO casserole & drink to share.

First Monday evening of each month at the Community Centre 6.30pm 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

Every Friday 9.30am in the Holy Family Community Centre

4th Mondays 7.30pm in the Community Centre Every Wednesday night at Holy Family Church 7pm

St Michael's Community Centre, 1st Wednesdays in the month

First Thursday of the month in St Patrick's Chapel

2nd Tues of each month, 6.15pm at Capri Receptions. Dinner/Guest Speaker - ph 0431 959 584

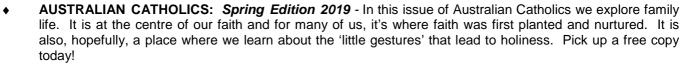
If you wish to know more about these groups, as well as about our Sacramental Program for children in non-Catholic schools, our Baptism and Wedding procedures, our Partnership with the Columbans in the Philippines and so on, please visit our webpage:

www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au

# St Michael's News:

PLEASE NOTE: There is NO Mass at MACS on Friday September 6.

OUR LADY'S BIRTHDAY: Please join us for the Rosary to help celebrate Our Lady's Birthday on Sunday September 8, 2pm at Holy Spirit Church.



- HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP: Monday 2nd September at 6.30pm BYO Nibbles, wine, cheese, etc. See you all there for an enjoyable evening.
- 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, 29Nov and 13 Dec. More information contact Debbie on 0409 416 945.

#### TODAY, GOD OUR FATHER, WE ASK YOUR BLESSING ON ALL FATHERS

- For new fathers coming to terms with new responsibility
- For those who are trying to balance the demands of work, marriage and children
- For those who have to struggle to be a part of their child's life
- For those who are unable to feed their children due to poverty
- For those whose children have physical, mental or emotional disabilities
- For those whose child has been placed for adoption
- For those whose love and support has offered healing
- For those that have adopted a child into their family
- For those who have lost a child
- For those who care for the children of others
- For those whose children have left home

Bless all fathers, that they may be able to commit themselves selflessly as mentor, protector and provider, shaping the direction of their child's character by giving love, care and guidance.

Bless all fathers, that they may lead their children to know and do what is good, living not for themselves alone, but for God and for others. Amen.



## St Michael's Parish Social Events:

- Oct 19... HARMONICO FILIPINO with the Quinals 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 Rews:

- 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 18... ST JOHN OF GOD GEELONG HOSPITAL AUXILIARY 2019 Spring Luncheon: 12.30pm at Eastern Hub, 285A McKillop St East Geelong. Cost \$55/person (2 course meal and welcome drink). Guest speaker: Dr Karen White, Medical Oncologist. Tickets available at Gift Shop in Hospital all welcome!
- 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.
- Sept 21... ONE DAY RETREAT: *Meditation on Jesus for Healing and Wellbeing of Body and Soul* through gentle postures and breathing exercises. 9.30am-4pm with 3 hours meditation 10am-1pm on Saturday Oct 12 to follow. At: Janssen Spirituality Centre, 22 Woodvale Rd Boronia. Ph 9762 6625 or email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@janssencentre.org">enquiries@janssencentre.org</a>

**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 Sept 10** followed by a delicious meal for only \$33/person. We meet at **Capri Receptions**, **258 Pakington St Geelong West**. Guest speaker this month - Joan West who will speak about the history of St Mary of the Angels Catholic Church, how it became a Basilica and its development alongside the growth of Geelong. More information/reservations please phone or text John Santospirito at 5248-2299 by **Friday Sept 6**, the deadline for catering purposes.

# **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY WITH CATHOLICCARE AND NORTHERN BAY COLLEGE, CORIO:** *Homework Tutoring Group ongoing for Terms 3 and 4, 2019.*

Volunteer Tutors are needed to assist newly arrived refugee students (Year 9-10) at Northern Bay College in North Geelong, on Mondays 3.15-4.30pm during 2nd Semester in 2019. Students are from Refugee Non English speaking backgrounds. Tutors will assist students to engage in group games, language learning and homework activities which provides a rewarding volunteer experience within the Refugee settlement and Education environments. If you can help contact Matthew.Walton@ccam.org.au or ph 9926 5699.

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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.

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.'