

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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OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Wed, Fri 9am-5pm, Thurs 9-2pm.

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Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ

OFFICE:

or some weeks now Luke has been telling us about the cost of discipleship. As commentary on what was happening in his community and a preparation for what was to come, today's gospel used the hyperbole of hatred to drive home the point. For the earliest Christians a choice for faith in Jesus could be this stark and dramatic: families split up and sometimes people who had loved each other turned their brother or sister, mother or father over to martyrdom. This is the context in which Luke's community produced this Gospel.

It is always good for us to recall that for some of our brothers and sisters beyond these shores the perils of public belief are still like those of Luke's community. Luckily for us the threat of death for our faith is only a very remote possibility. The power of this Gospel is that even if we are not faced with physical death, there are many other dyings that see us share in the cross of Jesus and follow in his way.

The verbs in this passage tell an interesting story: 'carry', 'follow', 'estimate', 'lay foundations', 'plan' and 'give up possessions'. It is a very tough list of things to do. Whatever our situation in life, this Gospel advocates that we figure out our priorities and live them out. In other words, we 'say what we mean and live what we say'.

We often think we could never live without most of the things to which we have become accustomed or attached. But we can. We know from people who have lived through some of the worst events of last century that there are very few

things that are essential to a happy life: human dignity; meaning and purpose; love of others; a sense of security. These are the essentials. Each person has a right to them and we have obligations to do our bit to see that they enjoy them. Everything else, as good as it might be, is icing on the cake. The problem is that we 'want our cake and eat it too!'

As Christians we cannot have it both ways. We cannot say we are baptised into the life and death of Christ and not be prepared to sacrifice anything. If material riches come our way, with them come an even greater obligation to share with the poor. If we have talents and energy we are called to put them at the service of improving the world in any way we can. If we want the hope of the resurrection, we have to first carry the cross. / Cont'd P4...

- 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(*Year C - September 8, 2019*)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws.

Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Ex 32:7-11,13-14 2nd Reading: 1Tim 1:12-17 Gospel: Lk 15:1-32



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 Holy Spirit Church Before 9am Mass

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 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:

Paul Rodak, Laura McKenzie, Teresa Valitutti, Bernice **RECENT DEATHS:**

Hammond, Nelson Johnson, Giovanni Rontani, Sr Pat

White RSM, Fr James Feenan

ANNIVERSARIES: Walter Booth, Bruno Nicolich, William Dempsey, Philip

> & Alice Leyden, Ester Miller, George Bollard, Ron Sells, Angelo & Elodia Capra, Pasqualina Cammarere

and 1 month since death of Rocco Verderame

BAPTISMS:

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

(3rd Sunday of the Month)

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

Commentators M Kroger K Maddalena J McKenzie Lectors **Special Ministers** K Maddalena L Stalio, L Fossev Welcomers Projectionist D Whelan F Kearney

Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY FAMILY 8.00AM 9.30AM M Howard A Scaddan Commentators

Lectors P. Carvalho H Verdnik, T McMahon Special Ministers Sr Concepta, P Ruggeri, R Culo M Fiorillo, M. Perera

Welcomers P Ruggeri, R Culo E Dalton C Resciniti Projectionist R Allum

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

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
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:

CHILD PROTECTION SUNDAY 2019:

St Michael's Parish and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, well being and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. May our message be that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention

- ♦ 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.
- ♦ AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS: Spring Edition 2019 In this issue of Australian Catholics we explore family life. It is at the centre of our faith and for many of us, it's where faith was first planted and nurtured. It is also, hopefully, a place where we learn about the 'little gestures' that lead to holiness. Pick up a free copy today!
- ♦ 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 2pm 4.30pm on 20 Sept, 4 Oct, 18 Oct, 1 Nov, 15 Nov, 29 Nov and 13 Dec. For more information contact Debbie on 0409 416 945.
- OPPORTUNITY FOR CRICKETERS: Within the Northern Suburbs there are opportunities for ALL AGES to join Community Cricket Clubs. The Parish welcomes all men, women, boys and girls to attend a meeting at 7.30pm on September 19 at the Parish Community Centre, 147 Separation St Bell Park. "Now is cricket time. Now is the time to consider joining a club close to your home and now is the opportunity." Geelong cricket people will be present to talk about these opportunities.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Hate your father

I am told that, in most Middle Eastern languages, there is no word for 'prefer'. Perhaps influenced by extremes of heat and cold, the vocabulary of 'love' and 'hate' is used instead. No one can imagine Jesus 'hating' Joseph, but he clearly gave preference to his mission, even as a precocious 12 year old in the Temple.

In today's Gospel, Jesus was preparing his followers, imminently and over the generations, for persecution. This would include real-life situations of families denouncing a son or daughter, or a brother turning over a brother to the authorities.

Imagine a Chinese Catholic hearing this Gospel this morning, and this afternoon being betrayed by family members for remaining loyal to the successor of St Peter. Jesus exhorts such a follower to prefer this cross over what the family considers politically correct.

We could pause for a moment to pray for all families, torn apart for allegiance to Jesus in His Church, that they may be re-united in the peace of the Risen Lord.

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 News:

- 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 14...** FRIENDS OF FAITH & LIGHT GEELONG: Founded by Jean Vanier in 1974, this is a form of regular community and spiritual support, focused on persons with disability. 1.30 to 4pm in the Hibernian Hall, St Mary's Parish Centre, 150 Yarra St. For further information please call Tricia O'Keeffe on 0414 672 267.
- 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
- 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: enquiries@janssencentre.org

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.

/Cont'd from P1...

So riches, a better world and hope come with a price.

Many of us, however, do not need to be reminded about all this because we carry crosses every day. For some it comes through mental, physical or spiritual ill health. For others it can be in our homes where we have to deal with illness, dysfunction or

violence. It can be in our places of employment where we are overworked, undervalued or bullied. Whatever our particular crosses may be we are one with all those who have 'gone before us marked with the sign of faith' and who found Christ in the midst of their suffering. This Gospel promises us that Christ walks beside us bearing the burden of the struggle.

May this Eucharist give us eyes to see Christ present in our most difficult moments and make us more compassionate so we never add to the weight of another person's burden, but help carry it as best we can.