



St Michael's Parish

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

PARISH PRIEST:

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Holy Spirit

Rachel Holdsworth

Minerva Rd Manifold Hts

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St Patrick's

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Web Page Address:

www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au

Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ

Night and day is the dominant image presented to us in today's readings.

The season of Advent is for the Church the time just before the dawn of Christmas, when the fullness of God's love took human flesh in Jesus.

The moments before dawn are often special: cities are still, the air is damp, noise is at a minimum and, at least on clear days, there is an anticipation of the sun bursting forth into daylight. No wonder Paul and Matthew found it such a rich metaphor for the coming of Christ.

American lyricist and composer, Marty Haugen has found the image of light and darkness inspirational in his text, God of Day and God of Darkness (© 1984, 1995, published by GIA Inc.) He writes:

God of day and God of darkness, now we stand before the night;

As the shadows stretch and deepen, come and make our darkness bright.

All creation still is groaning for the dawning of your might,

When the Son of peace and justice fills the earth with radiant light.

Still the nations curse the darkness, still the rich oppress the poor;

Still the earth is bruised and broken by the ones who still want more.

Come and wake us from our sleeping so our hearts cannot ignore

All your people lost and broken, all your children at our door.

Show us Christ in one another, make us servants strong and true;

Give us all your love of justice, so we do what you would do.

Let us call all people holy, let us pledge our lives anew,

Make us one with all the lowly, let us all be one in you.

Marty Haugen's take on the light and dark in the world is entirely consistent with the way Catholic mystics have applied these metaphors. Being in the light is not just about what we see, it is about what we do. St Ignatius Loyola often spoke about the things we keep buried in the dark. For Ignatius the experience we won't speak about, the sins we won't confess and the memories we suppress are the signs of the bad spirit. They gain an inordinate power over us and we displace a lot of energy keeping them buried in the dark. Ignatius always saw the hand of the good spirit when these things came into the light.

/Cont'd P4...



Welcome to Fr Minh Tran:

As from December 11th, Fr Minh Tran will be the Priest in Charge of St Michael's Parish.

We welcome Fr Minh Tran to our Parish and trust that his time with us will be happy.

- First Sunday of Advent -

(Year A - December 1, 2019)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

To you I lift up my soul, O my God. In you I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

2nd Sunday of Advent:

1st Reading: Is 11:1-10

2nd Reading: Rom 15:4-9

Gospel: Mt 3:1-12



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:

Nov 18-Dec 1: O'Neill family, 11 Derby Rd; **Dec 9 - Dec 30:** Moore family, 39 Willana Ave

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:

Sr Jan Geason RSM

ANNIVERSARIES:

Gerard Gillett, Milan Stante, Joan Jess, Maria Mileto, Mary Sells, Joze Matjasic

BAPTISMS:

Piper Drever and Mila Pietrapertosa

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Margaret Barry, Angelita Obaldo, Josica Markov, Joe Vanjek, Angelina Bove, Lucy Burville, Sandra Klinge, Barry McFarlane, Veronica Werzek, Ken Fusea, John McDonald, Brad Fowler, Angela Reed



PRAYING FOR ALL SOULS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER:

Tues Dec 3...

Marcantonio family members

Wed Dec 4...

Flomo family

Thurs Dec 5...

Cudmore family members

Fri Dec 6...

Stuart Robley

Roster for Next Sunday

(2nd Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S - 5.00PM

Commentators M Carson
Lectors P Power
Special Ministers P McGlinchey
Welcomers D Dougherty
Projectionist B Middleton
Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM

E Strzelecki
M Martin
V Trinder, L Vannata

R Martin

HOLY FAMILY

8.00AM
Commentators K Saunders
Lectors F O'Neill
Special Ministers R Allum, J Genova, C Marcantonio
Welcomers C Marcantonio, L Allum
Projectionist R Allum
Co-Ordinator L Kelly, 0409 291 138

9.30AM

C Simpson
D Lunn, A Negro
H Verdrik, E Di Domenico, E Glynn
V Resciniti, E Glynn
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
Holy Family Luncheon...	Third Sunday of each month at the Community Centre from 12noon. BYO casserole & drink to share.
St Michael's Luncheon...	First Sunday of each month at Louisa Fossey's house
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:

- ◆ **PLEASE NOTE:** Due to our upcoming Advent Reconciliation sessions on December 17 at Holy Family Church and December 18 at Holy Spirit Church, the normal Saturday morning Reconciliation on December 7 has been cancelled. Thankyou for your understanding.
- ◆ **SISTERS OF THE HOLY ANGELS** will hold a Christmas Stall after the 8am and 9.30am Masses at Holy Family Church this Sunday December 1st. Lots of Christmas gifts and goodies to purchase!
- ◆ **HOLY FAMILY WOMENS GROUP CHRISTMAS DINNER:** Monday December 2, 6.30pm at Pekish, City of Geelong Bowls Club, Ballarat Rd North Geelong. See you all there!
- ◆ **SVDP HOLY SPIRIT CONFERENCE** will hold their 2019 Christmas Appeal at the 11am Mass at Holy Spirit Church on Sunday December 8. There will be an extra 3rd Collection taken up and the funds raised will be used to directly assist those experiencing hardship and disadvantage in our community.
- ◆ **CWL:** The Christmas Lunch of the Manifold Branch of the CWL will be held Wednesday December 11 at Bell Park Sport and Recreation Club, Calvert St Hamlyn Hts, at midday. Please bring a wrapped gift to the value of \$10 for our Lucky Dip Kris Kringle. Senior meals are approx \$12. St Michael's parishioners who wish to join us are most welcome. More details/bookings please ph Tricia 0431 512 354.
- ◆ **HKUD 'LADO' GEELONG:** Croatian Cultural Artistic Association presents their Christmas Concert on Sunday December 22, 6pm at Ss Peter & Paul's Church. Free entry, all welcome!
- ◆ **VINNIES BUSHFIRE APPEAL:** Archbishop Comensoli would be grateful and encourages our parishioners to help support the communities in the north of our country devastated by the bushfires. Donations can be made via the webside at www.vinnies.org.au, via Holy Family Bell Park Conference, or directly to St Vincent de Paul Society, Locked Bag 4800, Box Hill Vic 3128.
- ◆ **LECTORS PLEASE NOTE:** Your copy of the **2020 Break Open the Word** is now in the Sacristy where you are rostered. Please collect as soon as you can. Many thanks for your continued support.
- ◆ **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 13 Dec. For more information contact Debbie on 0409 416 945.

Liturgy at St Michael's:

Advent/Christmas Carols Service:



A warm welcome is extended to all parishioners, family and friends to our Annual Advent/Christmas Carols Service at Holy Family Church on **Tuesday December 10 commencing at 7pm**. As this was an initiative of Fr Prakash, your attendance would be a fitting way of honouring his wonderful ministry in our community. Anybody who would like to join the choir for this occasion, there will be a practice next Wednesday, December 4 at 7pm at Holy Family Church.

St Michael's Parish Social Events:

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



CHRISTMAS MARKETS - Proceeds to Fr Mick's Mates:

Sun Dec 8... Holy Spirit - 11am Mass
Sat Dec 14... Ss Peter & Paul's - 5pm Mass
Sun Dec 22... Holy Family - 8am and 9.30am Masses

If you wish to buy "Christmas Hampers", please call Margaret Brown 5229 1280.

Community News:

- Dec 1...** **RICE VILLAGE - CHRISTMAS MARKET FAIR:** 11am-3pm at Rice Village. All are welcome to enjoy lots of fun, delicious food, to search goodies for yourself or for gifts, and to try your luck. Funds raised will go towards the purchase of a wheel chair accessible bus for residents to enjoy outings. Mercy Place Rice Village - Marshalltown Road, Marshall.
- Dec 7...** **FRIAR ALESSANDRO AT ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL:** You are invited to an evening of Christmas music and readings with internationally acclaimed Franciscan singer, Friar Alessandro. Entry free or by donation with all donations supporting the Vinnies Christmas Appeal - **bookings essential** via www.voicefrommassisi.org.au
- Dec 10...** **GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS' CLUB:** Come join us for a lovely Christmas 3-course evening meal, the musical entertainment of Don Fisher and a fun Christmas Raffle. We are open to members of all faiths. Appetisers begin 6.15pm followed by a delicious Christmas meal for only \$35/person - Capri Receptions, 258 Pakington St Geelong West. More information/reservations phone or text **Michael Belleville at 0431 959 584 by Friday December 6**, the deadline for catering purposes.
- Dec 15...** **CELEBRATION OF ST LUCY MARTYR:** 2.30pm Rosary and Mass at the Church of St Brendan, 103 Wellington St Flemington, followed by Procession with the Statue and Eucharistic Benediction. Refreshments to follow - all welcome! Further information ph Vince Ricevuto 9350 1142.
- Dec 16...** **ADVENT DAWN MASS (Simbang Gabi):** You are invited to attend this devotional 9-day Novena Mass in anticipation of Christmas and to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary - 5.30am at St Francis Xavier, 143 Bacchus Marsh Rd Corio. Bishop Mark Edwards will celebrate the 9th Day Novena Mass Dec 24. Please bring along your family and friends - more info ph Arlean on 5275 4120.

MUSIC AT THE BASILICA:

- Dec 8...** **CHRISTMAS CAROLS AT THE BASILICA:** 6.30pm (after 5.30pm Mass) arrival for a 7pm start, hosted by our very own 'Santa' - MC Graham Rawlins and featuring talent from within our parish - St Mary's Basilica Choir, The Mixtures, St Mary's Junior Choir & Lumiere, Caterina & Giulia Monea and more... In the Basilica Grounds (in front of Anam Cara House), cnr Yarra & Lt Myers St - BBQ \$2 sausage sizzle, free face painting PietyStall Gift Shop, Zooper Dooper ice sticks for sale \$1 each, coffee van. All welcome!



FREE LUNCHTIME ADVENT ORGAN RECITALS:

All recitals at St Mary's Basilica at 12.30pm - 1.15pm
Mondays 2, 9, 16 and 23 December.

Monday 2 December... Tom Healey
Monday 9 December... Terry Norman
Monday 16 December... Christ Trikilis
Monday 23 December... Frank DeRosso

CATHOLIC VOCATIONS:

Advent Sunday 1 - December 1...

"Stay Awake". Jesus urges us to be ready. Today let us pray for the young people in our parish community, that they may be ready and alert to hear the Lord calling them to the faithful vocations of marriage, priesthood, consecrated or single life.

/Cont'd from P1...

Every time someone says to me, 'Father, I've never told anyone this before, but I want to talk about it now...' I thank God that the good spirit is alive and active. St Ignatius encourages us to be alert to all the ways we con ourselves that keeping secrets hidden in the dark is a necessary or acceptable way to live.

May this Advent be the season in which we bring to consciousness all the things that stop us from being fully alive and basking in the light. May our preparation for Christmas confirm us in the truth of Haugen's words about Jesus Christ and humanity.

You shall be the path that guides us, you the light that in us burns;

*Shining deep within all people, yours the love that we must learn,
For our hearts shall wander restless, 'til they safe to you return;
Finding you in one another, we shall all your face discern.*