



# St Michael's Parish

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

|                           |                                    |                   |   |  |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|---|--|
| <b>PRIEST IN CHARGE:</b>  | <b>Fr. Minh Tran</b>               |                   |   | <b>Web Page Address:</b><br><a href="http://www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au">www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au</a> |
| <b>OFFICE:</b>            | 147 Separation St Bell Park 3215   |                   |   |  |
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| <b>OFFICE HOURS:</b>      | Mon-Wed, Fri 9am-5pm, Thurs 9-2pm. |                   |   |  |
| <b>PARISH SECRETARY:</b>  | Bernadette Bilogrevic              | Phone 5278 1343   | Email: <a href="mailto:bellpark@cam.org.au">bellpark@cam.org.au</a>       |  |
| <b>PASTORAL WORKER:</b>   | Sr Anne Lourey                     | Phone 5278 1343   | Email: <a href="mailto:anne.lourey@cam.org.au">anne.lourey@cam.org.au</a> |  |
| <b>SCHOOL PRINCIPALS:</b> | Holy Family                        | Peter Brunt       | Separation St, Bell Park  | Phone 5278 4634  |
|                           | Holy Spirit                        | Rachel Holdsworth | Minerva Rd Manifold Hts   | Phone 5229 8298  |
|                           | St Patrick's                       | John Grant        | Petrel St, Geelong West   | Phone 5229 4412  |

## Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ

Have you ever been on a farm during summer? If you have you will know how precious water is. When I was a boy, I spent several holidays on an uncle's property. There were often six or seven city-based cousins there for the long summer break. It was great fun, but the one thing of which we needed a daily reminder was to be careful with how much water we used. We seemed to luxuriate in the shower for twice as long as our country cousins!

I can remember that when we arrived for one holiday, it had not rained in the area for nearly nine months. A few days later, just at dusk, the thunder rumbled, the storm clouds gathered and the

heavens burst open. The rain poured down. Like in the movies, everyone inside the house just stood up and walked out into the rain. No one said a word. We stood in the rain and soaked it in. The earth was not the only thing in need of a drenching.

In today's letter from St James the metaphor of waiting for rain is given to us as a way of understanding what it was like to wait for Christ. It is a potent image for Advent. In this season each year we remember that humanity waited through a long, dry and exhausting period for the sign of new life in Jesus. For generations people looked to the heavens every day for a sign that today would be the day when God's salvation would come. Then, one night, in a way no one could have ever imagined, with no fanfare, a

child burst forth into the world and established the final reign of God's love.

Advent is not the time when we pretend that Jesus hasn't come into our world and that we are the first to anticipate his coming at Christmas. It's a richer season than that. It is the time when we recall what it was like before he came and how much we need him to keep coming again and again in our daily lives.

The First Reading and the Gospel make it very clear that farmers never down tools just because the rain comes. We're told that as a result of being soaked in the love of God we are called to do all we can for those in our world who are lame, blind, deaf, lepers, poor and for any one left for dead. /Cont'd P4...

## - Third Sunday of Advent -

(Year A - December 15, 2019)

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.  
Indeed, the Lord is near.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Lord, come and save us.

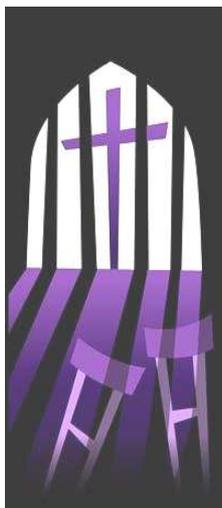
### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. **Alleluia!**

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

#### 4th Sunday of Advent:

1st Reading: Is 7:10-14  
2nd Reading: Rom 1:1-7  
Gospel: Mt 1:18-24



### 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:

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:

Zora Svaljek, Kevin Gall, James Baxter and Milutin Storic

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Almor Mairos, Jose Medeiros, Madalena Ferraz, Irene & John O'Neill, Tony, Tilly & Loy Past, Francesco Marifioti and 1 year anniversary of John Liddell

### BAPTISMS:

Luella Javni

### 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 17...**

**Cicero family members**

**Wed Dec 18...**

**Bruschi family members**

**Thurs Dec 19...**

**Baldasso family members**

**Fri Dec 20...**

**Duggan family members**

## 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, L Fossey  
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  
C Resciniti  
J Mann, 0488 784 802

# St Michael's Parish Christmas Celebrations



## Christmas Masses:

|           |        |                                     |
|-----------|--------|-------------------------------------|
| Dec 24... | 5.00pm | Ss Peter & Paul's                   |
|           | 5.00pm | Holy Family (Focus on the children) |
|           | 7.00pm | Ss Peter & Paul's                   |
|           | 8.00pm | Holy Spirit (Focus on the family)   |

|           |        |             |
|-----------|--------|-------------|
| Dec 25... | 9.00am | Holy Spirit |
|           | 9.30am | Holy Family |

## Christmas Masses in Croatian:

|           |         |             |
|-----------|---------|-------------|
| Dec 24... | 8.00pm  | Holy Family |
| Dec 25... | 11.30am | Holy Family |

## Christmas Mass in Lithuanian:

|           |        |                   |
|-----------|--------|-------------------|
| Dec 25... | 9.30am | Ss Peter & Paul's |
|-----------|--------|-------------------|



## Second Rite Reconciliation:

|           |        |                    |
|-----------|--------|--------------------|
| Tuesday   | Dec 17 | 7.30pm Holy Family |
| Wednesday | Dec 18 | 7.30pm Holy Spirit |

**PLEASE NOTE: There will be NO weekday Mass on Tues, Dec 24 at Holy Family**



## Christmas Rosters 2019:

### HOLY FAMILY

Commentator  
Lector  
Special Ministers

Projectionist

### HOLY SPIRIT

Commentator  
Lectors  
Special Ministers  
Projectionist

### Ss PETER & PAUL'S

Commentator  
Lectors  
Special Ministers

Projectionist

### 5.00PM CHRISTMAS EVE

\*\*\*\*\*  
L Kelly  
E Kelly, L Sells, P Ruggeri, J Genova  
\*\*\*\*\*, \*\*\*\*\*

B Bilogrevic

### 8.00PM CHRISTMAS EVE

M Martin  
M Kroger  
V Trinder, M Martin, \*\*\*\*\*  
R Martin

### 5.00PM CHRISTMAS EVE

A Henderson  
G Tolan  
P McGlinchey, A Henderson, N Neeld  
\*\*\*\*\*

D Whelan

### 9.30AM CHRISTMAS DAY

P Gizycki  
T McMahon, D Lunn  
P Carmody, V Resciniti, D Lunn

C Resciniti

### 9.00AM CHRISTMAS DAY

F Kearney  
\*\*\*\*\*  
F Kearney, \*\*\*\*\*  
Kearney family

### 7.00PM CHRISTMAS EVE

\*\*\*\*\*  
M Gifford  
M Gifford, \*\*\*\*\*

**\*\*\*\*\* Please contact the Parish Office if you can help.**

## St Michael's Parish Social Events:



### CHRISTMAS MARKETS - Proceeds to Fr Mick's Mates:

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.*

*"We proclaim the Crucified Christ" (1Cor 1:23)*

Dear Parishioners of St Michael's,

I would like to introduce myself - my name is Fr Minh Tran. Please just call me Minh. I come from Vinh Diocese in the North of Vietnam. I was trained to become a Priest in Melbourne and was ordained in 2014. I was appointed Assistant Priest at St Monica's Parish Moonee Ponds, then Administrator to St Joseph's Parish Northcote in January 2018.

On 20 November 2019, the Archbishop appointed me to St Michael's, Bell Park. I am happy to say "Yes" and serve God's people, as you are. As Mary said "Yes" to the Angel Gabriel at the Annunciation, she accepted to be the Mother of God's Son, Jesus, our Lord and Saviour. In addition, the Angel said to her: "Mary, do not be afraid. You have found favour with God" (Lk 1:30). Learning from Mary, our Mother, I am always ready to be sent by Christ to his people. I am no longer feeling worried or nervous because of this new appointment. For you as parishioners of St Michael's, are wonderful people of God; you are faithful to the Church and Community. I kindly ask for your daily prayers for my new journey with you, as I pray for each one of you and for our community.

I look forward to seeing you soon, to celebrate Eucharist with you, to sing with you and be with you.

May our Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary, Bless our Community.

Yours in Christ - Fr Minh Tran

## St Michael's News:

### SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE:

Compliance with the Victorian Child Safe Standards requires that ALL volunteers in our parish must hold a current Working With Children Check. Please contact the Parish Office if you require assistance, or visit the website: [www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au](http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au)

- ◆ **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!
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **MICK'S MESSENGER:** The first edition of our Parish Magazine, "Mick's Messenger", is now available at our Churches. Lots of great reading and articles! A big, big thankyou to Debbie Horoba for the many hours that she has poured into getting this up and ready, in time for Advent.

## Community News:

### 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.

### CATHOLIC VOCATIONS:

#### Advent Sunday 3 - December 15...

"The Lord is Near".

Today the Church bids us rejoice, the Lord is near, indeed He is with us. Let us rejoice today for those who have said 'yes' to the call of Jesus. Pray for our priests and religious. Pray for the fifty men in formation to the Priesthood at our Seminary in Carlton, Corpus Christi College.

/Cont'd from P1...

This is a vital message for us to hear today because there are some in our country who tell us that all we have to do is look after 'our own back yard'. This line is many things, but it's not Christian. Advent reminds us that by welcoming Christ we have an obligation to care for all his

children. Everywhere is our back yard because that's where our brothers and sisters live. May we gain from Christ this Christmas the generosity to see that the desert is meant to bloom for all people everywhere, not just a few of us lucky to live in an oasis.

We are ridiculously generous to others because God in Jesus has been lavishly good to us and our goodness remains a most powerful sign of God's salvation that is always seen in deeds not words.