

# st Michael's Parish

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

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Minh Tran

**OFFICE:** 147 Separation St Bell Park 3215

Phone: 5278 1343 Email: bellpark@cam.org.au

OFFICE HOURS: Mon -Fri 9am-1pm

PARISH SECRETARY: Bernadette Bilogrevic Phone 5278 1343 Email: <u>bellpark@cam.org.au</u>

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SCHOOL PRINCIPALS: 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

**RECENT DEATHS:** Patricia Vivian, John Whiteley, Ana Gudasic, Riccardo Zanardo, Ivan Banozic

ANNIVERSARIES: Eileen Doherty, Theresa Radojevic, Ljerka Lehpamer

**SICK:** Veronica Werzek, Angela Reed, Josica Markov,

Giuseppa Forestieri, Julita Aquino

#### ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION:

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually

into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



Web Page Address:

www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au

Facebook Address:

www.facebook.com/michaelparish.st

www.shutterstock.com.x 65302150

Congratulations! To the students from Holy Spirit Primary School who made their First Reconciliation during the week!

## St Michael's News:

• UPDATE ON RELIGIOUS GATHERINGS: Restrictions for religious gatherings allow a maximum of 20 people, the numbers are still not workable to open our churches for Masses. This will be readdressed after June 22nd. Livestreaming of Mass will continue until then. Thank you for your understanding.

#### TRINITY SUNDAY

(Year A - June 7, 2020) Ex 34:4-6, 8-9 2 Cor 13:11-13 Jn 3:16-18

- COVID19 PARISH CATCH UP CHALLENGE: Catch up with someone by phone, text, in person (but not too physically close), you would usually see around the Parish or at Mass.
- **THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES:** Can be dropped in at the Parish Office at a time that is suitable to you or, if you prefer to make a one off payment, please contact the Parish Office on **52781343.**
- PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Until further notice, the parish office will be opened daily from 9am-1pm.
- LIVESTREAMING OF MASS: This Sunday at 10am.
- CHANNEL 10: Mass at 6am & CHANNEL 31 or 44 Mass at 11am every Sunday. Mass is also available on You Tube daily, from St Simon's Parish, Rowville.

### Reflection by Richard Leonard

Years ago I was asked to take a parish-based catechetics class for children from a government primary school. I started by trying to work out how much the children knew about the basics. I asked, 'When we make the sign of the cross, what do we say?' 'Father, Son and Holy Spirit' came the firm reply. So far so good! I tried upping the bar. 'What do we call the Father, Son and Holy Spirit?' There was complete silence. I tried another track. 'What do you think of when you make the Sign of the Cross?' There was an awkward silence and then a bright little boy cheerily said, 'The old man, the young fella and the bird!'

No one can blame those children for the poverty of their images of the Trinity. Many older Catholics have similar images from paintings and holy pictures. The mystery of the Trinity means that in whatever way we portray God as Father, Son and Spirit it will always be inadequate and incomplete. No one has ever seen God or the Holy Spirit. No one has a portrait of Jesus. All the images and words we use for the Trinity are more a reflection of our faith than the final word about God. God is always more than any name we use or any concept we have. The special insight into God we celebrate today is that relationships are at the very centre of who God is.

It took the early Christians four hundred years to fully grasp what Jesus was on about when he spoke of his relationship to the Father and Spirit. They struggled to understand how and why God would have three faces and yet exist as One Being – love as One, act as One. They settled the 'how' of the Trinity's nature by teaching us that the persons of the Trinity are co-equal, co-substantial and co-eternal. They settled the 'why' of the Trinity by reflecting that their experience of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit was an encounter of love. They knew the core of God was not an idea or a principle, but was a loving relationship. Furthermore, the early Christians knew that they were invited into this relationship.

What was true for them is true for us. Think about this for a minute: we believe that the God who creates, redeems and sustains the world seeks us out and invites us into a loving relationship. This is what gives us our greatest dignity and urges us on to share this message with everyone we meet. What a privilege! What an invitation! What a God!

It also follows that if relationships are at the core of God then, for those of us who accept the invitation into the Trinity's embrace, relationships are meant to be our core business too. We are not to be isolated believers or private disciples. The degree to which we understand today's feast will be shown in the care we take in our many and varied relationships, be they social, intimate, professional, civic or international.

Every time we do anything to form new and good relationships, mend those which are broken, help other relationships to be deeper and richer or just enjoy the ones we have, we discover one thing: Trinity Sunday is a moveable feast.

