



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: bellpark@cam.org.au**PASTORAL WORKER:**

Sr Anne Lourey

Phone 5278 1343

Email: bellpark@cam.org.au**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

Luke Sheahan

Petrel St, Geelong West

Phone 5229 4412

(Acting Principal)

Web Page Address:www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au**Facebook Address:**www.facebook.com/michaelparish.st**RECENT DEATHS:**

Rita Henriques (Venezuela), Iolanda Tortoreto

ANNIVERSARIES:

Matthew Barr, Margaret McFarlane, Francesca Napoli and the 1 year anniversary of Anne Moore & Cesare Ciuffetelli

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.*

St Michael's News:

- UPDATE ON RELIGIOUS GATHERINGS:** From June 22, restrictions for religious gatherings will be eased and allow a maximum of 50 people in attendance. We are happy to inform our parishioners that **midweek daily** Masses only will resume from next Tuesday, **June 23**. Please see page two of this bulletin for more information. Sunday Mass will continue to be livestreamed.
- MIDWEEK MASS TIMES:** Holy Family Church - Tuesday & Thursday 9.15am and Holy Spirit Church - Wednesday 9.15am & Friday 11am. (Please note, change of time for the Wednesday Mass).
- 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:** The parish office will now be opened daily from 9am-3pm.
- LIVESTREAMING OF MASS:** This Sunday at 10am. Also available on Channel 10 at 6am and 11am on Channel 31 & 44. Mass is also available on You Tube daily, from St Simon's Parish, Rowville.

12TH SUNDAY IN**ORDINARY TIME**

(Year A - June 21, 2020)

Jer 20:10-13

Rom: 5:12-15

Mt 10:26-33

COVID—19 RELIGIOUS GATHERINGS' GUIDELINES & SAFETY MEASURES:

- **REGISTER FOR MASS:** Attendees must contact the Parish Office either by phone or email, by 2pm, a minimum of two days prior to the Mass time to register. (Next Tuesday's Mass being an exception, please register by 2pm on Monday).
- **ENTRY INTO CHURCH:** Please enter at the main entrance only at Holy Family Church and the Narmbool St side entrance at Holy Spirit Church. The church monitor will mark your name off prior to the start.
- **SANITISER:** Please sanitise your hands on entering the church.
- **DESIGNATED SEATING AREAS:** To comply with social distancing regulations, please sit in the designated seating areas only. Family members may sit together but otherwise distancing rules of 1.5m apart applies.
- **COMMUNION:** Will be distributed by Fr Minh only at this stage.
- **EXITING THE CHURCH:** All exits will be opened. Unfortunately, mingling with others after Mass is not possible.

RICHARD LEONARD - REFLECTION:

A few years ago there was an English film entitled, *Secrets and Lies*. It charted the story of a dysfunctional family who sat on terrible secrets and told many lies for decades.

Like many successful dramatic films, audiences flocked to see it, not only because of its compelling story, but also because it tapped into an important truth about family life as many of us live it.

When I was a boy I was often told that 'What's said and done in the home, stays in the home.' And to a degree, this is a good and loyal principle.

There are, however, family secrets and lies that cause untold damage for generations because no one is allowed to speak about them. Sexual abuse, domestic violence, suicide, incest, drug-taking, alcoholism, theft, adoption and abortion are only some of the secrets and lies that many families sit on.

Jesus, however, tells us in today's Gospel that what you 'say in the dark, tell in the light. What you whisper in darkness, shout from the housetops.'

This doesn't mean that Christians tell everyone their personal business, but it does cut to the heart of what stunts spiritual and personal growth.

To the degree that something shameful remains buried, hidden and unhealed, then its power over us is increased. It remains the thing about which we can never speak. The bad spirit has a field day with this sort of stuff, feeding our fears and lowering our self-esteem.

In this regard some Christians make a false distinction between their spiritual and psychological lives. They hold that the exploration of one's personal history or emotional problems is self-indulgent or unimportant to how we live.

We all know people who, in the pursuit of emotional health, become obsessed by their own story, feelings, reactions and psychology. We also know others who never deal with the heavy hurts they seem to carry through the years, even though the pain of them seem to be as powerfully felt now as they were when they were inflicted upon them. Today's Gospel reminds us that there is a middle road between denying what should be acknowledged and dealt with, and being absorbed by it.

The Church, rightly, holds that the best psychological tools can bring out into the open memories and experiences that can be seen for what they are and dealt with. We just have to be sure that we don't get conned into believing that psychology and therapy is anything but a pit-stop in life, so that we can attend to the working order of our mental machinery, and, importantly, get back on the road with everyone else, calling in later if needs be.

Long before the therapist's office Christ enabled the Church to develop the Sacrament of Penance where we admit our most destructive behaviour and hear that we are forgiven and healed.

That's why, when I am hearing a confession, I can't tell you how happy I am to hear the penitent say, 'Father I have never told anyone this before.'

At that moment I know the love of God is active in the person, drawing out what Christ wants in the light, spoken of and healed.

This Sunday Jesus invites all of us to find a person we respect and trust, and to end the tyranny of the power of secrets and lies. I promise you when you take this risk with the appropriate person, the presence of God won't be very far away either.

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