



# 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](mailto:bellpark@cam.org.au)**OFFICE HOURS:**

Mon -Fri 9am-2.30pm

**PARISH SECRETARY:**Bernadette Bilogrevic Phone 5278 1343 Email: [bellpark@cam.org.au](mailto:bellpark@cam.org.au)**PASTORAL WORKER:**Sr Anne Lourey Phone 5278 1343 Email: [bellpark@cam.org.au](mailto: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	John Grant	Petrel St, Geelong West	Phone 5229 4412

**Web Page Address:**[www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au](http://www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au)**Facebook Address:**[www.facebook.com/michaelparish.st](https://www.facebook.com/michaelparish.st)**RECENT DEATHS:**

Colleen Carroll (Tuddenham), Bruno Stranieri

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

Damian Doherty &amp; one Year Anniversary of Jakov Juraga

**SICK:**

Veronica Werzek, Josica Markov, Giuseppa Forestieri, Julita Aquino, Fr Philip Godsell, Theresa Vickers, Cheryl Lambert, Brian Grubb

**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:

- ST MICHAEL'S PRAYER ROOM:** With the easing of restrictions, our prayer room located at the parish community centre has now reopened. Commencing from Monday Nov 2, it will be opened daily from 9.30am - 2.30pm. In accordance with covid-19 conditions of entry, please contact the parish office on 5278 1343 to register your details and book a date & time.
- MELBOURNE CUP DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY:** The parish office will closed Tuesday November 3rd due to the public holiday.
- REMEMBRANCE MASS 2020** - The Annual Remembrance Mass will now be livestreamed on Tuesday, November 24th at 7.00pm.
- COVID 19 PARISH CATCH UP:** Now is the time to catch up with someone by phone, text, in person (where possible), you would see around the Parish or at Mass
- CANCELLATION OF LIVESTREAMING OF MASS:** Whilst Fr Minh continues to recover from back surgery, livestreaming of Mass is cancelled for the time being.
- MASS:** Available on Channel at 6am and 11am on Channel 31 & 44. Mass is also available on You Tube daily, from St Simon's Parish, Rowville.

**ALL SAINTS**

(Year A - Nov 1st, 2020)

Apoc 7:2-4, 9-14

1 Jn 3:1-3

Mt 5:1-12

## Thank you from Catholic Mission

Dear Fr Minh,

I'm writing to express my thanks to you, even though I have to admit that it is difficult to find the right words that appropriately convey my deep sense of gratitude. Please share amongst those in your parish community my thanks for the tremendous change they are making in the lives of people whose experience of the Covid pandemic has created such havoc.

A good way to become more informed about the impact of the Bell Park parish donation is to go to our website - here is the direct link: [www.catholicmission.org.au/our-work/prop20-covid19-appeal](http://www.catholicmission.org.au/our-work/prop20-covid19-appeal).

Kevin Meese - Diocesan Director.

## Reflection by Richard Leonard

Do you remember the old hymn, *Faith of our Fathers*? These days we would, of course, want to explicitly name the extraordinary faith of 'our mothers' as well. But do you recall how we once used to stand and sing,

'Faith of our fathers living still In spite of dungeon, fire and sword.

Oh how our hearts beat high with joy... If we like them could die for thee.

Faith of our fathers, holy faith, We will be true to Thee 'till death.

We will be true to Thee 'till death.'

In one of his letters St Ignatius Loyola tells us we should never pray for something we don't want, because we might just get it. Let's think about what we ask for in this hymn: that if needs be we will die for our Christian faith.

For the first 400 years of the Church's history, Christian women and men were dead at lunch for taking the waters of baptism at dawn. It is on the basis of their fidelity and sacrifice that we gather here in freedom and peace.

Many of us are wimps when it comes to pain, so all we can hope and pray for is that, given a similar context, we may have the grace to witness to our faith in whatever way is demanded of us. It remains true that when most of us hear about the faith of modern-day martyrs we are still deeply affected, our own faith is challenged and our values are shaken up. Mothers and fathers are still dying for the faith which we so often take for granted.

All Saints Day has its roots in the early Church's 'Martyrs Day', attested to by a hymn written in 359 by St Ephraim. It was called All Saints Day in the seventh century.

A Saint is someone who the Church believes is in heaven with God. Wrongly, we often think Saints are perfect, but in fact their greatest witness is how they coped with the ordinary difficulties of life and how they reflected in a variety of ways the love of God.

For most of us sanctity and martyrdom will not come in dramatic ways. The daily routine of looking after a sick child, spouse or parent, of living with a mental, physical, emotional or spiritual illness, the scourge of being unemployed, homeless or addicted and the feeling that we are unlovable brings with it the reality of sharing in the lot of the martyrs and saints.

All Saints Day is the feast which commemorates all those we know who may never be publicly proclaimed in the canon or list of saints, but who nonetheless are in heaven. Some of them may only be known to God. Others are people whose love, sacrifice and fidelity we have seen for ourselves and who have inspired us. Sometimes they can be our own mothers and fathers.

These, too, we believe belong to the great multitude of witnesses who went through their own persecutions and found the blessings within their daily lives. They saw God in this world and are now fully alive to him in the next.

In this Mass may we have the grace to live a holy life that, in ordinary ways, demonstrates the extraordinary power of God working in us. In doing so, in our sacrifices, forgiveness and love may we remain faithful to the women and men who are our saintly heroes and pray that we remain faithful to the Gospel of Christ as they did.

'We will be true to Thee 'till death. We will be true to Thee 'till death.'