



# St Michael's Parish

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

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<b>OFFICE:</b>	147 Separation St Bell Park 3215 Phone: 5278 1343 - Email: <u><a href="mailto:bellpark@cam.org.au">bellpark@cam.org.au</a></u>				
<b>OFFICE HOURS:</b>	Mon-Fri 9am-5pm				
<b>PARISH SECRETARY:</b>	Bernadette Bilogrevic	Phone 5278 1343	Email: <u><a href="mailto:bellpark@cam.org.au">bellpark@cam.org.au</a></u>		
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<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	

## AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

<b>RECENT DEATHS:</b>	Jessie McMurrich, Nikola Marin, Sr Kate McGrath RSM
<b>ANNIVERSARIES:</b>	Santa Rizzo, Clem Lourey, Chris (Max) Lunn, Colin Lunn
<b>BAPTISMS:</b>	Winnie & Lewis Najdovski, Hayden Roberts, Arlo Adams and Zoe & Levi Gorup
<b>PRAY FOR THE SICK:</b>	Veronica Werzek, Josica Markov, Giuseppa Forestieri, Julita Aquino, Fr Philip Godsell, Theresa Vickers, Cheryl Lambert, Brian Grubb



St Michael's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.



We pray for the children from the Parish Sacramental Group who will make the Sacrament of First Eucharist and Confirmation this



## - Second Sunday of Advent - (Year B- December 6, 2020)

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

**Alleluia!**

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

#### 3rd Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Is 61:1-2, 10-11

2nd Reading: 1 Thess 5:16-24

Gospel: Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



### 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 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:

9.15am Wed, 9.15am Fri. (Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament)  
**Reconciliation after Friday Mass each week.**

## BAPTISMS:

Please contact the parish for new bookings

## COMMUNAL PRAYER:

### Tues..

Meditation

5.30pm

St Michael's Parish Community Centre

### Fri...

Divine Mercy

3pm

Holy Spirit Church

## - St Michael's Parish Christmas Celebrations -



## **CHRISTMAS MASSES...**

### **December 24:**

5pm Holy Family Church (outdoor Mass)  
7pm Ss Peter & Paul's Church  
8.30pm Holy Spirit Church

### **December 25:**

9am Holy Spirit  
9am Holy Family

### **Christmas Masses in Croatian:**

Dec 24 8.00pm Holy Family  
Dec 25 11.30am Holy Family

## **Reconciliation:**

Wed Dec 16 7pm Holy Spirit

Thur Dec 17 7pm Holy Family

**Due to Covid 19, numbers attending this year will be extremely limited. It is essential that you register your preference. Please email the Parish Office [bellpark@cam.org.au](mailto:bellpark@cam.org.au) or phone 5278 1343. Please note we may not be able to accommodate everyone.**

## 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  
Projectionist B Middleton  
Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

### **HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM**

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  
Projectionist R Allum  
Co-Ordinator L Kelly, 0409 291 138

## St Michael's News:

### REGISTRATION FOR WEEKEND MASSES:

- ♦ *Saturday 5pm at Ss Peter & Paul's*
- ♦ *Sunday 8am at Holy Family*
- ♦ *Sunday 11am at Holy Spirit*

To book your place, please contact the Parish Office either by telephone on 5278 1343 or email [bellpark@cam.org.au](mailto:bellpark@cam.org.au) to register your contact details and preferred Mass. You can also pre-register for midweek Masses on the day.

If you are feeling unwell or circumstances do not allow you to attend, please contact the Parish Office.

Entrance to each Church will be via the main entrances where your name will be marked off, and please **ensure that you sanitise your hands before entering**. At Holy Spirit Church you may enter via the side entrance also.

### MASKS TO BE WORN DURING MASS.



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### VOLUNTEERS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES:

Looking for Lectors, Commentators, Special Ministers, Projectionists and Mass Monitors to assist at our Christmas celebrations. Please contact the Parish Office if you are able to volunteer.

- ♦ **PARISH OFFICE HOURS:** The Parish Office is open daily from 9am until 5pm.
- ♦ **LECTORS PLEASE NOTE:** Your copy of the **2021 Break Open the Word** is now available. Please collect from the Parish office when you can.
- ♦ **2021 COLUMBAN CALENDARS:** Available to purchase for \$9 from the Parish Office.



### ST MICHAEL'S JESSE TREE CHRISTMAS GIVING:

This year we have organised a Jesse Tree for each of our Churches. If you would like to support the annual St Vincent de Paul Appeal, a gift voucher or present (no food this year) would be ideal. On wrapped present please identify age group and gender.

### ST MARY'S PARISH MASS OF ANOINTING:

**Saturday December 12, 10am at St Mary's Basilica.**

Booking your attendance at this Mass is essential. Please phone St Mary's Parish Office on 5222 1977 during business hours.

### ST MARY'S MEMORIAL MASS OF HEALING COMFORT:

**Tuesday December 15, 7.30pm at St Mary's Basilica.**

For bookings please contact the Parish Office on 5222 1977 during business hours to

**SAFETY AND WELLBEING:**

The safety and wellbeing of our parishioners, staff and the wider community is important to us all. Please report any accidents, incidents or near misses to the Parish Office on 5278 1343. Also, if you notice any potential hazards or risks, please bring these to our attention so that we can address them as soon as possible.



## Reflection by Richard Leonard

During Advent, Daniel went to his mother demanding a new bicycle for Christmas. 'Danny, we can't afford it', she said, 'so write a letter to Jesus and pray for one instead.' 'Dear Jesus, I've been a good boy this year and would appreciate a new bicycle. Your friend, Daniel.' Now Danny guessed that Jesus really knew he was a brat so he tore it up and tried again. 'Dear Jesus, I've been an OK boy this year and I want a new bicycle. Yours truly, Daniel.' Danny knew this wasn't true either so he tore it up and tried again. 'Dear Jesus, I've thought about being a good boy so may I have a new bicycle? Daniel.'

Finally, Danny thought better of making these false claims and so ran to the Church. He went inside and stole a small statue of Mary and ran out the door. He went home, hid it under his bed and wrote this letter. 'Jesus, let's face it, I've broken most of the Commandments; tore up my sister's doll and lots more, I'm desperate. I've got your mother Mary, if you ever want to see her again, give me a bike for Christmas. You know who.'

There is a little bit of Danny in all of us.

We often think that we can bargain with God to get the best possible deal out of life. The problem with this bargaining image is that it cannot be reconciled with a Christian faith which believes in Advent. The bargaining image of God is the furthestest thing from the mind of the writers of today's readings – Isaiah, Psalm (84) 85, St Peter and St Mark.

These scriptures remind us that God has not held back one thing in his love for us. By becoming one with us in our flesh, God has done everything he can to assure us of his saving love. He has shown us all what can be shown about how to live lives of sacrifice, justice and love and how to transform our world for better.

The image of us 'doing a deal' with God is so prevalent in our theology and prayer that we can find ourselves lapsing into it all the time. 'If you make me well, God, I will lead a better life.' 'I will return to Sunday Mass if I pass my exams.' 'I will raise my children Catholic if I have a fine day for my wedding.' This is all dreadful stuff. And the Church has to take some responsibility for this and correct it.

The scriptures tell us from the beginning of time to the preaching of John the Baptist, to the life, death, resurrection of Jesus Christ and to the continuing work of the Holy Spirit among us today, that we have a God who risked everything so that we might know love and life in this world and in the next. We hold and proclaim, in season and out of season, a God who emptied himself of power and might and came to us as a baby.

That's not the profile of a deal-doer. It's the portrait of a lover.

So this Advent let's not ransom ourselves to a benevolent dictator. Let's ask for anything we need with confidence that God has heard our words and so sent love itself in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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