



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-5pm

PARISH SECRETARY:

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PASTORAL WORKER:

Sr Anne Lourey

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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

Web Page Address:

www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS:

Giuseppa Bucoli, Vasil Javni

ANNIVERSARIES:

John & Irene O'Neill, Vincenzo & Elisabetta Pitaro,
Francesco & Caterina Iannuzzi, Mark Chrimes

BAPTISMS:

Annastacia Bumbak, Louis Johnson-Howes, Koa Collins
& Haddie Stephenson

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

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



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

A REMINDER: Children must be accompanied to the toilet area by a parent or guardian at all times.

PLEASE NOTE: The 9.30am Mass at Holy Family Church will recommence from Sunday December 20.

Face Masks are no longer mandatory at Mass. However they are required if distancing measures of 1.5m cannot be maintained between people. We must also be respectful of those who 'want' to wear them.

- Third Sunday of Advent -

(Year B- December 13, 2020)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

My soul rejoices in my God

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: 2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16;

2nd Reading: Rom 16: 25-27;

Gospel: Lk 1:26-38



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:

9.15am 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

PRIVATE PRAYER:

Mon - Fri...

Prayer Room

9.30am-2.30pm

St Michael's Parish Community Centre

- St Michael's Parish Christmas Celebrations -



CHRISTMAS MASSES...

December 24:

5pm Holy Family Church (Family 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

Christmas Mass in Lithuanian

Dec 25 9.00am Ss Peter & Paul's

2nd Rite 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 or phone 5278 1343. Please note we may not be able to accommodate everyone.

Roster for Next Sunday

(3rd Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S - 5.00PM

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Projectionist

Co-Ordinator

K Maddalena

K Maddalena

D Whelan

M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Projectionist

Co-Ordinator

8.00AM

M Howard

P. Carvalho

Sr Concepta, P Ruggeri, R Culo

R Allum

L. Kelly, 0409 291 138

HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM

M Kroger

J McKenzie

L Stalio,

F Kearney

HOLY FAMILY 9.30AM

A Scaddan

H Verdnik, T McMahon

M Fiorillo, M. Perera

C Resciniti

J Mann, 0488 784 802

St Michael's News:

REGISTRATION FOR WEEKEND MASSES:

- ◆ *Saturday 5pm at Ss Peter & Paul's*
- ◆ *Sunday 8am at Holy Family*
- ◆ *Sunday 9.30am at Holy Family*
- ◆ *Sunday 11am at Holy Spirit*

To book your initial place, please contact the Parish Office either by telephone on 5278 1343 or email bellpark@cam.org.au to register your contact details. You can also pre-register for midweek Masses on the day. Please note, if you have previously registered your name will remain on the list for that particular Mass.

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.

HELP NEEDED AT CHRISTMAS MASSES

Collectors – Men and Women

Covid-19 regulations – Churches to be cleaned at the conclusion of Mass, which involves the cleaning of all surfaces and toilet areas.

Clipboards are available at all our Churches this weekend. Please add your name where you can assist.

Christmas Eve 5pm Mass – Holy Family Church

- Lector
- Commentator
- Projectionist
- Special Ministers (8) – 5 more ministers required
- Collectors
- Covid-19 Ushers/Monitors (8) - This involves marking off attendee names on entry to the church; assist with cleaning at the conclusion of Mass and stacking away of chairs (outdoor area)



Christmas Eve 7pm Mass – Ss Peter & Paul's Church

- Mass Collectors (4)
- Covid-19 Ushers/Monitors (6) – Mark off attendee names on entry; assist with cleaning at conclusion of Mass

Christmas Eve 8.30pm Mass – Holy Spirit Church

- Commentator
- Special Ministers (3) – 2 more ministers required
- Collectors (4)
- Covid-19 Ushers/Monitors (6) – Mark off attendee names on entry; assist with cleaning at conclusion of Mass

Christmas Day 9am Mass – Holy Family Church

- Collectors (4)
- Special Ministers (3)
- Covid-19 Ushers/Monitors (6) – Mark off attendee names on entry; assist with cleaning at conclusion of Mass

Christmas Day 9am Mass – Holy Spirit Church

- Commentator
- Collectors (4)
- Special Ministers (3)
- ◆ Covid-19 Ushers/Monitors (6) – Mark off attendee names on entry; assist with cleaning at conclusion of Mass



To the children from the Parish Sacramental Group who made their First Eucharist and Sacrament of Confirmation this week.

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.



PARISH OFFICE HOURS: The Parish Office is open daily from 9am until 5pm.

**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 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 register your details.

Reflection by Richard Leonard

Today is traditionally called *Gaudete* Sunday. Over the first millennium of Christianity Advent was like a late Lent. Both were five weeks long, both were marked by fasting and penance and both gave the faithful a day off half way through. In Lent *Laudete* Sunday is still, roughly, half way through the five-week season. Advent, however, was shortened to four weeks in the tenth century, and Pope St Gregory the Great eased the fasting and penitential aspects of this season in the twelfth century, but the not-so-half-way *Gaudete* Sunday has remained. It is, literally, the 'rejoicing' Sunday when we look more directly at Jesus' coming at Christmas.

To enable us to look at Jesus we start with the man who heralded his mission in the world, John the Baptist. In today's Gospel John the Baptist is the model of humility, opening the way for the Kingdom of Jesus to break in upon the world. We should never underestimate talent spotters, for as this story demonstrates, they all have John the Baptist as their patron saint.

Fleming was a poor Scottish farmer in the nineteenth century. One day, while trying to make a living for his family, he heard a cry for help coming from a nearby bog. He dropped his tools and ran to the bog. There, mired to his waist in black muck, was a terrified boy, screaming and struggling to free himself. Farmer Fleming saved the lad from what could have been a slow and terrifying death.

The next day, a fancy carriage pulled up to the Scotsman's sparse cottage. An elegantly dressed nobleman stepped out and introduced himself as the father of the boy Farmer Fleming had saved. 'I want to repay you,' said the nobleman. 'You saved my son's life.' 'No, I can't accept payment for what I did,' the Scottish farmer replied, waving away the offer.

At that moment, the farmer's own son came to the door of the family home. 'Is that your son?' the nobleman asked. 'Yes,' the farmer replied proudly. 'I'll make you a deal. Let me take him and give him a good education. If the lad is anything like his father, he'll grow up to be a man you can be proud of.' And that is what he did.

In time, Farmer Fleming's son graduated from St Mary's Medical School in London, and went on to become known throughout the world as the noted Sir Alexander Fleming, the discoverer of Penicillin. Years afterward, the nobleman's son was stricken with pneumonia. What saved him? Penicillin.

The nobleman's name? Randolph Churchill. His son's name? Sir Winston Churchill.

John the Baptist, the embodiment of the old covenant, recognises who Jesus is for the world and encourages his foes and friends alike to welcome in the Christ, the new and everlasting Covenant. Just like Farmer Fleming or Lord Randolph Churchill, he could not have known the implications of what he was doing. John the Baptist simply saw Jesus and knew that Love had taken human form. Through his talent spotting and in his promotion of Jesus he enabled the first generation of Christians to see and believe that the promises made to their ancestors had been fulfilled.

No wonder we have him as our focus on *Gaudete* Sunday. And so may we all rejoice today, not only because salvation is always close at hand in Christ the Lord, but because we are also called to spot his love in every act of goodness we see, encourage and promote it as best we can and then watch nature and grace do the rest.

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