



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:

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

PASTORAL WORKER:

Sr Anne Lourey Phone 5278 1343 Email: anne.lourey@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

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS:

Sr Margaret Condon RSM, Bob Elzinga, Rodrigo Dulfo, Alojz Kunovic & Vasil Javni

ANNIVERSARIES:

Tony, Tilly & Lou Past, Peter Bahl; Joseph, Catherine & Felix Capicchiano, Charles & Marjorie McShanag, Wassela Al-Sakkal, Majed Karakchi, Gabrielle Shanahan, Racla, Francesca Salvatore Daniele, Giuseppe (Snr), Maria Teresa & Giuseppe (Jnr) Pitaro, Francesco & Serafina Lecchino, Antonio Iannuzzi, Ray Gurrie, and one month since death of Grace Liliyan & Rosalia Puglia



BAPTISMS:

Natalie Nguyen, Thomas Vodopic, Ashley Wilkinson, Eitan Cangco, Aurelia Kunovic

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

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.

The 9.30am Mass at Holy Family Church has now recommenced. Please contact the parish to register

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.

- Fourth Sunday of Advent -

(Year B- December 20, 2020)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

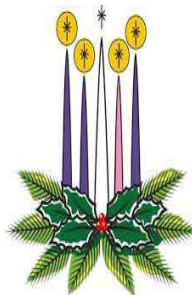
For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

The **HOLY FAMILY** of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

1st Reading: Gen 15: 1-6, 21:1-3 or Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

2nd Reading: Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 or Col 3:12-21

Gospel: Lk 2:22-40

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*

NB: Prayer Room will be closed from December 24 until January 11, 2021.

Christmas Rosters 2020:

HOLY FAMILY

Commentator
Lector
Special Ministers

5.00PM CHRISTMAS EVE

(+1)
(+1)
D Lunn, R Allum, L Sells, J Jenova
P Ruggeri, (+3)

Projectionist
Usher/Monitors
Collectors

(+1)
D Lunn, B Bilogrevic, R Allum, (+5)
F Pellizzeri (+7)

HOLY SPIRIT

Commentator
Lectors
Special Ministers
Projectionist
Usher/Monitors

8.30PM CHRISTMAS EVE

(+1)
M Bird
V Trinder, G Wright, L Fossey
M Kroger
B Bilogrevic, R Martin, M Martin,
I Martin, K Wright
A Brislane, (+3)

Collectors

Ss PETER & PAUL'S

Commentator
Lectors
Special Ministers

7.00PM CHRISTMAS EVE

A Henderson
M Gifford
P McGlinchey, A Henderson, N Needl
M Gifford
K Lynch
S O'Shea, P McGlinchey, B McGlinchey, (+1)

Music
Collectors

9AM CHRISTMAS DAY

P Gizycki
D Lunn
D Lunn, (+3)

C Resciniti
(+6)
(+4)

9.00AM CHRISTMAS DAY

F Kearney
T McMahon
F Kearney, (+2)
L Coles
B Bilogrevic, J Ryan, D Ryan, (+3)

J Burt, A Benne, J O'Neill, (+1)



(+) Please contact the Parish Office if you can help.

Roster for Next Sunday

(4th Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S - 5.00PM

Commentators A Henderson
Lectors G Tolan
Special Ministers A Henderson, G Tolan
Projectionist B Middleton
Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators F O'Neill
Lectors L Kelly
Special Ministers L Sells, E Kelly
Projectionist R Allum

HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM

M Burn
J Fraatz
L Fossey, L Vannata
A Zarb

HOLY FAMILY 9.30AM

M Lukesic
P Gizycki
D Lunn, C Simpson, V Resciniti
C Resciniti

Christmas Message

“Glory to God in the highest haven, and peace to men who enjoy his favour”. (Lk 2:14)

Dear Parishioners,

This year has been one in which all have witnessed the serious pandemic of Covid19 that threatened human life. It will be more serious for the world if all world nations and we do not stand up to protect each other and stop this Covid 19. Not only do scientists need to make the vaccine, but also we need to come to God, and ask him to extend his hands over us in blessing, so we all know how to reach out to one another in love and service in this time of need.

Christmas is coming. This is an excellent opportunity for us to know that God is love, coming to be with his people. He will stay and live with us in this challenging time now and forever. It is also a time to prepare to welcome Emmanuel -God with us- as the voice of John the Baptist called out to us in the last two Sundays “prepare the way of the Lord.”

Christmas is our time to project our voices in hopeful song, “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”, at the glorious birth of our Lord and Saviour.

To repeat it once more: We joyfully proclaim, “Emmanuel, God is with us! This is Christmas! We surround ourselves with the joy and light which the birth of Jesus brings into our community and the world!

I would like to thank all of our parishioners for their commitment to our parish this past year. The giving of your time, talent and treasure to the Lord continues to bear fruit for the Kingdom of God. As our community, gave a helping hand in looking after the poor and needy around us.

I would like to extend my gratitude to all who worked so hard to make our Christmas celebrations genuinely remarkable! I thank all who were involved in decorating our churches and setting up for the different liturgies this season and throughout the liturgical year.

I pray for a Blessed, Holy, safe and peaceful Christmas and wonderful New Year to all of you. May the Peace, Joy and Love of Jesus, born in Bethlehem, be in your hearts and your homes. With Christmas Blessings.

Fr. Minh Tran



“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

Due to Covid 19, numbers attending this year will be extremely limited. It is essential that you register your preference by WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 23. Please email the Parish Office bellpark@cam.org.au or phone 5278 1343. Please note we may not be able to accommodate everyone.

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.

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.



St Michael's News:

- ◆ **OFFICE HOURS:** The Parish Office will be closed from December 25 and will re-open on January 11, 2021.
- ◆ **BULLETIN:** This will be our last Bulletin for the year. Our next Bulletin will be on January 17, 2021. ***For anniversaries during this time please advise the Office before Christmas and those names will be incorporated into our Prayers of the Faithful.***
- ◆ **PLEASE NOTE:** Next Thursday December 24 there will not be the normal 9.15am Mass at Holy Family Church.



HOMILY by Richard Leonard

Jesus and Satan have an argument as to who is the better computer programmer.

Eventually they agree to hold a contest with God as the judge. They set themselves before their computers and begin. They type furiously for several hours; lines of code streaming up the screen. Seconds before the end of the competition, a bolt of lightning strikes and takes out the electricity. Moments later, the power is restored, and God announces that the contest is over. He asks Satan to show what he has come up with. Satan is visibly upset, and cries, 'I have nothing! I lost it all when the power went out.' 'Very well, then,' says God, 'let us see if Jesus fared any better.' Jesus enters a command, and the screen comes to life in vivid display, the voices of an angelic choir pour forth from the speakers. Satan is astonished. He stutters, 'But how? I lost everything, how can Jesus' program be intact?' God chuckles and says, 'Ah – because Jesus saves.'

On this final Sunday of Advent the Church moves our gaze to the Annunciation. The whole scene hinges around one word: 'Yes.' Mary's fiat sets in motion the entire Christian drama. In his film *Jesus of Nazareth* Franco Zeffirelli pictures the Annunciation this way: Mary is asleep at night when a gust of wind opens a high window. Afraid at all the commotion Mary gets up and starts to pray. As she prays, we see her face change and her body bend over. With tears in her eyes, Mary looks up through the window to the moonlit sky and simply says, 'Yes'. The swirling wind dies down at once.

In recent years successive popes have reminded us that the best devotion to Mary is one that leads us to do what she did: say 'yes' to Jesus. Mary is not a stop on our journey of faith; she is a guidepost that always sends us on to Christ. Mary does not save us, for we believe she needed to be saved by Christ as well. That's why she could say yes in the first place. Mary recognised the gift and the giver and became the bearer of God for the world.

In this final week of Advent let's keep reminding ourselves of this simple but life-changing fact: Jesus saves us. Jesus saves us from death. Jesus saves us from living lives devoid of purpose and meaning and Jesus saves us from ourselves.

We don't save ourselves. We cannot earn salvation by good works or prayers or penance. And, as difficult as it is to hear, we cannot save anyone else. That includes our children, spouse, grandchildren, parents or friends.

Our prayers, good works and faith are the responses we make to the salvation of Christ we claim here and now. And how we live is the way by which those we love will find the gift of God's salvation for themselves.

In the midst of this frantic final week before Christmas when so many other things can distract us from what this grace-filled feast is really all about, let's take a moment to join Mary in accepting into our lives and hearts the greatest of all gifts – our undeserved salvation, Jesus Christ the Lord.