



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

OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Fri: 9am-5pm Email: bellpark@cam.org.au

PARISH SECRETARY: Bernadette Bilogrevic Email: bellpark@cam.org.au

Web Page Address:
www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au
www.facebook.com/michaelparish.st

Phone 5278 1343

PASTORAL WORKER: Sr Anne Lourey Email: anne.lourey@mercy.org.au Phone: 5278 1343

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

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS: Isabel Amay; Ante Jurkovic; Antonia Zanghi;

ANNIVERSARIES: Frank & Katherina Riedl; Robert Stewart; Antonio Pardo.
 Rosa Marafioti (1 month since death)

BAPTISMS: Ava Cocomazzo; Josephine & Emelia Lupton; Ava Cronan;
 Mackenzie & Isabel Plummer; Edward Trickey; Henrietta Waller

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Fr Philip Godsell; Raymond Carroll.; Fr Josip Vranjes; Theresa Vickers



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

Through our behaviour we show we are followers of Jesus who care for all - the children, the vulnerable.....

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

- Second Sunday of Lent - (Year C – 13 March 2022)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!



TODAY'S READINGS NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

1st Gen 15:5-12, 17-18	1st: Gen 15:5-12, 17-18
2nd: Phil 3:17-4:1	2nd: Ps 26:1, 7-9, 13-14
Gospel: Luke 9:28-36	Gospel: Phil 3:17 - 4:1:

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.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA, PROJECT COMPASSION—As a person with a disability living in remote India, Biru faced the prospect of a life of poverty and discrimination. With your support, he participated in entrepreneurship training and gained the skills to become financially independent. **Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 and help people living with disabilities in India gain access to education and clean water, empowering them with skills to build a better future.** Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better **tomorrow For All Future Generations.** You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.



St Michael's Parish at Prayer

WEEKEND MASSES:

Holy Family, Bell Park:

English... 8am and 9.30am Sunday

Holy Spirit, Manifold Hts:

11am Sunday

Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong

5.00pm Saturday

Croatian... 11.30am Sunday (temporary change of time)

Slovenian..12.15pm every 2nd Sunday of the month

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Holy Family: 9.15am Mon & Tues (Followed by Novena to St Anthony),
8.45am (Rosary before Mass on Mon & Tues)

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...	<i>Meditation Group</i>	<i>5.30pm</i>	<i>Holy Family Community Centre</i>
	<i>Legion of Mary</i>	<i>10.00am</i>	<i>Holy Family Community Centre</i>
Fri..	<i>Divine Mercy</i>	<i>3.00pm</i>	<i>Holy Spirit Church</i>

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEK

(3rd Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S—5.00PM

Commentators	
Lectors	K Maddalena
Special Ministers	K Maddalena
Welcomers	A Bordonaro, P McGlinchey, N Tuddenham
Projectionist	John Cook
Co-Ordinator	M Gifford, 5229 1658

HOLY SPIRIT—11AM

M Kroger
J McKenzie
L Stalio
L Fossey, B Bilogrevic
F Kearney



HOLY FAMILY

8.00AM

Commentators	P McBride
Lectors	P Carvalho
Special Ministers	Sr Concepta; P Ruggeri; R Culo
Projectionist	R Allum
Co-Ordinator	L Kelly, 0409 291 138

9.30AM

A Scaddan
H Verdnik; T McMahon
M Fiorillo; M Perera
C Resciniti
J Mann 0488 784 802

ST MICHAEL'S PARISH RETREAT DAY

Saturday, March 26- 10am to 4pm at Holy Family Church

To register, please contact the Parish Office on 5278 1343 by Wednesday, March 23. Due to Covid safe regulations, lunch will be provided in the Parish Community Centre for the **fully vaccinated**.

Facilitators on the day -

Sr Mary Wickham (RSM) & Fr Chris Monaghan (CP)



Sr Mary Wickham is a Sister of Mercy from Melbourne. Mary has a special interest in using poetry and art in reflecting on spirituality. She has presented workshops and retreats in a wide variety of settings where she aims to provide an experience for deep listening to the Spirit, opportunity for reflection and silent prayer, and sharing of participants' insights.

Fr Chris Monaghan is a Passionist Priest who studied at YTU and then at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome and Jerusalem. Since 1987 he has been lecturing at YTU in both Old and New Testament. The major focus of his teaching throughout these years has been Matthew, Luke-Acts and the letters of Paul. During this period Chris has been engaged in adult education programs through schools, parishes and ministry to priests. Making the Bible in its richness accessible to people at all levels is an enduring passion.

St Michael's News:

- ♦ **ST MICHAEL'S LENTEN PROGRAM 2022** - Thursday evenings during Lent, 7pm at the Parish Community Centre. Please contact Mary Fiorillo on 0408 527 396 for more information.
- ♦ **AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS - AUTUMN 2022:** In this edition, the topic centres on Biblical Faith. Understanding the Bible and our relationship to God. Please take a copy, now available at all Churches and the Parish Office.
- ♦ **CRAFT AND CONVERSATION:** We would love to see you join our craft group, and share whatever craft you are enjoying. We meet 2-4pm at St Michael's Community Centre on the following dates: 24 Mar, 7 Apr, 21 Apr, 5 May, 19 May, 2 June, 16 June, 30 June, 14 Jul, 28 Jul, 11 Aug, 25 Aug, 8 Sep, 22 Sep, 6 Oct, 20 Oct, 3 Nov, 17 Nov, 1 Dec, 15 Dec.
For further details, contact Debbie on 0409 416 945.
- ♦ **Don't Judge a book by its cover!** – The St Michael's book group. **First Monday of the Month 2-3 pm** Parish Community Centre. Bring along whatever you are currently reading be it a novel, magazine, poetry, graphic novel, special interest journals etc. Come along, make new friends and chat about your reading interests. For further details, contact **Michael** on **0428 336 080**.

Community News

- **MISSION SPIRITUALITY FORUM** —You are warmly invited to join Luke Tobin, Catholic Mission's Mission Formation Educator for an informal online gathering of people interested in Mission Spirituality. **When: Thurs 28 April, 3.30-5.00pm. Where:** To register please go to <https://forms.gle/NSMhcW5qRzDcf7Xy7>
For more info contact: Mr Kevin Meese: Melbourne.director@catholicmission.org.au
- **DO YOU FEEL LIKE BEING CALLED TO SERVE?** The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. **COME & SEE!** An information session about the Permanent Diaconate will be held on **Sat 2 April, 10.00 -11.45am** at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), East Melbourne. A new Vocations website is under development, however the links below (copy, then paste) are working.
Watch: Melbourne's Deacons <https://youtu.be/q2RhNDbtTSO>
Watch: Pope Francis' 2020 Prayer Intention for Deacons <https://youtu.be/NuG99HD1LaY>
Read More: (brochure) <https://www.cam1.org.au/permanent-diaconate>
Contact: Office of the Permanent Diaconate Ph: 03 9412 3357 **Email:** diaconate@cam.org.au

COVID SAFE INFORMATION UPDATE!

- Please sanitise hands when entering the church; and maintain a safe distance where possible
- If you are feeling unwell, stay at home and rest
- Welcomers, Special Ministers & Collectors are required to wear a facemask when they are conducting their role whether it be before or during Mass.

PRAYER for those effected by the floods

Compassionate God, source of all comfort, we pray for the people whose lives have been devastated by the recent floods in Queensland and New South Wales.

Protect the vulnerable, strengthen the weak and have mercy on all those working to rescue the stranded and to feed the hungry. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE IN UKRAINE

God of peace and justice, who change the hardened heart and break the power of violence, we entrust the people of Ukraine to you.

Protect them in this time of peril; let them know not death but life, not slavery but freedom.

You are Father of all; we are brothers and sisters.

Give us the strength to live that truth in love, choosing peace not war. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

REFLECTION by Richard Leonard

An American Jesuit theologian, John Powell, tells the story of a young man named Tommy who was the resident atheist during one of his courses in the Philosophy of God at Loyola University in Chicago.

At the end of the course while he was turning in his final paper, Tommy said to Fr Powell, 'Do you think I will ever find God?' 'No', Powell replied bluntly, but as he walked away he continued, 'But I think God will find you'. Tommy kept walking.

Years later, Tommy returned to see John Powell to tell him that he had been diagnosed as having terminal cancer. More than ever, Tommy said, he wanted to find God or to be in the right place at the right time to be found by God. John Powell told Tommy to go and tell the people that he most loved in the world that he loved them.

Within a week Tommy reported to John Powell that in the midst of doing this he had a genuine and significant encounter with God. They had found each other. Tommy died three months later. John Powell reports that the only way to describe the final three months of Tommy's life was to say that, whatever happened to him in the process of telling others he loved them, he was transfigured by God.

The Transfiguration is no mountaintop light show. In borrowing heavily from similar stories in the Old Testament, it describes, in a dramatic way, how loved Jesus was by God and how this experience was seen and known by his disciples.

So often we hear people say they have not, or cannot, experience the presence of God, and therefore deny that God exists. These readings show us that if you want to encounter God then you have to experience love. This is not an optional extra for the Christian life. As St John says, 'The one who says they love God, yet they hate their brother or sister, is a liar.'

The Transfiguration is not a once off event for Jesus alone. It is a moveable feast for all of us who have become God's sons and daughters in Christ.

The problem with love is that we have devalued the currency. We say it too often about things we don't or can't love, like our car, a bottle of wine or our holiday. We say 'I love you' to people we don't love and because we have learnt that actions are more telling than words we don't easily believe others when they tell us they love us.

We can feel unlovable and cynical about the whole experience. But there are three things of which we can be sure: If we feel distant from God, we only have to guess who has moved away from whom. Nothing we do stops God from loving us.

God loves us as we are, not as we like to be. As the old saying goes, 'you don't have to get good to get God. You have to get God to get good.'

Finally, as the song runs, 'You ain't nobody until somebody loves you.'

And so for a Christian, being vulnerable enough to tell those we love that we love them is no sentimental exercise but a participation in the heart of God. By taking the risk of doing this, others may clearly hear the voice of God through us and we may discover ourselves transfigured by the personal love of God for us too.

In the process God may move from being an idea, an abstraction, even an object of curiosity to the focus of a loving experience that can give our lives meaning, purpose and hope. In this Eucharist then, let's ascend the mountaintop and let's listen to Jesus say, 'You are my son. You are my daughter. And I love you.'

© Richard Leonard SJ