



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

**PARISH SECRETARY:** Bernadette Bilogrevic Email: [bellpark@cam.org.au](mailto:bellpark@cam.org.au) Phone 5278 1343

**PASTORAL WORKER:** Sr Anne Lourey Email: [anne.lourey@mercy.org.au](mailto: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 Sheehan	Petrel St, Geelong West	Phone 5229 4412

**Web Page Address:**

[www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au](http://www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au)  
[www.facebook.com/michaelparish.st](https://www.facebook.com/michaelparish.st)

## AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

### RECENT DEATHS:

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Alois Iskra; Joao Henriques; Patricia McMahon; Angela Zuclich; Peter Javni Jnr; Isabel Ramirez; Felix Gravador; Antolin Tambuli; Moya McVeigh; Matilda Matjasic; Cosimo Mileto and the 50th Anniversary of Majed Karakchi

**PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Raymond Carroll; Peta Richards; Joan Hepworth; Von Carmody



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 cares for all the children, the vulnerable.

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

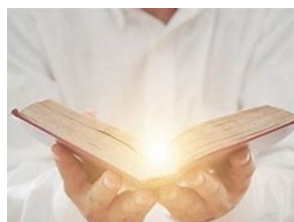
We acknowledge the living culture of the Wathaurong People, the traditional custodians of the land we stand on, and pay tribute to the unique role they play in this region.

## SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

(Year C – 24 July, 2022)

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

God is in his Holy place,  
 God who unites those who dwell in  
 his house; he himself gives might  
 and strength to his people.



### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father.

Alleluia!

### TODAY'S READINGS

1st: Gen 18: 20-32

2nd: Col 2:12-14

Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

1st: Eccl 1: 2; 2:21-23

2nd: Col 3:1-5, 9-11

Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

### 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.



The Chief Health Officer has strongly recommended the use of face coverings in indoor and crowd settings during this winter period.

- Whilst face coverings are not mandated, we strongly encourage parishioners to still wear a mask at all Masses and Liturgies
- Maintain social distancing of 1.5 metres from others especially when entering the Church; whilst seated; proceeding to Communion and exiting after Mass
- Always sanitise your hands on entering the Church
- If you are feeling unwell, stay home, rest and keep warm
- Please note, Holy Communion will only be given in the hand

## **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 West:**

*5.00pm Saturday*

*Croatian... 5.00 Sunday (temporary change of time)*

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

### **WEEKDAY MASSES:**

#### **Holy Family:**

9.15am Tues & Thurs (Followed by Novena to St Anthony),  
8.45am (Rosary before Mass on Tues & 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 Group*

*5.30pm*

*Parish Community Centre*

*Legion of Mary*

*10.00am*

*Parish Community Centre*

#### **Fri.:**

*Divine Mercy*

*3.00pm*

*Holy Spirit Church*

### **STATUE OF OUR LADY:**

If you are interested in having the statue in your home, please phone Cristita on 0435 780 716.

## **ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY—5TH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH**

(1st Sunday of the Month to cover)

### **Ss PETER & PAUL'S - 5.00PM**

Commentators

M Carson

Lectors

P Balkin

Special Ministers

N Neeld,

Welcomers

A Bordonaro, P McGlinchey

N Tuddenham

Projectionist

B Middleton

Co-Ordinator

M Gifford, 5229 1656

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

C Nielson

M Kroger

G Wright

L Fossey, B Bilogrevic

L Coles

### **HOLY FAMILY**

Commentators

R Allum

Lectors

V Pavlovic

Special Ministers

P McBride

Welcomers

K McArthur, L. Allum

Projectionist

R Allum

Co-Ordinator

L Kelly, 0409 291 138

### **9.30AM**

J Siketa

M Bird, M Scaddan

E Karakchi, B Kline, Horoba

M & E Hoffman

C Resciniti

J Mann, 0488 784 802



## Congratulations

St Michael's Parish congratulates Sr. Denise McMahon S.M.S.M, (daughter of parishioner, Terry McMahon) on the occasion of her Golden Anniversary of Religious Profession (1972-2022).

We wish Sr Denise every blessing for the years ahead.



Celebrating the second World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, Sunday July 24 2022. The theme chosen by Pope Francis for this year's celebration is: "In old age they will still bear fruit: (Psalm 92:15). This new celebration is a momentous achievement for Grandparents and the Elderly that they are loved and they are needed.

### Liturgy at St Michael's:

Aug 15.... Feast of the Assumption - 9.30am Mass at Holy Spirit Church, Manifold Heights  
(Holy Spirit School students in attendance)

### St Michael's News:

- ♦ **CRAFT AND CONVERSATION:** We meet from 2-4pm at the Parish Community Centre. July 28; August 11 & 25; September 8 & 22; October 6 & 20; November 3 & 17; December 1 & 15. **Please contact Debbie on 0409 416 945.**
- ♦ **CUPPA & CHAT AFTER THE 9.30am MASS SUNDAY:** Parishioners are welcome to catch up for the regular get together in the Parish Community Centre after Mass.
- ♦ **CWL:** The August meeting of the Manifold branch of the CWL will be a lunch on Wednesday 3rd August at Pekish, City of Geelong Bowls club, 7/9 Ballarat Rd, North Geelong at 12.30pm. If you are planning to attend please call Tricia 0431 512 354 or Bernadette 0417 514 598 by Monday 1st August.
- ♦ **HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP:** Lunch, Monday August 1st; 12.30pm at The Sphinx, Thompsons Road, North Geelong. See you all there!

### Community News:

- ♦ **DEDICATION OF ST. MARY MACKILLOP CHURCH, BANNOCKBURN:** A warm invitation is extended to parishioners to attend the Dedication Mass of St. Mary MacKillop Church, Bannockburn which will take place on Sunday August 7th at 5pm. This is the vigil for the feast and will be celebrated by Archbishop Peter Comensoli. All are welcome using this link to book: <https://bit.ly/3GbDk9F>
- ♦ **INNER HEALING THROUGH MEDITATION ON JESUS:** Prayer & Meditation through gentle postures and breathing in the Holy Spirit, heals body, mind and soul. Retreat begins at **6pm Friday 5 August and concludes at 4pm Sunday 7 August. Guided by Fr Gilbert Carlo SVD** Contact: Janssen Spirituality Centre, 22 Woodvale Road Boronia, **RSVP** Tel: (03) 9762 6625 or Email: [gilbertcarlo@gmail.com](mailto:gilbertcarlo@gmail.com)

### REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The readings invite us to reflect on prayer. Whether our prayer be praise, contrition, thanksgiving or petition, it always recognises our need for God. In the gospel Jesus instructs us to ask for what we need. He assures us that God is more than willing to give us what we need. However, for this to happen we must turn to God and humbly acknowledge our need.

The most obvious characteristic of prayer depicted in the readings for this Sunday is persistence. Neither Abraham nor the man in the gospel was deterred by any obstacle. They show that it is not so much that we persist in prayer in order to change God's mind as it is that we persist in order to discover what God's mind might be.

The salutariness of prayer is often found in the change that it effects in us, not in God. By persevering in genuine prayer we may come to acknowledge that all things are in God's hands, and that we can rest content to leave them there, trusting that the situation will be cared for as God sees fit. It seems trite to say that God hears all prayer and sometimes the answer is 'No!' It is better to say that God respects the freedom of people and will seldom intervene to change the way events unfold. Still, prayer can change the one who prays and also the one for whom the prayer is offered if only human need is recognised and divine solicitude is acknowledged. © Dianne Bergant CSA

## Reflection by Richard Leonard:

Did you know that Lincoln's Gettysburg address was 250 words long? The man before Lincoln spoke for over an hour. The man who followed Lincoln spoke for even longer. No one remembers today what they said. Lincoln's two and a half minutes, by contrast, changed the USA's history and the mentality of the western world.

This call to brevity is always a good challenge to preachers too!

Luke's version of the Lord's Prayer, which has 38 words, is another example of how a few sentences have changed history.

Around 50 years after the death of Jesus, Luke's Gospel was written for the Christian community in Antioch, which was the political and cultural capital of the Roman Province of Syria. There are six major themes running throughout this Gospel: prayer, hospitality, compassion, forgiveness, the common life and care for the outsider. Most of them are expressed in the 38 words of this prayer.

We declare that we belong to God in the most intimate of ways, as members of God's family, and therefore we belong to each other. We pray that God's Kingdom will come here and now, and, through our gratitude for God's generosity and forgiveness, we can be saved from evil.

I think Christians should keep saying this prayer with great urgency. In most western countries today there are strong right wing political movements who say they are for Christ or that they want our country to return to 'Christian values', but these policies are irreconcilable with the Lord's Prayer. Indeed one politician I heard recently argued that the Immigration Act should be reviewed so that only Christians are allowed to settle here. There is little of the Gospel's hospitality, forgiveness, compassion, common life and care for outsiders in the views of these groups. These people, of course, have every right to publicly state their views on any subject they choose. Morally, however, they must also accept responsibility for what they say and its implications.

It is so easy to allow our faith lives to become compartmentalised. For some, religious belief and practice fits into a nice little box that has no discernible influence on the rest of their lives. Coming to Church is a privatised affair. This may be many things, but it's not Christian. What we celebrate here each Sunday is supposed to have an affect on all areas of our lives, every day. Though we can try to make ourselves feel better by turning religion into a weekly spiritual bonbon, that is not what Jesus and the martyrs of our faith gave their lives for.

There is no question that these right-wing groups appeal to many of our compatriots because of the difficulties in rural areas, the demoralisation of high unemployment and the growing inequity in wealth distribution. There is, however, NO solution in using race relations, refugees, migrants, single mothers and the poor as scapegoats for our economic shortcomings. All this does is appeal to the worst traits in our human desires, where someone else is always to blame for our difficulties. Long-lasting, truthful and humanly dignified solutions to our nation's problems are those that embody the sacrificial love and compassion of Jesus. On every occasion racism, sexism, bigotry, violence and greed are sinful. This is the Gospel. This is the teaching of the Church.

Often Catholics argue that the Church's teaching should be more publicly proclaimed and obeyed. In its social teaching, the Church tells us that we should support political parties which best represent these key values in the Gospel. The Church has also taught us about refugees, immigration, gun control, violence, capital punishment and the rights of minority groups. All Catholics are called to hold true to these teachings.

Some Catholics complain that the Church should not speak out on political issues. It is, however, precisely the role of the Church to help people form their consciences and to declare what it sees as evil, sinful or harmful in society. Christ expects nothing less of all of us. And where the Church has not done this, history has judged it VERY harshly, as in the Church's relatively recent condemnation of slavery.

The old line goes, 'Be careful what you pray because you might just get what you ask for.'

Let's join then with all Christians and be worthy of the one prayer which unites us and, in the spirit of these 38 words, pray fervently that all people everywhere will become one – in Christ – under our one Father in heaven.

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