



# 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:** Giuseppe Cafaro (Italy); Inna Parentignoti (Italy); Pasquale Carzo;  
 Kevin Costa; Colin Howard

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Denise Walker; Joan Jess; Eileen Arnold; Joze Matjasic; Klara Van Slooten;  
 Vincenzo & Elisabetta Pitaro; Francesco & Caterina Iannuzzi; Domenico Napoli (1 month Anniversary)

**BAPTISMS:** Emilia Jimenez; Massimo Siano

**PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Helen Dean; Cam Resciniti



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.... If you have any questions or concerns, the parish safeguarding committee of Louise Iacobaccio; Bernadette Bilogrevic; Marg Gifford or Joan Mann can be contacted on 5278 1343 or 0408 823 274.

**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.

## FIRST SUND OF ADVENT

(Year A/1—27 November 2022)

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.



### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

### TODAY'S READINGS

1st: Isaiah 2:1-5

2nd: Rom 13: 11-14

Gospel: Mt 24: 37-44

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

1st: Isaiah 11:1-10

2nd: Rom 15:4-9

Gospel: Mt 3:1-12

## 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**

### **CHANGE OF WEEKEND MASS TIMES AT HOLY FAMILY CHURCH:**

**The new 9.00am Mass time begins this Sunday Nov 27**

#### **WEEKEND MASSES:**

##### **Holy Family, Bell Park:**

English... 9.00am Sunday

Croatian... 5.00pm Sunday

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

##### **Holy Spirit, Manifold Hts:**

11am Sunday

##### **Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West:**

Saturday 5.00pm

#### **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**

(1st Sunday of the Month)

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

Commentators M Carson

Lectors P Balkin

Special Ministers N Neeld,

Welcomers

Projectionist B Middleton

Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

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

C Nielson

M Kroger

G Wright

L Fossey

L Coles

#### **HOLY FAMILY**

##### **9.00AM**

Commentators J Siketa

Lectors M Bird, P Carvalho

Special Ministers E Karakchi; B Kline; Sr Concepta

Welcomers K McArthur

Projectionist C Resciniti

Co-Ordinator J Mann, 0488 784 802



### **St Michael's Parish Advent Retreat Day**

**Saturday, December 3, from 10am to 1pm at Holy Spirit Church Hall**

**25-31 Bostock Ave, Manifold Heights**

**Facilitator—Sr Mary Wickham (RSM)**

**To register, please contact the Parish Office on 5278 1343 or email [bellpark@cam.org.au](mailto:bellpark@cam.org.au) by this coming Wednesday, November 30.**

***This is a free event and a light lunch will be provided***



#### **PRAYING FOR ALL SOULS DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER:**

Tuesday Nov 29

Wednesday Nov 30

Thursday Dec 1

Friday Dec 2

Macarol Family

Sells & McFarlane Family

Fiorillo & De Lorenzo Family

Marcantonio Family



## **St Michael's Parish Christmas Carols**

**Sunday December 11, 2.30pm - 4.00pm**

**Holy Family Church.**

A warm welcome to family and friends to attend a Christmas Carols afternoon of festive and spirited cheer to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.



### **Volunteers—Christmas Masses:**

We are currently looking for volunteers to assist at our Christmas Masses particularly in the areas of Special Ministers & Collectors. If you can assist, please contact the parish office on 5278 1343.

### **St Michael's News**

- **PART TIME POSITION:** St Michael's Parish is looking to employ a Parish Mission and Committees' Coordinator to join the Parish Team in February 2023. The role is for 12 hours per week, with negotiable days and work periods. If you know of anybody who may be interested, please ask them to contact the parish office on 5278 1343 so that we can provide a more detailed job description.
- **PLT & CHILDSAFEGUARDING COMMITTEES:** There are currently vacancies on both committees and we invite new members to join our teams and would love to hear from you. The committee position would be for a minimum period of two years and attendance at three or four meetings per year. The committee role is very straight forward with just a few procedures involved. Please contact the Parish Office on 5278 143 for more information.
- **HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS DINNER:** Monday December 5, 6.30pm at R.S.L. Belmont. Please R.S.V.P. to Liz by November 30 on 0411 243 382. Look forward to seeing you all there!
- **CWL:** The Christmas lunch for the CWL will be held on **Wednesday December 7, 12noon** at Moorabool Valley Chocolates, 320 Ballarat Road, Batesford. Please confirm your attendance with Tricia 0413 512 354 or Bernadette 0417 514 598 by Monday December 5. Please bring a wrapped gift to the value of \$10 for our Kris Kringle lucky dip. We look forward to seeing you there!
- **2023 COLUMBAN CALENDARS:** Now on sale for \$10 at the Parish Office
- **CUPPA & CHAT AFTER THE 9.00am MASS SUNDAY:** Please join us for a special morning tea after Mass this Sunday, outside Holy Family Church (weather permitting)

### **Community News:**

- **ST MARY'S PARISH ADVENT REFLECTION:** You are invited to join singer-songwriter Maria Forde for a beautiful evening of musical reflection in preparation for the Holy Season of Advent. **Wed Nov 30**, in the **Basilica** at **7pm**. A light supper and socialising before at 6pm in the Pioneer Room. Please bring a plate to share. **Cost \$5** payments can be made at the Parish Office, 150 Yarra St, prior to the event, and will be accepted at the door on the night.
- **ST. BERNARD'S BELMONT PARISH:** Is recruiting 2 staff members to join its team. Positions of Pastoral Worker and Administrative Officer. Do you know someone who is interested in undertaking one of the abovementioned roles? If so, please contact the parish office on 5243 2739 or follow the link: <https://melbournecatholic.org/about/job-vacancies/pastoral-worker-st-bernards-parish> or <https://melbournecatholic.org/about/job-vacancies/administrative-officer-st-bernards-parish>
- **SANTHOME FEST:** St. Sebastian's Syro-Malabar Mission, invites you to be with us for the Syro-malabar Cultural Night this Sunday November 27, from 5pm at the Geelong West Town Hall, 153 Pakington St, Geelong West for Indian food/Music/Live Performances. To purchase tickets please go to <https://www.trybooking.com/CDBIU>.
- **SVDP FLOOD APPEAL:** To donate or find out more about the Vinnies Appeal, please visit:-  
1—Calling 13 18 12;  
2—visit <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/vinnies-vic-flood-appeal-2022>.  
3—making a monetary donation through any Vinnies Shops at point of purchase or  
4—via your local IGA where the purchase of a token supports the recovery of Victorians devastated by these recent floods.

**-ST MICHAEL'S PARISH CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS-**



**CHRISTMAS MASSES...**

**December 24:**

5pm Holy Family Church (Family Mass)

5pm Ss Peter & Paul's Church

8pm Holy Spirit Church

**December 25:**

9am Holy Spirit Church

9am Holy Family Church

**Christmas Masses in Croatian:**

Dec 24 8pm Holy Family Church

Dec 25 11am Holy Family Church

**2nd Rite Reconciliation:**

**Tues Dec 13...** 7pm Holy Family Church



**-ST MICHAEL'S JESSE TREE CHRISTMAS GIVING-**

This year there will be a Jesse Tree for each of our Churches. If you would like to support the annual St Vincent de Paul Appeal, a gift voucher (no food or presents this year) would be ideal. Please drop the vouchers in at the parish office or at Mass up until December 18.

***Reflection by Richard Leonard:***

Night and day is the dominant image presented to us in today's readings. The season of Advent is for the Church the time just before the dawn of Christmas, when the fullness of God's love took human flesh in Jesus.

The moments before dawn are often special: cities are still, the air is damp, noise is at a minimum and, at least on clear days, there is an anticipation of the sun bursting forth into daylight. No wonder Paul and Matthew found it such a rich metaphor for the coming of Christ.

American lyricist and composer, Marty Haugen has found the image of light and darkness inspirational in his text, *God of Day and God of Darkness* (© 1984, 1995, published by GIA Inc.) He writes:

God of day and God of darkness, now we stand before the night;  
As the shadows stretch and deepen, come and make our darkness bright.  
All creation still is groaning for the dawning of your might,  
When the Son of peace and justice fills the earth with radiant light.

Still the nations curse the darkness, still the rich oppress the poor;  
Still the earth is bruised and broken by the ones who still want more.  
Come and wake us from our sleeping so our hearts cannot ignore  
All your people lost and broken, all your children at our door.

Show us Christ in one another, make us servants strong and true;  
Give us all your love of justice, so we do what you would do.  
Let us call all people holy, let us pledge our lives anew,  
Make us one with all the lowly, let us all be one in you.

Marty Haugen's take on the light and dark in the world is entirely consistent with the way Catholic mystics have applied these metaphors. Being in the light is not just about what we see, it is about what we do. St Ignatius Loyola often spoke about the things we keep buried in the dark. For Ignatius the experience we won't speak about, the sins we won't confess and the memories we suppress are the signs of the bad spirit. They gain an inordinate power over us and we displace a lot of energy keeping them buried in the dark. Ignatius always saw the hand of the good spirit when these things came into the light. Every time someone says to me, 'Father, I've never told anyone this before, but I want to talk about it now...' I thank God that the good spirit is alive and active. St Ignatius encourages us to be alert to all the ways we con ourselves that keeping secrets hidden in the dark is a necessary or acceptable way to live.

May this Advent be the season in which we bring to consciousness all the things that stop us from being fully alive and basking in the light. May our preparation for Christmas confirm us in the truth of Haugen's words about Jesus Christ and humanity.

You shall be the path that guides us, you the light that in us burns;  
Shining deep within all people, yours the love that we must learn,  
For our hearts shall wander restless, 'til they safe to you return;  
Finding you in one another, we shall all your face discern.