



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 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 Sheehan	Petrel St, Geelong West	Phone 5229 4412

Web Page Address:

www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au
www.facebook.com/michaelparish.st

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS: Rose Lennartz

ANNIVERSARIES: Chris 'Max' Lunn; John & Irene O'Neill; Nina Torre

BAPTISMS: Alexander Driscoll; Odin Flight; Olivia Pata; Frankie Smith; Marcella Stillitano; Ivy Bolsin; Myles Canning; Estelle Crouch

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Helen Dean



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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

(Year A/1—11 December 2022)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Lord, come and save us.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!



TODAY'S READINGS

1st: Isaiah 35:1-6, 10

2nd: James 5:7-10

Gospel: Mt 11:2-11

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

1st: Isaiah 7: 10-14

2nd: Romans 1: 1-7

Gospel: Mt 1: 18-24

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 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.



PRAYING FOR ALL SOULS

Tuesday Dec 13 Seales Family Members
Wednesday Dec 14 Burt Family Members
Thursday Dec 15 Javni Family Members
Friday Dec 16 Grubb Family Members

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY

(3rd Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S—5.00PM

Commentators

Lectors K Maddalena

Special Ministers K Maddalena ****

Welcomers

Projectionist

Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY SPIRIT—11AM

M Kroger

J McKenzie

L Fossey

F Kearney

HOLY FAMILY

9.00AM

Commentators

A Scaddan

Lectors H Verdnik; T McMahon

Special Ministers M Fiorillo; M Perera; P Ruggeri

Welcomers

Projectionist

C Resciniti

Co-Ordinator

J Mann 0488 784 802

A colorful illustration of four children standing in a snowy forest, singing from songbooks. From left to right: a boy in a red hat and yellow shirt, a girl in a green hat and pink shirt, a boy in a red hat and red shirt, and a girl in a green hat and green shirt. Musical notes float in the air around them, and evergreen trees are visible in the background.

Holy Family Church.

- **GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS CLUB:** You are warmly invited to join us for a social get-together of food and friends for our Christmas Dinner. **Tuesday, 13 December 2022 at 6.00pm** at **The Bistro, Belmont Hotel, Cnr High St & Mt Pleasant Road, Belmont.** Purchase of **meals and drinks at your own cost.** If you wish to come to the dinner, please phone or text Michael 0431 959 584 or Joan 0429 215 111 by Friday, 9 December.
- **ADVENT DAWN NOVENA MASS (SIMBANG GABI):** St Francis Xavier Church, 143 Bacchus Marsh Road, Corio from **December 16 until December 24** at 5.30am every morning. For more information, please contact Adela Buaya on 0409 135 589. All are most welcome.
- **ANNUAL GEELONG SINULOG FIESTA CELEBRATION OF THE INFANT JESUS: STO. NINO** (also known as the Infant of Prague). You are invited to attend -
 - **9 day novena** at **6pm** on the **5-13 January 2023** at **St Francis Xavier Corio.**
 - **Feast Celebration procession** followed by mass on **14 January** at **10am, St Francis Xavier Corio.** There is Filipino cultural dances, and fellowship with all the different parish communities in Geelong and Melbourne. Please contact Rober/Lina at 0411 839 827 for more info.
- **PARISH SVDP:** Vinnies have a supply of Rapid Antigen Tests (RAT) to give away. To collect a box of (5) tests please pick up from the Parish Office.
- **PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND:** The Parish of Ivanhoe has a couple of vacancies for its Parish Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 11th-28th April 2023. if interested please visit our Parish Website www.melbcatholic.org/ivanhoe and click on the News Page or phone Fr Bill Edebohis 0427 879 733.

CHRISTMAS ROSTERS 2022:

HOLY FAMILY

Commentator A Scaddan
Lector S Costa, E Siketa
Special Ministers M Giles; P Ruggeri; J Genova
Projectionist ****
Collectors M Scaddan, L Kelly, F Pellizzeri

5.00PM CHRISTMAS EVE

9.00AM CHRISTMAS DAY

F O'Neill
M Scaddan; T McMahon
D Lunn, **** ****
A Bird
D Lunn, M Scaddan, **** ****



HOLY SPIRIT

Commentator T McShanag
Lectors M Kroger
Special Ministers Mass Concelebrated
Projectionist L Coles
Collectors T McShanag, ****

8PM CHRISTMAS EVE

9AM CHRISTMAS DAY

M Burn
F Kearney
L Fossey
B Bilogrevic
J O'Neill, A Benne

Ss PETER & PAUL'S

Commentator M Gifford
Lectors G Tolan
Special Ministers P McGlinchey; A Henderson; N Neeld
Collectors P McGlinchey, N Tuddenham; J Vecci; S O'Shea; G Booth; C Brown.

5.00PM CHRISTMAS EVE

**** **PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE IF YOU CAN HELP.**

Reflection by Richard Leonard:

Have you ever been on a farm during summer? If you have you will know how precious water is. When I was a boy, I spent several holidays on an uncle's property. There were often six or seven city-based cousins there for the long summer break. It was great fun, but the one thing of which we needed a daily reminder was to be careful with how much water we used. We seemed to luxuriate in the shower for twice as long as our country cousins!

I can remember that when we arrived for one holiday, it had not rained in the area for nearly nine months. A few days later, just at dusk, the thunder rumbled, the storm clouds gathered and the heavens burst open. The rain poured down. Like in the movies, everyone inside the house just stood up and walked out into the rain. No one said a word. We stood in the rain and soaked it in. The earth was not the only thing in need of a drenching.

In today's letter from St James the metaphor of waiting for rain is given to us as a way of understanding what it was like to wait for Christ. It is a potent image for Advent. In this season each year we remember that humanity waited through a long, dry and exhausting period for the sign of new life in Jesus. For generations people looked to the heavens every day for a sign that today would be the day when God's salvation would come. Then, one night, in a way no one could have ever imagined, with no fanfare, a child burst forth into the world and established the final reign of God's love.

Advent is not the time when we pretend that Jesus hasn't come into our world and that we are the first to anticipate his coming at Christmas. It's a richer season than that. It is the time when we recall what it was like before he came and how much we need him to keep coming again and again in our daily lives.

The First Reading and the Gospel make it very clear that farmers never down tools just because the rain comes. We're told that as a result of being soaked in the love of God we are called to do all we can for those in our world who are lame, blind, deaf, lepers, poor and for any one left for dead.

This is a vital message for us to hear today because there are some in our country who tell us that all we have to do is look after 'our own back yard'. This line is many things, but it's not Christian. Advent reminds us that by welcoming Christ we have an obligation to care for all his children. Everywhere is our back yard because that's where our brothers and sisters live. May we gain from Christ this Christmas the generosity to see that the desert is meant to bloom for all people everywhere, not just a few of us lucky to live in an oasis.

We are ridiculously generous to others because God in Jesus has been lavishly good to us and our goodness remains a most powerful sign of God's salvation that is always seen in deeds not words.

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