



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

Web Page Address:

www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/michae.parish.st

PARISH SECRETARY:

Bernadette Bilogrevic

Phone 5278 1343

Email: bellpark@cam.org.au

PASTORAL WORKER:

Sr Anne Lourey

Phone 5278 1343

Email: anne.lourey@mercy.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

Luke Sheahan

Petrel St, Geelong West

Phone 5229 4412

(Acting Principal)

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS:

Mate Prusac, Geza Babor, Bernadine Withers, Betty O'Connor

ANNIVERSARIES:

Louisa Rodriques, Arnold Colaco



PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Clare Mathimugan; Fr Philip Godsell; Cheryl Lambert; Paul Secon; Damiano Costa

COVID LOCKDOWN UPDATE!

THE CURRENT LOCKDOWN HAS BEEN EXTENDED UNTIL MIDNIGHT ON TUESDAY JULY 27. ALL MASSES, LITURGIES & PRIVATE PRAYER IN THE PARISH ARE CURRENTLY CANCELLED.

MASS WILL BE LIVESTREAMED ON FACEBOOK THIS SUNDAY AT 10AM.

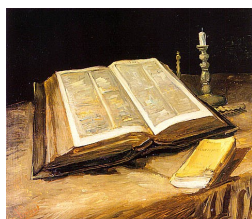
THE PARISH OFFICE WILL REMAIN CLOSED DURING THAT TIME.

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Year B/1- 25July, 2021)

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:

The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people. Alleluia!

TODAY'S READINGS

17th Sun in Ordinary Time

1st 2 Kings 4: 42-44

2nd Eph 4: 1-6

Gospel: John 6: 1-15

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

18th Sun in Ordinary Time

1st Ex 16: 2-4, 12-15

2nd Eph 4: 17, 20-24

Gospel: John 6:24-35

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 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.

WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY—JULY 25, 2021

Dear Grandfathers and Grandmothers, Dear Elderly Friends,

"I am with you always" (Mt 28:20): this is the promise the Lord made to his disciples before he ascended into heaven. They are the words he repeats to you today, dear grandparents and elderly friends. "I am with you always" are also the words that I, as Bishop of Rome and an elderly person like yourselves, would like to address to you on this first World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly. The whole Church is close to you -to us -and cares about you, loves you and does not want to leave you alone!

I am well aware that this Message comes to you at a difficult time: the pandemic swept down on us like an unexpected and furious storm; it has been a time of trial for everyone, but especially for us elderly persons. Many of us fell ill, others died or experienced the death of spouses or loved ones, while others found themselves isolated and alone for long periods.

The Lord is aware of all that we have been through in this time. He is close to those who felt isolated and alone, feelings that became more acute during the pandemic. Tradition has it that Saint Joachim, the grandfather of Jesus, felt estranged from those around him because he had no children; his life, like that of his wife Anne, was considered useless. So the Lord sent an angel to console him. While he mused sadly outside the city gates, a messenger from the Lord appeared to him and said, "Joachim, Joachim! The Lord has heard your insistent prayer" Giotto, in one of his celebrated frescoes, seems to set the scene at night, one of those many sleepless nights, filled with memories, worries and longings to which many of us have come to be accustomed.

Dear grandmother, dear grandfather, dear elderly friends, in concluding this Message to you, I would also like to mention the example of Blessed (and soon Saint) Charles de Foucauld. He lived as a hermit in Algeria and there testified to "his desire to feel himself a brother to all" (Fratelli Tutti, 287). The story of his life shows how it is possible, even in the solitude of one's own desert, to intercede for the poor of the whole world and to become, in truth, a universal brother or sister.

Pope Francis!

NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER

(1st Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S - 5.00PM

Commentators	C O'Brien
Lectors	G Podbury
Special Ministers	N Neeld, P McGlinchey
Welcomers	
Projectionist	
Co-Ordinator	M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators	R Allum
Lectors	V Pavlovic
Special Ministers	J Bartolo, Peter McBride
Welcomers	K McArthur, L. Allum
Projectionist	R Allum
Co-Ordinator	L Kelly, 0409 291 138

HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM

C Nielson
M Kroger
G Wright,
L Fossey
L Coles

9.30AM

J Siketa
M Bird, M Scaddan
E Karakchi, B Kline, Horoba
M& E Hoffman
C Resciniti
J Mann, 0488 784 802



ST MICHAEL'S PARISH IS COMMITTED TO UPHOLDING THE SAFETY, WELLBEING AND DIGNITY OF ALL CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS.

St Michael's News:

- ♦ **PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING** - Our next meeting is Wednesday July 28, 7pm at the Parish Community Centre
- ♦ **2021 CATHOLIC MISSION CHURCH APPEAL - POSTPONED & DATE TO BE ADVISED!**
This year, Catholic Mission invites us to partner with the essential work of the Good Shepherd Sisters in Bangkok, Thailand, as they reach out to vulnerable mothers and their babies. These mothers find hope and a new start at the Mother and Babies Home at the Good Shepherd Centre.
- ♦ **Music Coordinator Role at St Michael's Parish** - St Michael's Parish Bell Park currently has a part time position available for the role of Music Coordinator. If you know of anybody who would be interested or just require more information, please contact the parish office on 52781343.
- ♦ **CWL:—** Our next meeting will be our memorial Mass on Wednesday 4 August, God and COVID willing. More details closer to the date.
- ♦ **CRAFT AND CONVERSATION GROUP: Holy Family Community Centre: Thurs afternoons 2-4pm**, Public /School Holidays excluded. BYO craft project or just come along.
29 July 12 Aug 26 Aug 9 Sept 23 Sept 23 Sept 7 Oct 21 Oct 4 Nov 18 Nov 2 Dec
Scan in using the App for more information please contact Debbie 0409 416 945.

Community News:

- ♦ **ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY VOLUNTEER CO-ORDINATOR NEEDED:** St Vincent de Paul Society has run a **hospital visitation programme for many years**—a friendly face to call on the sick and say 'hello'. If you are interested in the **role of co-ordinator**, or would like to **assist as a hospital visitor**, please contact John McCarthy 0409 042 393.
- ♦ **MARY MACKILLOP ROSARY:** A commemorative set of rosary beads for the 10th anniversary of the canonisation of Saint Mary of the Cross Mackillop, Cost \$40. For any questions or to submit your order form email orders@aidtochurch.org or call 1800 101 201. **Orders close TUESDAY 31 AUGUST.**
- ♦ **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA: St Mary of the Angels, 136 Yarra Street, Geelong.**
Sunday, 8 August 2021, 3pm—BACH'S GENIUS-THE MOTETS-Australian Chamber Choir/ Director: Douglas Lawrence; Cello-Rosanne Hunt. Tickets \$50 Full; Seniors \$45; Concession \$40, children and school students free. Tickets available from the website. www.auschoir.org or at the door.
Sunday, 29 August 2021 3pm—MELBOURNE CHAMBER CHOIR-Director; Alan Cook. Tickets \$35 Adult and Senior, \$30 Concession, children & school students free. Tickets available from www.trybooking.com/BPQYK or at the door.
Friday, 17 September 2021 7.30pm—SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST BY Theodore Dubois. Conductor- Joseph Hie, Teresa Duddy-Soprano, David Campbell-Tenor, Manfred Pohlenz-Baritone, Windfire Choir and Orchestra. Tickets \$50 Full, \$45 Seniors, \$40 Concession, children & school students free, Tickets available from www.trybooking.com/BPQZE or at the door.
Friday, 1 October to Sunday 10 October 2021—12TH ANNUAL WINDFIRE MUSIC FESTIVAL. Check our website for details: <https://musicatthebasilica.org.au/music-festival/> Tickets be available soon.

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.



REFLECTION by Richard Leonard

Recently I was invited to a relative's home for dinner. This family has been having more than a little trouble with their 13-year-old daughter, who is going through a particularly defiant and rebellious stage. The young girl was not happy with the vegetables her mother served at dinner and so she refused to eat them. The uneaten vegetables became the staging ground for an adolescent conflict. Trying to coax the girl into eating, her mother calmly used some lines I'd heard before. 'Wasting food is a sin' and 'There are starving people in the world who would be grateful for what you don't want'. With that the girl jumped up and left the dining room. A few minutes later she returned with an oversized envelope and a marker pen. She began to stuff the food into the envelope and as she did she angrily asked, 'What starving people do you want me to send these vegetables to?' Who said being a parent was easy? Celibacy had never looked better!

In today's Gospel, after the 5,000 have been fed, Jesus says, 'Gather the pieces together that are left over. Let nothing be wasted'. Some of us have never truly been hungry, so it can be hard to fully appreciate how wasteful our developed world must appear to those who watch their families die of starvation. People who lived through the Depression or have lived through wars often carry the scars of being hungry. To this day some of them are on guard against waste. Others try to numb the memory of want by overindulging. For most of us in the developed world, especially 13-year-old middle-class kids, hunger has only ever been fleeting, and we are presently eating ourselves into obesity.

Some people would prefer to think of the story of the feeding of the five thousand exclusively in spiritual terms. There is no question that today's Gospel refers to the Eucharist where all are spiritually nourished by Christ our host. It also refers to the eternal banquet where hunger will be no more. But this Gospel asks us to look at our world through the eyes of Christ's kingdom where the mighty will be cast down from their thrones, the poor will be raised up, and the rich who will not share will be sent away.

There is such a thing as healthy guilt. It's where we become aware of what we have done or failed to do to bring about Christ's Kingdom in our world. Given that it is entirely unnecessary for 29,000 people, on average, to die each day because of lack of food and water and the diseases this brings, guilt on our part seems a reasonable response. It becomes a healthy moment in our lives when we decide to change our priorities, and call for similar changes in a nation's priorities which spends more on bombs than starving babies.

I often wonder what God thinks when he hears wealthy nations say that the reason they refuse to share more with the poor is because these poorer nations often have unelected despots who divert their country's wealth into Swiss bank accounts or nuclear and conventional weaponry programmes. Even in the face of these complex issues we could find a way to feed the hungry who might, one day, be empowered to take charge of their nations.

'What starving people do you want me to send these vegetables to?', the 13 year old asked. To which I wanted to reply, 'Put your own name on the envelope because your own comfort makes you the neediest person in the world'.

May this Eucharist enable us to do on earth what is done in heaven, where the hungry are welcomed and fed, the leftovers are gathered together and nothing is wasted.

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