



# 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

<b>SCHOOL PRINCIPALS:</b>	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

**Web Page Address:**

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

## AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

**RECENT DEATHS:** Marija Dosen; Ante Medic

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Jack Juraga; Almor Mairos; Jose Medeiros; Madalena & Frank Ferraz; Francis Murphy; Joseph Bartolo; Julie Alexander; Francesco & Caterina Iannuzzi; Vincenzo, Elisabetta & Giuseppe Pitaro; Salvatore Rotiroti

**BAPTISMS:** Evie Didulica; Violet Mitrov

**PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Clare Mathimugan; Fr Philip Godsell; Cheryl Lambert; Paul Secon; Harry Howard; Raymond Carroll



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!**

## Thirty First Sunday in ordinary time (Year B/1- 31 October, 2021)

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God: be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation.



### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

I love you, Lord, my strength.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them. Alleluia!

### TODAY'S READINGS

Time

**1st** Deut 6:2-6  
**2nd:** Heb 7:23-28  
**Gospel:** Mk 12:28-34

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

32nd Sunday in Ordinary

**1st:** 1 Kg 17:10-16  
**2nd:** Heb 9:24-28  
**Gospel:** Mk 12:38-44

### 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.

## RELIGIOUS GATHERINGS AT ST MICHAEL'S PARISH

Dear Parishioners,

Welcome back to our weekend Masses. As previously outlined in the last few parish bulletins, and in accordance with the government roadmap out of lockdown, all attendees 16 years and over, must provide proof of vaccination or exemption status, to the COVID marshals. Unfortunately, without this necessary 'proof', you will not be permitted to enter, as the parish risk fines and possible further lockdown, if we are not 100% adhering to this rule.

There will be a weekly Sunday, 5pm Mass at Holy Family Church, beginning this Sunday, for parishioners with an 'unknown vaccination status'. Please note, a maximum of **30** can attend and this is for St Michael's Parish Parishioners only. It is necessary that you book your attendance each week and if demand is high, there will be a roster system put in place. It is important to register for all weekend Masses.

If you are unable to attend Mass and would like to receive Communion with Fr Minh, please contact the Parish Office on 5278 1343 to book a time.

Face masks are still compulsory indoors. and remember to sanitise before entering the church and social distancing must be maintained..

Fr Minh & Parish Staff.

### ALL SAINTS NOV 1 & ALL SOULS DAY NOV 2



The feasts of All Saints and All Souls can be seen as something of a twin feast that celebrates all those who have died. With the feast of All Saints, we celebrate all those who have died and have entered into direct and immediate communion with God in heaven. With the feast of All Souls, we celebrate and pray for those who have died but have not yet entered into that direct communion with God. These two different states revolve around the Church teaching on **purgatory**—a state or process of purification before entering into heaven.



### READERS ROSTER

(1st Sunday of the Month)

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

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

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

C Nielson
M Kroger
G Wright,
L Fossey
L Coles

#### **HOLY FAMILY**

#### **8.00AM**

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

#### **9.30AM**

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



***Congratulations*** to the candidates from the Parish Group and our three Primary Schools who will be Confirmed over the next few weeks.



We also congratulate the children from the Parish Sacramental Group who will receive the Sacrament of First Eucharist.

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

- ◆ **PLEASE NOTE:** The Parish Office will be closed on Tuesday November 2nd.
- ◆ **REMEMBRANCE MASS 2021**— The Annual Remembrance Mass will be livestreamed on Facebook on Friday November 5th at 7pm.
- ◆ **LITURGY MEETING:** Tuesday November 9, 7pm - Parish Community Centre.
- ◆ **PLT MEETING:** Wednesday November 10, 7pm - Parish Community Centre.
- ◆ **CRAFT AND CONVERSATION:** We meet at Holy Family Community Centre Thursday afternoons, 2-4pm. It is most Thursdays so keep an eye on the dates. Naturally if another lockdown/stay at home order occurs, we are cancelled. Dates are: Nov 11, 18 & 25; Dec 2 & 9 (Christmas Break). **To book your seat**, please contact Debbie on 0409 416 945 as we do have a space limit to adhere to.
- ◆ **2022 COLUMBAN CALENDERS** are now on sale for \$10 at the Parish Office.

## **ST MICHAEL'S PARISH AT PRAYER**

### **WEEKEND MASSES:**

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

English... 8am and 9.30am Sunday  
(Extra 5pm Mass- Please book)

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

11am Sunday

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

5.00pm Saturday

Croatian... 11am Sunday

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:**

<b>Tues...</b>	<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>
<b>Fri.:</b>	<i>Divine Mercy</i>	<i>3.00pm</i>	<i>Holy Spirit Church</i>

## **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**

It is amazing to note how leaving out just one half of one verse of the Gospel can affect the Christian life for centuries.

All of us know by rote the command of Jesus that we must love God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength and we must love our neighbour.

But the second half of verse 31 is not usually quoted because, sadly, it is not as imbedded in our memory. It reads: 'You shall love your neighbour **AS YOU LOVE YOURSELF.**'

There are very clear historical reasons why the second part of Jesus' summary of the commandments was quietly forgotten. Given the chequered personal experience he had of his own body, St Augustine, in the fifth century, had very ambivalent feelings about the human body. He thought that, generally, it was to be feared as the instrument through which we would sin. He encouraged us to tame it through prayer, mortification and penance. Augustine's ideas about the body held sway until Thomas Aquinas in the 13th century and the Jesuit Theologians of the 15th century argued that while the body can lead us to sin, it is also a temple of the Holy Spirit and a vehicle of God's love and grace.

In the 16th century Cornelius Jansen denounced Aquinas and the Jesuits and argued that Augustine held the correct Christian view. No matter what the Church did to denounce Jansen at the time, his thinking took deep root in Europe, the USA and missionary countries throughout the world. Jansenism, the belief that our body and its desires are evil and that we need to harshly mortify ourselves, is, tragically, still active in Christian thought today.

Jansenism is irreconcilable with today's Gospel where Jesus tells us that the love of God, the love of neighbour and the love of self are the cornerstones of the Christian law. And the opposite must be true too. We **CANNOT** call ourselves Christian if we hate God, hate our neighbour or hate ourselves.

Some people argue that Western society has already gone too far in the direction of self-love. They maintain that the lengths some people go to achieve a sculptured body, the use of steroids, the growing frequency of eating disorders, the adoration of sportsmen and women, the cult of the gym and of the sex industry all point to a culture too much in love with itself. Some argue what we need is a good dose of self-control. They are only half-right.

The problem with the term 'love of self' is that we often hear in it an encouragement to 'adore self'. Nothing could be further from what Jesus is saying. We are called to love our body, not worship it. Jesus is not calling us to a narcissistic love, like we see in the sex industry and the gym cults, where the only thing we love is ourself. If we have no sense of our own self worth, our own dignity and the personal love of God for each of us, it is impossible for us to give the same to others and to claim from others the dignity we deserve. We will either treat others as our inferiors on the one hand, or allow others to walk all over us, on the other.

Love of self is not about canonising a loss of self-control. Jesus shows us by the way he loved his Father, us and himself that true love always involves sacrifice. If we love our self in the right way, we have the self control to forgo those things that are most destructive in our life and we have the generosity to do for others the things that will enrich their lives. Jesus knew, that we can never love others if we hate ourselves.

Let's pray in this Eucharist, then, that we will develop our mind, heart, soul and strength to love the One who has created us in love and love those given into our care with the same love we lavish on ourselves. The Gospel of Jesus Christ demands nothing less!

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