



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](https://www.facebook.com/michaelparish.st)

As a COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS:

Kristina Profaca; Sr Margaret Collis (RSM); Marijan Pavlic

ANNIVERSARIES:

Joseph Gillett (Jnr); Ercole Iezzi; Joe Lichtenfeld; Miro Spaleta (1st Anniversary)

BAPTISMS:

Aubrey O'Donnell; Archie & Charlotte Coppock; Polly Fisher; Gigi & Isla Gorniakowski; Harry & Pip Witham

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Anthona Henderson; Daryl Squires; Hugo Riedl.



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 Kearney; Bernadette Bilogrevic; Marg Gifford or Joan Mann can be contacted on 5278 1343.



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.

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

(Year A/1— 6 August 2023)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

In a resplendent cloud the Holy Spirit appeared. The Father's voice was heard: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased. Listen to him.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

This is my Son, my beloved, in whom is all my delight: listen to him.

Alleluia!

TODAY'S READINGS

1st: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

2nd: 2 Peter 1:16-19

Gospel: Matt 17:1-9

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

1st: 1 Kings 19:9, 11-13

Romans 9:1-5

Gospel: Matt 14:22-33

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



WEEKEND MASSES:

Holy Family, Bell Park:

English...9.00am Sunday
Croatian 5.00pm Sunday

Holy Spirit, Manifold Hts:

11am Sunday

Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West:

Saturday 5.00pm

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Holy Family: 9.15am **Tuesday & Thursday** (Followed by Novena to St Anthony),
8.45am (Rosary before Mass on Tues & Thurs)

Holy Spirit: 9.15am **Wednesday**, 9.15am **Friday**. (Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament)

Reconciliation after Friday Mass each week.

BAPTISMS: Please contact the Parish for new bookings

COMMUNAL PRAYER:

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Tuesday:.. | <i>Meditation Group</i> | <i>5.30pm</i> | <i>Parish Community Centre</i> |
| | <i>Legion of Mary</i> | <i>10.00am</i> | <i>Parish Community Centre</i> |
| Friday | <i>Divine Mercy</i> | <i>3.00pm</i> | <i>Holy Spirit Church</i> |

STATUE OF OUR LADY:

At no cost! Visits homes in the Parish. Our Lady's statue is ready to be taken to your home when you call Cristita on 0435 780 716 or Vickie on 0401 213 505. we will collect Our Lady's statue, when you ask us.

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY

(2nd Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S—5.00PM

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Commentators | M Carson |
| Lectors | R Perera |
| Special Ministers | P McGlinchey |
| Welcomers | |
| Projectionist | B Middleton |
| Co-Ordinator | M Gifford, 5229 1656 |

HOLY SPIRIT—11AM

| |
|--------------|
| L Strzelecki |
| M Martin |
| L Vannata |
| L Fossey |
| R Martin |

HOLY FAMILY

9.00AM

| | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Commentator | K Saunders |
| Lectors | D Lunn, A Negro |
| Special Ministers | J Genova, C Marcantonio; H Verdrik |
| Welcomers | C Marcantonio |
| Projectionist | C Resciniti |
| Co-Ordinator | J Mann 0488 784 802 |

Transfiguration of the Lord

The Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord, became widespread in the West in the 11th century and was introduced into the Roman calendar in 1457 to commemorate the victory over Islam in Belgrade.

Before that, the Transfiguration of the Lord was celebrated in the Syrian, Byzantine, and Coptic rites. The Transfiguration foretells the glory of the Lord as God, and His Ascension into heaven. It anticipates the glory of heaven, where we shall see God face to face.

Through grace, we already share in the divine promise of eternal life.





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY—EVENTS IN THE PARISH OVER THE COMING MONTHS

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Aug 7.... | 11.30am Child Safeguarding Training for volunteers at St Michael's Parish Community Centre |
| Aug 15... | Feast of the Assumption |
| Sept 29... | St Michael's Parish Feast Day |
| Oct 18-21.. | Confirmations in the Parish |
| Oct 27-29.. | Archbishop Peter Comensoli— Visit to St Michael's Parish and our Schools. And will be the main Celebrant at all weekend Masses. More information on this visit to be provided in the lead up to this date. |
| Nov 1..... | All Saints Day |
| Nov 2..... | All Souls Day |
| Nov 4-5... | Annual Bereavement Masses |
| Nov 7 | Melbourne Cup Day Luncheon—Holy Spirit Hall |
| Nov 17.... | St Patrick's School Confirmations |
| Dec 3..... | Advent begins |
| Dec 14.... | St Michael's Parish Christmas Carols Evening |
| Dec 25.... | Christmas Day |

St Michael's News:

- ♦ **LEGION OF MARY:** meets after Mass every Tuesday at 10am. We meet in the St Michael's Parish Meeting room. We would love you to visit our meeting and see what we do. All are welcome.
- ♦ **HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP:** Lunch, Monday Aug 7, 12.30pm at The Great Western Hotel, Shannon Ave, Geelong West. See you all there!
- ♦ **CATHOLIC CARE SUNDAY APPEAL 2023:** Next weekend of August 12 & 13 there will be an extra third collection taken up after Communion at all weekend Masses. We call on your generosity in supporting this important appeal. Envelopes are now available in the churches if you prefer to take one home to complete.
- ♦ **FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION MASSES - AUG 15:**
 - 9.15am Holy Family Church (Holy Family School students in attendance)
 - 12.00pm St Patrick's School
 - 2.00pm Holy Spirit Church (Holy Spirit School students in attendance)
- ♦ **CUPPA & CHAT** after the 9.00am MASS : Parishioners are very welcome to catch up for a cuppa & chat each Sunday in the Parish Community Centre.

Community News:

- ♦ **ST MARY'S PARISH FEAST DAY & FAREWELL FOR FR JAYCEE:** This Sunday Aug 6, 10.30am-12.30pm. Come and celebrate at any of the Sunday Masses at the Basilica and afterwards pop over to the Parish Office Centre (150 Yarra St - outside Café Light) for a free BBQ. This is a time to come together socially and give our regards to Fr Jaycee... and eat a bit of farewell cake as well. If the weather is inclement, we will move it indoors to the Café & Pioneer Room areas.
- ♦ **GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS CLUB:** You are warmly invited to join us for a social get together for food & friendship. Tuesday Aug 8, 6pm at The Bistro, Belmont Hotel, High St. Belmont. Cost: Purchase meals & drinks at your own cost. Please RSVP to John Santospirito 0409 165 943 or email to john.santospirito@bigpond.com by Aug 7.
- ♦ **NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK 6-13 August**—Vocations come from families, communities and parishes. Strong families and communities are the place where vocations are first nurtured. In this National Vocations Awareness Week, let us pray for all families in our parish, and for those preparing for marriage. Let us also pray that our parish community may always be welcoming and encouraging of vocations to marriage, priesthood and consecrated life.
- ♦ **FRIENDS OF FAITH AND LIGHT GEELONG COMMUNITY:** You and your friend or family member with a disability are invited to our next Gathering on Saturday August 19 from 2-4.30pm. Venue: St Mary's Parish Offices, 1st floor, 150 Yarra St. Geelong. Lift. Theme: A community that forgives. Prayer, Songs, Fun. Fiesta Afternoon tea. Enquiries to Tricia O'Keeffe 0414 672 267 or Kevin Mark, kevin@stmarysgeelong.com.au.

Reflection by Richard Leonard—Aug 6, 2023

Three key people of the Old Testament are given to us in today's readings: Abram, Moses and Elijah. Unfortunately most of what we know about these men is fairly sketchy. Who can blame the young children, then, who wrote the following answers in an exam on the Old Testament?

'Moses led the Hebrews to the Red Sea, where they made unleavened bread, which is bread made without any ingredients. The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards, Moses went up Mount Cyanide to get the Ten Amendments. The First was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple. The Fifth was to always humour thy father and mother.'

The Jews of Matthew's community, however, would have been able to remember by heart every detail about Abram, Moses and Elijah. These men remain the Jews' greatest heroes. The first hearers of the Transfiguration story would have immediately made all the connections between Jesus' story and Abram, Moses and Elijah's experience of God on a mountaintop, where each has a life-changing encounter with the presence of God and is illuminated in every way. Each of them is called by God to fulfil a special task and so descend from the mountain with the strength to see it through.

Matthew is especially interested in the story of Moses. One of the refrains of the entire Gospel is that Jesus is the New Moses, the fulfilment of the law and the light that illuminates the darkest night. As interesting as the similarities are between Moses on Sinai and Jesus on Tabor, the differences are even more revealing for us.

Moses goes up the mountain alone, Jesus takes companions with him who share in the experience and witness to it. The face of God is hidden from Moses whereas on Tabor Jesus is given to us as the face of God for the world. On Sinai Moses receives a code of law and is told to make sure the people obey it. On Tabor Jesus receives a proclamation of God's love and we're told to listen to him. While Moses' face shines, Jesus' whole body is transfigured with light. Moses descends to enforce the law; Jesus comes down to die that we might live.

The God of Mount Tabor is not interested in each of us feeling isolated as we fulfil the letter of a legal code. He wants all of us to have hearts that listen to the Gospel of love so that we can gain the power to transform the world through the sacrifices of our daily lives.

On a much gentler scale, Sunday Mass is meant to be a weekly mountaintop experience for us where we hear God call us by name and confess his love for us; where we feel re-energised for the commission we have to bear his light to the world.

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Reflection by Dianne Bergant—Aug 6, 2023

In the midst of Ordinary Time we are invited to behold the transfiguration of Christ. By some horrible coincidence, we recall Christ's brilliance on the day that the world marks another cosmic event, its birth into the atomic age at Hiroshima. The paradox of these events should not be lost on us. The white light that shone from Christ was a mere suggestion of the divine splendour that is beyond human comprehension; the flashing light from the atomic explosion was an omen of the destructive force that is within human grasp. It is imperative that the horror of the latter be brought under the control of the glory of the former.

The transfiguration was a moment in time when Jesus' divine glory broke through his humanity and shone with a brilliance that was blinding. We sing of this glory time and again in the psalms. Yet when it really appears we can hardly believe it ourselves. The readings outline three different moments when this glory was revealed. The first was reported by the visionary in the book of Daniel. The second moment was the scene of the transfiguration. The third is hidden in the resurrection testimony of the author of the Letter of Peter.

We are the ones who today possess the prophetic message; we are the present day eyewitnesses of Christ's majesty. We too have moments when we might behold his glory and hear the voice proclaiming his identity, but we need eyes of faith and ears that are open.

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FEAST OF ST MARY OF THE CROSS - 8 AUGUST

Mary MacKillop was born in Melbourne in 1842. Died in Sydney on this day in 1909.

Took the religious name Mary of the Cross.

Responding to the isolation of colonial families, she pioneered a new form of religious life to provide education for their children. She and her sisters shared the life of the poor and the itinerant, offering special care to destitute women and children.

Remembered for her eagerness to discover God's will in all things, for her charity in the face of calumny, and for her abiding trust in God's providence.

Australia's patron saint.

