



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: Sr Irene Monigatti (RSM); Carole Threlfall; Stipe Niksic; Ross Trevaskis; Jan Rees; Orlando Patrian.

ANNIVERSARIES: Danuta Augustyn; John Duggan; Lou Resciniti; Frederick Tuddenham Snr; Antonio Ted Boltong (1st Anniversary) & Antonio Sorgiovanni (1st Anniversary)

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Nicholas Teague; 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.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (Year A/1—26 February 2023)



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory, I
will grant him length of days.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that
comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory.

TODAY'S READINGS NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

1st Gen 2:7-9, 3:1-7	1st Genesis 12:1-4
2nd Rom 5:12-19	2nd 2 Tim 1:8-10
Gospel: Matt 4:1-11	Gospel: Matt 17:1-9

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: long West:

English...9.00am Sunday 11am Sunday
Croatian 5.00pm Sunday
Slovenian.12.15pm every 2nd Sunday of the month

Ss Peter & Paul's, Gee-

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:.. Meditation Group 5.30pm Parish Community Centre
Legion of Mary 10.00am Parish Community Centre

Friday 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 or June on 0432 257 568

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY

(1st Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S -

Commentators M Carson
Lectors P Balkin
Special Ministers N Neeld,
Welcomers
Projectionist B Middleton
Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

5.00PM 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

Liturgy at St Michael's:

SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION:

Please keep in your prayers the children from the Parish Sacramental Program as they begin their lessons today in preparation for their First Reconciliation.



St Michael's News:

- ♦ **CUPPA & CHAT AFTER THE 9.00am MASS SUNDAY:** Parishioners are welcome to catch up for a cuppa & chat each Sunday after Mass in the Parish Community Centre.
- ♦ **PART TIME POSITION:** St Michael's Parish is looking to employ a Parish Mission and Committees' Coordinator to join the Parish Team. The role is for 12 hours per week, with negotiable days and work periods. If you know of any body who may be interested, please contact the parish office on 5278 1343 so that we can provide a more detailed job description.
- ♦ **CWL:** Next meeting of the Manifold Branch of the CWL will be held Wednesday 1 March at 1.30pm, Holy Spirit Hall, Bostock Ave, Manifold Heights. All St Michael's parish ladies are most welcome. For transport please contact Tricia 0431 512 354 or Bernadette 0417 514 598.
- ♦ **HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP:** Lunch, Monday 6 March, 12.30pm at "Pekish" Geelong, Bowls Club, Ballarat Road. See you all there!
- ♦ **PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING:** Our next meeting will be on Wednesday March 15, 7pm at the Parish Community Centre.

Community News:

- ♦ **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA CONCERTS-** Today February 26. 3pm; Stephen Marsh—baritone, Kym Alexandra Dillon—piano. **THEN AND NOW at St Joseph's College Performing Arts Centre**, 135 Aphrasia St, Newtown (entry via Gate 4, Queens Rd) Tickets \$45/\$40. Sunday March 26, 3pm: **EASTER CONCERT** Windfire Choir
- ♦ **2023 SVDP FESTIVAL MASS**—will be held on Thurs **March 9, Nazareth Church Grovedale at 7pm**, followed by commissioning of presidents & volunteers and presentation of service awards. A key feature of the night will be the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Grovedale Conference. Former members of Grovedale Conference are particularly invited to attend. The night will conclude with supper and an informal gathering.
- ♦ **HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE 2023** - Fr Joseph Pakalac at Meredith Parish is conducting a pilgrimage trip to the Holy Land in October this year. There will be an information session with Rajesh from Magi Pilgrimages on Sunday March 5 where he will present the proposed itinerary and you are cordially invited to join us at 12 midday, St Mary Mackillop Church, Bannockburn. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office on 5286 1230.
- ♦ **CLONARD COLLEGE OPEN DAY 2023** - Wed March 15 until Fri March 24. There will be multiple information and tour sessions. Bookings are essential via www.clonard.vic.edu.au. Enrolments for Year 7 close on Fri 5 May 2023.
- ♦ **SYRIAN EARTHQUAKE APPEAL** - Bishop Robert Rabbat's Syrian Earthquake Appeal. Contributions can be made by donating to: MCF DGR Account; Ref: Syrian Appeal; BSB 062 784; Account 100011493. Donations are tax deductible and for a receipt please email: mcf@melkite.org.au or contact 02 9750 5514 for more info. We also ask for your thoughts and prayers for all who are impacted by the devastating earthquake, as well as volunteers and emergency workers assisting them in their needs at this challenging time.
- ♦ **PALMS AUSTRALIA—Mission: Change their lives...and yours.** Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills with those who have less opportunity to develop their talents.. **You will re-ignite your professional passion; You will strengthen Individuals and organisational processes and procedures; You will Learn** that it is a life changing opportunity. And **You will be Supported**. Explore 35 positions on our website www.palms.org.au Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know: **Ring: 02 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567.**
- ♦ **A LENTEN REFLECTION WITH MARIA FORDE: Sunday March 5, 3pm at St Mary's Basilica, Geelong, Cost \$5pp.** (followed by a 'cuppa' in Café Light. We invite you to join the journey as Maria leads us on a Lenten reflection. Using scripture, ritual, music and conversation, we will explore the meaning of Lent and ways in which we can meaningfully enter into this time more fully. We will discuss the meaning of prayer, almsgiving and fasting, and its role during Lent. Maria Forde is an educator, spiritual director, accomplished singer, songwriter and liturgist..
- ♦ **AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS—AUTUMN 2023:** In this issue, there is a mix of intellectually rigorous articles as well as the interesting & creative contributions of our young writers in our community and can be easily identified by the ACYWC logo. Please take a copy, now available at all Churches.
- ♦ **WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023** - World Youth Day is a way for our Church to offer a life-changing adventure for your people and a powerful opportunity for them to encounter Jesus Christ. Archbishop Comensoli is inviting youth across the Archdiocese, ages 16-35, to journey with him and more than 500 others from Melbourne to Lisbon, Portugal, in August. Many young people have already registered to join the Archdiocesan pilgrimage. Registrations close in mid-March. Enquiries 9926 5761 or at wyd@cam.org.au. Perfect for parish leaders, priests, parents and, of course, young people.
- ♦ **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** - will be held on **Fri 3 March 2023 at Wesley Uniting Church, 100 Yarra Street, Geelong at 11am**. The theme of the Service is **'I have heard about your faithy'** prepared by the people of Taiwan. Our Guest Speaker is Captain Jim Weymouth from the Salvation Army who has spent some time in this part of the world. Everyone is most welcome. Further info, please ring **Sue O'Donoghue 0429 794 331**

Project Compassion Sunday 25-26 February



Written by Michael McGirr

Nelson Mandela said that education was the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world. There are plenty of people who would agree with him, one of them is Oprah Winfrey. She said that education was the way to move mountains, build bridges and to change the world. Today's readings certainly suggest the value of learning.

The story from the Book of Genesis comes from pre-history. It has often been misunderstood to suggest that sin entered the world through one woman, yet this is not true. On the contrary, the readings tell us that the world is good. When humans try to overstretch their boundaries, trouble follows and the experience of beauty and harmony is threatened. We need to choose our teachers. Are we going to listen to God or the serpent?

In our modern world, the serpent takes many forms. There are many threats to the harmony of the human race and the beauty of our natural environment. Likewise, today's story of the temptations in the wilderness from Matthew's Gospel shows us that some lessons are difficult. Jesus actually teaches the devil, telling the evil one that God is in charge. Jesus has to decide which voices he will follow, and has to learn that some ideas may not be as good as they sound. All the kingdoms of the world, Jesus learns, are no substitute for an honest and life-giving relationship with God.

Each week during Lent, Caritas Australia asks us to think about a special story. The story focuses on someone who has benefitted from your generosity through Project Compassion. This week, we hear about 16-year-old Laxmi who lives in a remote part of Nepal. Your help has enabled her to overcome family hardship to pursue her education. She was tempted to give up on school, but Project Compassion enabled her to follow a more positive direction and to realise what she could achieve for her community by becoming an engineer. The evil spirit will always get us to focus on what we don't have. The spirit of light will show us what is truly possible.



Laxmi (16) facilitating a wall magazine poster making session with Child Club members at her old school in jajarkot district, western Nepal.

Photo: Richard Wainwright/Caritas Australia.

Laxmi, 16, lives in in Jajarkot, a remote district in Nepal where almost half of the population live below the poverty line. Tragedy struck when Laxmi was 10 years old and her father passed away. Her father worked hard to pay for his children's education and after losing him Laxmi was at risk of falling further into extreme poverty.

With the support of our partner Caritas Nepal, Laxmi joined a child's club at her school where she was encouraged to resume her education. Through the child's club, Laxmi developed the skills and confidence to become a leader, advocating for clean water taps at her school.

Laxmi is now excelling in her studies and working towards her dream of becoming a civil engineer. She continues to be involved in the child's club, serving as an advisor and mentoring the next generation of young leaders at her old school.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow
For All Future Generations.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413