



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

Web Page Address:

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

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

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS: Doreen Thompson

ANNIVERSARIES: Joseph Ribaric; Antonino & Giuseppina (Josie) Battaglia; Benedetto & Anna Belich; Almost, Jose, Luis & Carlos Mairos; Judite da Rosa; Noemia Coelho; Frank Alfaite; Becky Lunn; Anna Kot; Jordan Baker; Sebastiano Di Mauro; Rosario Traficante

BAPTISMS: Ellie Anderson; Olivia Bagshaw; Ayvie & Goldie Bauer; Bobby & Banjo Bauer; Lucas Fantela; Andrea Jones; Darcy Dahl; Lonnie Featherstone; Frankie Macdonald; Penelope Simunuk; Hughy Webb

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 Kearney; 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.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

(Year A/1— 19 MARCH 2023)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult
and be satisfied at her consoling breast.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
Whoever follows me will have the light of life.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

TODAY'S READINGS NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

1st: 1 Sam 16:1, 6-7, 10-13	1st: Ezekiel 37:12-14
2nd: Ephesians 5:8-14	2nd: Romans 8:8-11
Gospel: John 9:1-41	Gospel: John 11:1-45

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

Slovenian. 12.15pm every 2nd Sunday of the month

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:.. 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

(Fourth Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S—5.00PM

Commentator A Henderson
Lector G Tolan
Special Ministers A Henderson; G Tolan
Welcomers
Projectionist B Middleton
Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY SPIRIT—11AM

Commentator M Burn
Lector J Fraatz
Special Minister L Fossey
Welcomers L Fossey
Projectionist A Zarb

HOLY FAMILY 9.00AM

Commentator M Lukesic
Lectors F O'Neill; M Scaddan
Special Ministers D Lunn; C Simpson; V Resciniti
Welcomer: V Resciniti
Projectionist C Resciniti
Co-Ordinator J Mann 0488 784 802

St Michael's News:

- ♦ **COMMENTATOR:** We are looking to fill the role of Commentator on the fourth Sunday, 11am Mass at Holy Spirit Church. If you are able to help, please contact the parish office on 5278 1343.
- ♦ **THANK YOU:** We take this opportunity to sincerely thank Meg Kroger and Noel Tuddenham for their time and commitment on the Parish Leadership Team over the past few years which was greatly appreciated. We welcome our new members to the team: Premraj; Colleen Nielson; Susanga Costa; John Siketa; Louise Kearney & Marvi Ferrer.
- ♦ **STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** 2.30pm, every Friday during Lent at Holy Spirit Church followed by Adoration at 3.00pm.
- ♦ **LUNCH FOLLOWING THE ANOINTING MASS APR 5:** The CWL will provide sandwiches, tea & coffee and Sisters of the Holy Angels will provide sausage rolls. We are asking our fellow parishioners who are attending the Mass and plan to stay for lunch to please bring a small plate of something sweet to share. Thank you.

St Michael's News cont'd

- ♦ **CANCELLATION OF DAILY MASS:** The 9.15am Mass at Holy Family Church next Thursday, March 23 is cancelled. Fr Minh will be attending a clergy workshop in Melbourne and the technician is booked to install the new AV system at the church.

Community News:

- ♦ **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.
- ♦ **CATHOLICCARE VICTORIA:** CALD Community Kitchen Facilitators needed to work with Refugee students in term 2, on Wednesdays from 4pm-6pm; April, May & June 2023. Location:- Norlane Community Centre, 39A Rose Ave, Norlane. Please contact Jaclyn Fraser Volunteer Program Coordinator on 0499 001 022 or Jaclyn.fraser@catholiccare.vic.org.au for more information.
- ♦ **SHC: CIRCLE OF MERCY:** 'Called to be Witness: What You Can't Unsee' Webinar by Sr Elizabeth Young RSM: Thursday, March 30 from 7pm-8.30pm. Community members can RSVP your attendance via trybooking.com/CGGNG. A Webinar link will be sent to you via email closer to the date.

We are an Easter people

You are warmly invited to share in our Holy Week Celebrations 2023



THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - SECOND RITE

Tuesday April 4... 7.00pm Holy Family

MASS OF ANOINTING

Wednesday April 5... 11.00am Holy Spirit, followed by a light lunch at the parish hall

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Holy Thursday April 6... 7.00pm Holy Spirit, followed by Adoration until 9.00pm

WAY OF THE CROSS

Good Friday April 7... 10.00am Holy Family (Outdoors—school oval)

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION:

Good Friday April 7... 3.00pm Holy Family (includes Communion)

EASTER VIGIL

Saturday April 8... 5.00pm Holy Family (Croatian)
7.30pm Holy Family

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES

Sunday April 9... 8.30am Ss Peter & Paul's (Lithuanian)
9.00am Holy Family
10.00am Ss Peter & Paul's
11.00am Holy Spirit
5.00pm Holy Family (Croatian)

BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD

Saturday April 8... 3.00pm Holy Family

Holy Family
Separation Street
Bell Park

Ss Peter & Paul
Malone Street
Geelong West

Holy Spirit
Bostock Avenue
Manifold Heights

Please Note: During Holy Week, the daily 9.15am Masses on April 5, 6, & 7 are cancelled.

Project Compassion Sunday Weekend of 18-19 March



REFLECTION

THU'S STORY, VIETNAM

There are many occasions when we ask the question why and can't find the answer for which we are looking. Why did we miss out on a job? Why did someone we love get cancer? Why can't we find a place to live that we can afford? Why do some days seem so difficult?

It is good to sit with our confusion and even grief. It is good to share it with the Lord who loves us so tenderly. But sometimes we have to step aside from the question *why did this happen?* It may be better to start with *where can I go from here?* What small steps will enable me to face the future in a positive spirit?

Today's readings touch upon these issues. In the Gospel, Jesus encounters a person who was born blind. The bystanders want to know why this happened. They think it must be because either he or his parents did something wrong. They are looking backwards. Jesus prefers to look forward. He says *"he was born blind so that the works of God may be displayed in him"*. In other words, his blindness presents opportunities for growth, not a pretext to blame. The letter to the Ephesians similarly reminds us that we are on a journey from darkness to light. The whole of Lent could be described in those words. The letter says 'try to discover what the Lord wants of you.' It asks us in terms of possibilities! The same thing happens when Samuel anoints David. It doesn't matter that David is a young shepherd. He has a big future, as anyone familiar with the Bible well knows.

This week Project Compassion shares with us the story of Thu, who lives in Vietnam. At the age of 12, Thu's life was thrown into chaos when he trod on a land mine that had been left behind after the Vietnam War. Surely, he must have asked why he was among the unlucky ones. He might have asked the same thing again when his wife suffered a stroke. But Thu joined the Empowerment of People with Disabilities program, supported by Caritas Australia through our local partners, the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development. As with so many others, your generosity enabled Thu and his family to build a brighter future. Thank you for helping in this wonderful work of transformation.

You can help to support people like Thu forge a path out of poverty by making a donation through Project Compassion boxes and envelopes, or by visiting www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by phoning 1800 024 413.

When Thu was 12 years old, he lost his leg after stepping on an unexploded land mine from the Vietnam War. Living with a disability in rural Vietnam presented many challenges for Thu, who worked mainly as a rice farmer. After his wife, Linh, suffered a stroke, he had to take on the additional role of carer for his wife.

"She is my wife and we have been living together and depending on each other, I am the one to be there with her and for her," Thu said.

Thu joined the Empowerment of People with Disabilities program, supported by Caritas Australia through local partners, the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development (SRD).

Through the program, Thu learnt livelihood, financial and independent living skills and joined a Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) where he could interact with other people with disabilities and earn income through making incense sticks.

The VSLA helped Thu to obtain a loan so that he could set up a barber shop and earn extra income to support his family. The project also helped Thu to build an accessible toilet for Linh, who has become more independent thanks to the support of a physiotherapist.

