



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 Prakash Cutinha****Web Page Address:**
www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au**OFFICE:**

147 Separation St Bell Park 3215

Phone: 5278 1343

Fax: 5278 4618

Email: bellpark@cam.org.au**OFFICE HOURS:**

Mon-Wed, Fri 9am-5pm, Thurs 9-2pm.

PARISH SECRETARY:

Bernadette Bilogrevic

Phone 5278 1343

Email: bellpark@cam.org.au**PASTORAL WORKER:**

Sr Anne Lourey

Phone 5278 1343

Email: anne.lourey@cam.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

John Grant

Petrel St, Geelong West

Phone 5229 4412

Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ

Around the world there are women's shelters run by the St Vincent de Paul Society called 'Manna House'. It's an inspired name for such an important work. Women and their children, in the midst of fear, and having suffered terrible abuse, are welcomed into a safe-haven where they can be loved and looked after. It's a temporary respite where broken families can piece their lives back together and be revived for the journey ahead.

What happens at 'Manna Houses' for women at risk happens for each of us when we come to the Eucharist. We receive manna from heaven. It's our stop on the journey of faith so that we can go out spiritually revived to be the face of Christ in the world. Sometimes we need this 'manna come down from

heaven' when we are spiritually most at-risk.

I love the fact that as Catholics we believe that Christ is present in ordinary gifts of bread and wine blessed and offered at the Eucharist. We don't just believe that Christ is present in sunrises, sunsets and in natural beauty, we also believe that God comes to us in a special and unique way in the simple, ordinary things of life. And it is in what we do with these gifts of bread and wine that Christ is really present. The earliest Christians called the Eucharist 'the breaking of the bread'. It is the broken bread and the poured cup given into our hands to which we say 'Amen' and so affirm our belief that Christ is present here.

We often need to be reassured of Christ's presence when we are in

the desert periods of our own life. We can feel we are wandering around in the wilderness looking for some sign of God's life. For all of us who are broken in mind, body or spirit, or who are pouring ourselves out in love for other people, communion is precisely the time Jesus meets us where we are. Is it any wonder that the Eucharist means so much to us? May we never feel as though we are not good enough to be here, for Jesus has invited us to his table where we are loved and cared for.

As important as the Eucharist is, however, it is not 'ours', in the sense that we can selfishly hold on to the gifts we receive here. We are given Christ in Word and Sacrament, so we can become Christ.

*/Cont'd P4...***- 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time -***(Year B/2 - August 12, 2018)***ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones forever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**Alleluia, alleluia!**

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live forever.

Alleluia!**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:****20th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Prov 9:1-6

2nd Reading: Eph 5:15-20

Gospel: Jn 6:51-58

**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... 8am and 9.30am Sunday

Croatian... 11am Sunday

Slovenian.. 12.15pm every 2nd Sunday of the month

Holy Spirit, Manifold Hts:

11am Sunday

Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West:

5.00pm Saturday

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Holy Family:

9.15am Tues (followed by Novena to St Anthony), 9.15am Thurs

Holy Spirit:

9.00am Wed, 11am Fri and 9am 1st Sat. **Reconciliation after Saturday Mass**

McKellar Centre:

10.15am - 1st Tuesday (3rd & 5th Communion Service)

Multicultural Centre:

1.30pm - 1st Friday;

Elstoft House (formerly Vincentian Village): 3.00pm 1st & 3rd Tuesday, (2nd & 4th Communion Service)

St John of God Hospital: 11.30am every Thursday in SJOG Chapel

BAPTISMS:

1st & 3rd Sundays 12noon at Holy Spirit, 2nd & 4th Sundays 12.30pm at Ss P&P, 3rd Sunday 2pm at Holy Family

COMMUNAL PRAYER:

Mon... Holy Family Women's Prayer Group

10.00am

Holy Family Community Centre

Tues... Meditation Group

5.30pm

Holy Family Community Centre

Wed... Prayer of the Church

Before 9am Mass

Holy Spirit Church

Wed... Holy Family Women's Prayer Group

10.00am

Holy Family Community Centre

Thurs... Italian Prayer Group

10.00am

St Patrick's Chapel

Fri... Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

After 11am Mass

Holy Spirit Church

Fri... Divine Mercy

3.00pm

Holy Spirit Church

Sat... Rosary

After 9am Mass

Holy Spirit Church

OUR LADY'S STATUE:

August 6-20: Spitale family, 4 Marathon Ave;

If anyone would like to have Our Lady's Statue or if you could spare an hour a month to help, ph Tina Montalto on 5278 9314.

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS:

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ANNIVERSARIES:

Peter Vadivelu, Kevin & Beverly McFarlane, Bruno Nesci, Rocco Resciniti, Fr William Durkin, Rozario Sidoni, Julie DaCosta, Louisa Rodrigues, 1 year anniversary of Patricia Walsh and 10 year anniversary of Bruno DiCristoforo

BAPTISMS:

Winnie Harris, Austin Lockwood, Sonny Richards and Ava Irwin

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Aaron Lyall, Anita Capicchiano, Sandra Klinge, Cheryl Lambert, Ana Siketa, Brian Biviano, Michael Walsh, Tony Doyle, Peter Daniels, Val Howard, Jo Vanjek



STEWARDSHIP CORNER - 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Get up and eat, else the journey will be too long for you!" (1Kings 19:7)

Jesus knows that our stewardship journey will be difficult; we are not designed to do it on our own.

Fortunately, Jesus gave us the greatest gift of all - the gift of the Eucharist; his own body and blood.

When we join our sacrifices with the sacrifice of the Mass, we find the strength and courage to be his joyful disciples.

Roster for Next Sunday

(3rd Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S - 5.00PM

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

Co-Ordinator

K Maddalena

K Maddalena

D Whelan

M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

Co-Ordinator

8.00AM

K Saunders

P. Carvalho

Sr Concepta, P Ruggeri, R Culo

P Ruggeri, R Culo

R Allum

L. Kelly, 0409 291 138

HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM

M Kroger

J McKenzie

L Stalio

L Fossey

F Kearney

9.30AM

A Scaddan

H Verdnik, T McMahon

C Taylor, M Fiorillo, M. Perera

E Dalton

C Resciniti

J Mann, 0488 784 802

The upcoming Plenary Council in 2020 gives us a chance to focus once again on the role of families and women in the life of the Church.

Four years ago The Synod on the Family in Rome tried to tackle the issue. The Synod expressed the key issues in the following words:

“Within the family are joys and trials, deep love and relationships which, at times, can be wounded. The family is truly the “school of humanity” (*Gaudium et Spes*, 52), which is much needed today. Despite the many signs of crisis in the family institution in various areas of the “global village”, the desire to marry and form a family remains vibrant, especially among young people, and serves as the basis of the need of the Church, an expert in humanity and faithful to her mission to proclaim untiringly and with profound conviction the “Gospel of the Family”, entrusted to her together with the revelation of God’s love in Jesus Christ and ceaselessly taught by the Fathers, the masters of spirituality and the Church’s Magisterium. The family is uniquely important to the Church and in these times, when all believers are invited to think of others rather than themselves, the family needs to be rediscovered as the essential agent in the work of evangelization. Think of the witness of so many families that fulfill their Christian mission.” Our Plenary Council needs to find words that speak more directly to Australian Catholics; and use sentences that are shorter and pithier.

The 2014 Synod documents placed a great deal of emphasis on the vulnerability of families. For example they claimed that there is “a general feeling of powerlessness in the face of socio-cultural realities that oftentimes end in crushing families”. They give little acknowledgement to the resilience of most families. Those sentiments may express the reality of families in some parts of the world but not in Australia. In Australian society the majority of families have coped well with dynamic social change, even those who have abandoned any commitment to religion as a guide to their lives.

Divorce is often used as an indication of the extent to which families end up ‘crushed’ by the forces of social change. Yet in Australia the majority of marriages do not end in divorce. The statistics report that the divorce rate in the group of people who married 25 years ago is about 32 per cent. This means that 68 per cent of marriages survive (at least in the formal sense) until one partner dies.

In an Australian context there are, indeed, families who become overwhelmed by social pressures. And to give them their due Australian governments of both political persuasions have done a reasonable job of supporting families through dynamic social change. Some of their policies have not been compatible with church teachings (e.g. contraception and abortion policies) and some social problems seem almost intractable (e.g. aboriginal health and education issues). But in this society research has shown that parents spend more quality time with their children than they did 20 years ago. Parents also expect more from their children than they did 20 years ago, including the expectation of being considerate and polite. Most studies have failed to find any evidence that the quality of parent-child relationships had declined over time, and that there is little evidence of any decline in commitment to parenting across most of Australia’s population.

The Church’s role is to persist in messages that help families put their own situations into some kind of Christian perspective. This message will need to be different in this society than others around the world. The role of women in the Church and in the family is a critical issue in this society. We need to separate the debate about the ordination of women from a debate about their leadership role in the Church. Senior leadership positions need not be the exclusive prerogative of priests. Here is just one example to consider:

It may be the case that Jesus made an unalterable decision when he divinely ordained an ‘all male’ ministry. What is not in dispute is that Jesus had no opinion on, and no hand in establishing, the role of ‘cardinal’. This is a position not divinely ordained. It is an historical construct devised a thousand years after Christ to solve administrative problems in a burgeoning Church bureaucracy. Furthermore, over the centuries many cardinals have not been ordained priests.

In 2013 Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York proposed that women should be considered “given that red hats do not necessarily have to be proffered only to clergy”. The up-coming Plenary Council needs to embrace that kind of lateral thinking.

(Kevin Fell)

Liturgy at St Michael’s:

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION:

Aug 15...	Whole School Mass Holy Family School	9.15am Holy Family Church
	Whole School Mass Holy Spirit School	9.30am Holy Spirit Church
	Whole School Mass St Patrick’s School	12.30pm St Patrick’s School
	Evening Mass	5.30pm Ss Peter & Paul’s Church



CONFIRMATION MASSES:

Aug 18...	11am - Holy Family Church for Holy Family School Confirmation
	2pm - Holy Family Church for Holy Spirit School Confirmation

Aug 23... **Class Mass** - Gr Prep, 9.15am Holy Family Church

Aug 26... **First Eucharist for Children in Non Catholic Schools** - 2pm Holy Family Church

Aug 30... **Class Mass** - Gr 3/4, 9.15am Holy Family Church

Sept 6... **Class Mass** - Gr 1/2, 9.15am Holy Family Church



St Michael's News:

- ◆ **EUCCHARIST:** Through the colder months, a decision has been made to offer Eucharist of one type **only** at our Masses. This will be re-addressed in September.
- ◆ **TOILET BLOCK AT Ss PETER & PAUL'S:** A major revamp of the toilet block will begin this Monday. Bisinella Developments will oversee the project which will take about 6-8 weeks to complete.
- ◆ **After the 9.30am Mass next Sunday, August 19, parishioners from the Iraqi Community will provide a traditional dish to share with other parishioners as part of their celebration of the Feast of the Assumption.**
- ◆ **ST MICHAEL'S CONVERSATION/CRAFT GROUP:** Ladies - are you interested in meeting new people? Do you want to experience informal conversation practice and improve your conversation? **We promote cultural inclusiveness and building strong St Michael's Community bonds.** Bring along your current craft project, hobby, or just come sit and chat and be part of the St Michael's Conversation Craft Group. Contact Debbie 0409 416 945. We meet at Holy Family Community Centre, 147 Separation Street, 2-5pm on 24 Aug, 7 Sep, 21 Sep, 5 Oct, 19 Oct, 2 Nov, 16 Nov, 30 Nov.

Community News:

- Aug 12... **ARCHBISHOP PETER A COMENSOLI** will be celebrating the 11am Mass at St Mary's Basilica. All welcome to attend.
- Aug 14... **LIFEBOAT GEELONG:** A Fundraiser will be held at the Royal Geelong Yacht Club from 5.30-7.30pm with guest speaker Brian Cook, CEO of the Geelong Football Club. Finger food is provided and tickets are \$60/person. Please purchase online at lifeboatgeelong.com.au or at the door on the night.
- Aug 19... **ANNUAL SILENT RETREAT, QUEENSCLIFF:** A ministry of hospitality provided by the Anglican community of St George's and St James' in the Borough of Queenscliff. Retreat, catering and accommodation single rooms (3 nights) - \$375. Details: admin@queenscliffionsdaleanglican.org or ph 5258 4624. Registration closes **Sunday 12 August.**
- " **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA: Melbourne Chamber Choir** 3pm at St Mary's Basilica. Tickets available at the door or www.Trybooking.com/TNYA. \$30 adult and senior, \$25 concession, school students free.
- Aug 23... **CIRCLE OF MERCY:** Sacred Heart College are holding our third Circle of Mercy Community Evening for this year from 7-8.30pm in the Celies Hospitalit Centre, Aphrasia St entrance with light refreshments afterwards. Fr Richard Leonard will present **Why Express Faith at All?** RSVP to Rita Chiavaroli by email: rspv@shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au or ph 5222 0467 by **Friday August 17.**
- Aug 26... **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA: Australian Chamber Choir** - *Please note the change of venue and time to St Paul's Church, Latrobe Tce, 3.30pm.* Tickets available at the door and also at www.auschoir.org. \$40 adult and senior, \$35 concession, school students free.
- Aug 30... **SACRED HEART COLLEGE** invites you to the Inaugural Dinner for Dads and Daughters, 6.30 for 7pm start/finish 9.30pm in Celies Dining Room, celebrating 12 years of supporting student pathways to AFLW. Tickets \$55 (\$45 students) which includes a 2-course meal with drink on arrival. Bookings via [TryBooking https://www.trybooking.com/XAOU](http://www.trybooking.com/XAOU). **RSVP Wednesday 22 August.**
- Sept 13... **ARCHBISHOP'S CATHOLIC MAN BREAKFAST SERIES:** Featuring our new Archbishop, Peter A Comensoli. Come along and support the new Archbishop at the CQ Club 113-123 Queen St Melbourne, cost \$45 7-9pm. Enquiries Michael Bohan 0439 172 465. The **Catholic Man Breakfast Series** is an opportunity for men to gather and be encouraged and inspired in their faith.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL FURNITURE: St Vincent de Paul now have a storage area opposite the South Geelong Vinnies store. This is being used to house furniture items to be handed to welfare clients by the various Geelong Conferences. We could handle more items now with the extra storage space and increased demand, and ask if you have any unused items - particularly mattresses, bases, kitchen tables/chairs, lounge suites that are in good condition to supply our needs for welfare recipients. To donate ph 1800 621 349 to arrange a pickup. (Geelong area only). Also SVDP are looking for new members to assist Conferences with visits to people in need of assistance. If anyone can spare about three hours per week please contact geelong.re.pres@svdp-vic.org.au or ph 5229 4852.

/Cont'd from P1...

In a sense Jesus says the same thing in today's Gospel when he talks about how the Father draws people to faith.

Sometimes we can fall into the trap of thinking that faith is only an intellectual exercise. As important as good thinking and the power of

strong arguments might be, the truth of faith is best demonstrated on an emotional and intuitive level when others see the power of God's saving love active in the way we live our lives. This is what really captures people's attention, and draws them to ask what gives our lives this quality, direction, purpose and meaning.

So may this respite from the journey of faith dispel our fears, revive us for the task ahead and enable us to live as though the only Bible others will read will be our lives, and the only Sacraments that will captivate them and draw them to Christ will be our justice and joy.