



# St Michael's Parish

Incorporating the Churches of Holy Family Bell Park, Ss Peter & Paul's Geelong West & Holy Spirit Manifold Hts.

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Phone 5229 4412

**Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ**

In the early 1970s there was an edition of *Readers Digest* that told how a jet crashed in the Andes. It was a good case study in moral reasoning. The issue was that some of the survivors of that crash resorted to cannibalism to survive. The question the author posed was, 'Is it ever ethical to eat another human being?'

Whatever the extreme and specific ethical arguments for cannibalism might be, the thought of eating another person is repulsive to most of us. Yet many people outside Catholicism often think that we are Christian cannibals, feasting on Jesus' flesh and blood.

The best traditions in the Church have always been very careful in the language they use about how Jesus is present in the Eucharist. We are

not cannibals. We are not eating Jesus' liver, brain and bones.

In the Catechism when it speaks of the Eucharistic real presence, it never refers to 'Jesus' but always to 'Christ'. The distinction matters. The Eucharist is a Sacrament of Easter. It is the glorified, risen Christ who is wholly and truly present under the form of bread and wine at the Eucharist.

Popular piety and legends that speak too explicitly about the physicality of the Eucharist have not helped us have sensible thinking. As a Catholic I believe that Christ, raised by God from the dead, is truly and personally present to me in the Eucharist. How – is a question that misses the point of the gift.

Chapter six of John's Gospel is a discourse on the Eucharist. It is also, and at the same time, a

discourse about Jesus' passion and death and our mission to follow in his way. For Jesus, the new Moses, not only gives bread to the people, but also in his passion, death and resurrection he gives us himself. This is why the Church has always linked the events at Easter with the celebration of Eucharist.

Why have we been given this unique gift? The Eucharist is not meant to be a feast for a privileged few. It's not a private devotion. It's not meant to be something that only assures us of our own particular salvation. It is meant to be something that empowers all Christians to go out and transform the world with love and goodness for Christ's sake.

*/Cont'd P4...***- 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time -***(Year B/2 - August 19, 2018)***ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:****Alleluia, alleluia!**

All who eat my flesh and drink my blood live in me and I in them, says the Lord.

**Alleluia!****NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:****21st Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Joshua 24:1-2,15-18

2nd Reading: Eph 5:21-32

Gospel: Jn 6:60-69

**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 20 - September 3:** Hennessy family, 4 Hennessy 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:

June Gillespie

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Almore, José & Luis Mairos, Judite DaRuse, Gordon Brown, Patrick Lourey, Margaret Reid, Miroslav Macarol, Luigi Sitone and one year anniversary of Eileen Pollard, Augusto DiCesare and Simon Began

### BAPTISMS:

Aila Gerace

### PRAY FOR THE SICK:

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



## **STEWARDSHIP CORNER - 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*"Watch carefully then how you live, not as foolish persons but as wise." (1Kings 19:7)*

A wise person recognizes that all we have and all we are comes from God.

A wise person thanks God continually throughout the day for all his many blessings.

A wise person realises that God has blessed us for a reason and that he wants us to help him build his kingdom on earth.

# Roster for Next Sunday

(4th Sunday of the Month)

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

Commentators A Henderson  
Lectors G Tolan  
Special Ministers A Henderson, G Tolan  
Welcomers J Cowell  
Projectionist B Middleton  
Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

### HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM

M Burn  
J Fraatz  
L Fossey  
D Dougherty  
A Zarb

### HOLY FAMILY

**8.00AM**  
Commentators F O'Neill  
Lectors L Kelly  
Special Ministers L Sells, E Kelly  
Welcomers E Kelly, L. Allum  
Projectionist R Allum  
Co-Ordinator L. Kelly, 0409 291 138

### **9.30AM**

M Lukesic  
M Baird, P Gizycki  
D Lunn, C Simpson, V Resciniti  
A Sare, A/I Dugandzic  
C Resciniti  
J Mann, 0488 784 802

## RECURRING ACTIVITIES IN ST MICHAEL'S:

<b>St Michael's Luncheon...</b>	First Sunday of each month at the Holy Spirit Hall from 12noon. BYO food and drink to share.
<b>Holy Family Luncheon..</b>	Third Sunday of each month at the Community Centre from 12noon. <b>BYO casserole &amp; drink to share.</b>
<b>Holy Family Women's Group...</b>	First Monday evening of each month at the Community Centre 6.30pm
<b>St Vincent de Paul...</b>	Holy Family meet 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at the Community Centre 7pm. Holy Spirit meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays 5.00pm in Holy Spirit Hall
<b>Legion of Mary...</b>	Every Friday 9.30am in the Holy Family Community Centre
<b>Baptism Preps</b>	4th Mondays 7.30pm in the Community Centre
<b>Holy Family Choir Practice...</b>	Every Wednesday night at Holy Family Church 7pm
<b>Manifold CWL...</b>	Holy Spirit Hall, 1st Wednesdays in the month
<b>Italian Mass...</b>	First Thursday of the month in St Patrick's Chapel
<b>Catholic Diners' Club...</b>	2nd Tues of each month, 6.15pm at Capri Receptions. Dinner/Guest Speaker - ph 0431 959 584

*If you wish to know more about these groups, as well as about our Sacramental Program for children in non-Catholic schools, our Baptism and Wedding procedures, our Partnership with the Columbans in the Philippines and so on, please visit our webpage:*

**[www.pastoralclustergeelong.org](http://www.pastoralclustergeelong.org)**

### **The Greatest Gift**

Have you noticed that on Mothers' Day, the gifts which mothers seem to most appreciate are the simplest: a drawing however scribbled or daubed with paint with the words 'I love you Mum'; a posy of flowers from the garden tied with a little ribbon; breakfast in bed (with the crumbs from the burnt toast in the sheets for days afterwards!).

It seems that the gift which means the most is the one into which the son or daughter has put something of themselves.

When we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption, we celebrate the most superlative Mothers' Day. Our Risen Lord Jesus Christ gave to His mother not merely something of Himself, but everything of Himself, His own life, His own resurrection life. He gave to her a share in His glorified humanity: body/soul transformed, transfigured into the heavenly dimension of existence.

But Our Lord does not limit His generosity. He wants all of us, He wants the whole of humankind, indeed He wants the whole of the cosmos to share in His transformed, transfigured existence.

We believe that when we come forward at Holy Communion we take into ourselves the transformed, glorified humanity of Our Risen Lord Jesus Christ.

When we take the sacrament under the appearance of bread, under the appearance of wine, we so eat and drink that, in the wonderful words of Pope John Paul II: 'We digest, as it were, the secret of the Resurrection.'

For a short time, we anticipate in our own bodies what Mary now fully and eminently experiences.

As Our Lord assures us in today's gospel: 'Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood *has* eternal life.' Note the present tense: *has* eternal life, i.e. Divine Life as mediated through our participation in Christ.

That it is why it is important in normal circumstances to accept the consecrated wine from the chalice and not to take the sacrament just under the appearance of the consecrated bread.

When I was a boy (is it so long ago?) it was still the rule at Mass that only the priest drank from the chalice. One of the great actions of the Church over the last forty years is the recovery of the ancient practice of offering Holy Communion under both kinds.

Not only is the reception of both consecrated bread and consecrated wine in harmony with today's gospel, but it also clearly fulfils Our Lord's command: 'Take, eat ...take, drink.'

Of course, Our Risen Lord is really and wholly present under the appearance of either the bread or wine. They are consecrated separately as did Our Lord at the Last Supper.

Let us thank God for this gift, this opportunity, beyond any human expectation or reckoning.

It is the Risen Lord whom we ingest at Holy Communion. When we do so, we do so with the words of today's Gospel resonating in our own bodies: 'He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him.'

What an anticipation for a short time of that which Our Lady now experiences fully and forever. What a communion! What a Holy Communion!

- Fr Michael Tate

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## **Liturgy at St Michael's:**

<b>Aug 23...</b>	<b>Class Mass</b> - Gr Prep, 9.15am Holy Family Church
<b>Aug 26...</b>	<b>First Eucharist for Children in Non Catholic Schools</b> - 2pm Holy Family Church
<b>Aug 30...</b>	<b>Class Mass</b> - Gr 3/4, 9.15am Holy Family Church
<b>Sept 6...</b>	<b>Class Mass</b> - Gr 1/2, 9.15am Holy Family Church

# St Michael's News:

- ◆ **TOILET BLOCK AT Ss PETER & PAUL'S:** Work has now commenced on the new toilet block. Temporary amenities are available at Ashby Hall for parishioners during Mass times if required.
- ◆ **After the 9.30am Mass this 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.**
- ◆ **NOTE OF THANKS: Propagation of the Faith Appeal** - Thankyou for supporting the recent Catholic Mission Appeal. \$906 was raised, which is a tremendous effort.
- ◆ **CATHOLIC CARE SUNDAY APPEAL:** Next weekend is the Catholic Care Sunday Appeal. As our parish's social service agency, Catholic Care delivers family and relationship counselling, refugee and settlement support, education and school programs and pastoral services. Donations from our parish community will help care for the most vulnerable families in our community.
- ◆ **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 19...** **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA: Melbourne Chamber Choir** 3pm at St Mary's Basilica. Tickets available at the door. \$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: [rsvp@shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au](mailto:rsvp@shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au) or ph 5222 0467 by **Friday August 17.**
- Aug 25...** **PAMPER DAY:** Pastoral Healthcare Network Geelong invites you to a relaxing afternoon of pampering and pastoral healthcare. Come along and choose from a range of treatments, including hand, shoulder and foot massage, Bowen and Myotherapy, blood pressure testing, meditation and a'noon tea. Please come and join us for a wonderful opportunity for relaxation and socialising, 1-3.30pm with ten minute meditation at 2.30pm, at **St Bernard's Church Foyer, Fryers Rd Belmont.** (Please note new venue). Enquiries/bookings ph Gabrielle 0403 500 279. RSVP by **Wed 22 August** for catering purposes.
- 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](http://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](https://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](mailto:geelong.re.pres@svdp-vic.org.au) or ph 5229 4852.

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The Church has always linked what we do away from the Eucharist with what we celebrate at it. This doesn't mean that all of us can rush out and feed the world's poor. It does mean that most of us can assist other groups or people who do precisely that. And it does mean that when we think about who we will vote for as

political leaders, we ask about their platform in relation to those in our country and world who are suffering the most. The former General of the Jesuits, Fr Pedro Arrupe once said, 'If there is hunger anywhere in the world, then our celebration of the Eucharist is somehow incomplete everywhere in the world'.

Sometimes we can think of the Eucharist as a magical act. Jesus counters such a notion in today's gospel when he tells us that he gives us himself 'for the life of the world'. The Eucharist does not turn us into cannibals; it's meant to make us radicals, radically committed to all God's people everywhere.