



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

PARISH SECRETARY:

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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

At the end of today's Gospel we hear how Jesus' hometown crowd were so outraged by his words that they wanted to throw him off a cliff. How things have changed! These days many young adults tie a rope around their ankles and willingly hurl themselves from any precipice available!

It seems that some young people enjoy the challenge of facing down their fears, trusting the generally good track record of those who have done it before them and publicly showing their courage, even to the brink of death. Those of us not courageous or stupid enough to attempt a bungee jump have to concede that to do it, for whatever reason, is heroic stuff.

Heroic stuff is at the heart of



today's readings. Even though the crowd hated what they heard, Jesus preached boldly to his own people. Jeremiah was similarly courageous in his teaching, in the face of enormous persecution from his people. And Paul knows the only reason one can endure hardships and rejection and even be seen as stupid in the eyes of the world is for the sake of love.

The word 'love' has to be one of the most misused words in our language. We say we love our house, holiday, car, and even ice cream. But using love in this way we scarcely come close to what Christian love is all about.

St Paul teaches today that love is not primarily about warm fuzzy feelings and violins. Paul knew that Christian love is an intensely practical business. There is no point in any of us saying we love anyone unless our actions follow the profession we make.

Indeed as St John was to sharply say in his letter in the New Testament, 'If you say you love God and hate your neighbour, you are a liar'. We can say the right words about loving God and each other all we like, but if we do not show it in how we live, then we are noisy gongs and clanging cymbals.

There is no getting around it: Christian love always and everywhere involves sacrifice.

So, how can we love like this? Why should we love like this?

We can love sacrificially because other people have loved us in the same way. When anyone has been gentle, kind and patient with us, when they did not insist on their own way, were not irritable, resentful or enjoy our downfall, we were on the receiving end of love. They showed us how to do it. That's love.

/Cont'd P4...

Welcome Back fr Prakash and Happy 50th Birthday!**- 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time -**

(Year C - February 3, 2019)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Save us, O Lord our God!
And gather us from the nations,
to give thanks to your holy name,
and make it our glory to praise you.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

I will sing of your salvation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners.

Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**5th Sunday of Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Is 6:1-8

2nd Reading: 1Cor 15:1-11

Gospel: Lk 5:1-11

**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:

Jan 21-Feb 3: Montalto family, 2 Graylea Ave; **Feb 4-18:** Trinder family, 20 Downie Place

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:

Ivanka Tegelj (Slovenia), Luka Sare and Pam Hallandel

ANNIVERSARIES:

Frank Kennedy, David Grant, Marcella Conti, Aldo Scarpetti, Antonio Bagnato, Antonio Cicero, Mary Smith, Vince Fazio, Antonio & Maria Polimeni and 1 year anniversary of Cosimina Groce and Issa Csiotto

BAPTISMS:

River Hartshorn, Rosie Higgins and Louis Posterino

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Frank Mason, Val Howard, Kylie Kosic, Anita Capicchiano, Marie Brown, Cheryl Lambert, Elizabeth Topic, Allan Ansell, Alexander, Peter Brown, Sandra Klinge, Greg Malishev



PRAYING FOR ALL SOULS DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY:

Feb 5... Pietrapertosa family

Feb 6... Zangari family

Feb 7... Lecchino and Pitaro families

Feb 8... Cuccinatta family

Roster for Next Sunday

(2nd Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S - 5.00PM

Commentators M Carson
Lectors P Power
Special Ministers P McGlinchey
Welcomers D Dougherty
Projectionist B Middleton
Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM

E Strzelecki
M Martin
V Trinder

R Martin

HOLY FAMILY

8.00AM
Commentators M Howard
Lectors F O'Neill
Special Ministers R Allum, J Genova, C Marcantonio
Welcomers C Marcantonio, L Allum
Projectionist R Allum
Co-Ordinator L Kelly, 0409 291 138

9.30AM

C Simpson
D Lunn, A Negro
H Verdrik, M Baird, E Glynn
V Resciniti, E Glynn
C Resciniti
J Mann, 0488 784 802

RECURRING ACTIVITIES IN ST MICHAEL'S:

St Michael's Luncheon...	First Sunday of each month at the Holy Spirit Hall from 12noon. BYO food and drink to share.
Holy Family Luncheon...	Third Sunday of each month at the Community Centre from 12noon. BYO casserole & drink to share.
Holy Family Women's Group...	First Monday evening of each month at the Community Centre 6.30pm
St Vincent de Paul...	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
Legion of Mary...	Every Friday 9.30am in the Holy Family Community Centre
Baptism Preps	4th Mondays 7.30pm in the Community Centre
Holy Family Choir Practice...	Every Wednesday night at Holy Family Church 7pm
Manifold CWL...	Holy Spirit Hall, 1st Wednesdays in the month
Italian Mass...	First Thursday of the month in St Patrick's Chapel
Catholic Diners' Club...	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

Liturgy at St Michael's:

- ◆ **COMMUNION UNDER BOTH KINDS:** Unfortunately, due to a sudden increase in the influenza virus over the last few months, it has been decided that Communion under both kinds will not be offered at our weekend Masses just yet.
- ◆ **PLenary COUNCIL 2020: Listen to what the Spirit is saying...** *“What is God asking of us in Australia at this time?”* We wish to invite parishioners to attend two discussion afternoons at the parish office on **Tuesday February 12 at 4.30pm and Wednesday February 13 at 4.30pm** to discuss your ideas and opinions on this important upcoming event. If you are interested in attending, please contact Bernadette at the parish office on 5278 1343.

SCHOOL MASS DATES:

- Feb 6... St Patrick's Primary Opening School Mass, 10am at St Patrick's School
 Feb 7... Holy Family Primary Opening School Mass, 9.15am at Holy Family Church
 Feb 8... Holy Spirit Primary Opening School Mass, 9.30am at Holy Spirit Church (extra Mass scheduled)

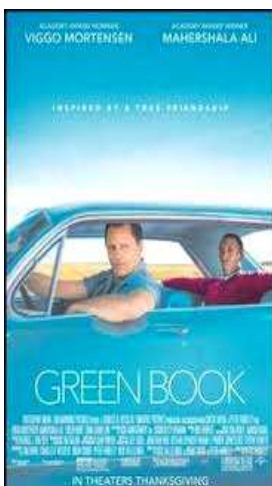


St Michael's News:

- ◆ **THANKYOU:** St Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank those generous parishioners from Holy Family and Ss Peter & Paul's for their gifts to the Jessie Tree Appeal. We distributed over 80 hampers to people in need for Christmas.
- ◆ **CWL:** The first meeting for 2019 of the Manifold Branch of the CWL will be held on **Wednesday February 6, 1.30pm** in Holy Spirit Hall. All St Michael's Parish ladies are most welcome. For transport please ph Bernadette 0417 514 598 or Tricia 0431 512 354.
- ◆ **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 skills? **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, Separation St from 2-5pm on 8 Feb, 22 Feb, 15 Mar, 22 Mar, 29 Mar, 26 Apr, 3 May, 10 May, 31 May. Further dates will be added later.



FR MICK'S MATES MOVIE NIGHT AT LIFE STYLE VILLAGE, BARTON ST BELL PARK



Movie: "GREEN BOOK", nominated for 5 Academy Awards this year: Best Picture, Actor in a Leading Role, Actor in a Supporting Role, Original Screenplay and Film Editing.

**Come with us on Wednesday 20th February
2 sessions 4pm and 7pm, with finger food between sessions at 6.15pm.**

Our price - \$20 per ticket with all proceeds to Relay for Life.

For bookings contact:

David Lunn	0408 378 982
Parish Office	5278 1343
Margaret Haines	0413 690 625

20 tickets sold - only 40 remaining. Phone now and don't be disappointed!

Community News:

- Feb 11...** **THE COMBINED SOCIETIES OF MARY** welcomes you to a beautiful **Our Lady of Lourdes Celebration** at St Colman's Church, 293 Carlisle St Balaclava. 1.40pm Rosary and 2pm Adoration, Prayers, Benediction, Healing Mass Blessings with Lourdes Water and a Procession, with Veneration of the First Class Relic of St Bernadette.
- Feb 17...** **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA** proudly presents acclaimed actor and soprano Wendy Grose with pianist Len Vorster in "A Different Hat", at All Saints Church, 113 Noble St Geelong, 3pm. A tribute to Marjorie Lawrence who stated a lady must always travel with at least 50 hats to ensure one has the perfect hat for every occasion! Tickets \$35 Adult/Senior, \$30 Concession from www.trybooking.com/BABCW or at the door. Children and school students free.
- Feb 19...** **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Members please note - all future meetings will now be held in St Bernard's Church foyer area on the third Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm, commencing 19 February. Please be aware of these changes.

VOLUNTEER TUTORS NEEDED TO WORK WITH REFUGEE STUDENTS: Volunteer tutors are needed to assist newly arrived refugee students (year 9-10) at Northern Bay College in North Geelong, on Mondays 3.15-4.30pm during first semester in 2019. You will need good interpersonal skills, able to assist newly arrived Refugee high school students in social and language development and schooling. For more details contact Matt Walton (Volunteer Co-ordinator) at CatholicCare on 9926 5699, email Matthew.Walton@ccam.org.au

GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS' CLUB: Come join us for a 2-course evening meal, an interesting guest speaker and the opportunity to meet new friends. We are open to members of all faiths. Appetisers begin at 6.15pm on **Tuesday February 12**, followed by a delicious meal for only \$33 per person. We meet at Capri Receptions, 258 Pakington St Geelong West. Our guest speaker for this month is Michael Nolan, who will be speaking about his work with the Lazarus Community Centre and Lazarus House in Geelong. For more information and reservations, please phone or text [Michael Belleville at 0431 959 584](tel:0431959584) by **Friday February 8**, the deadline for catering purposes.

ARE YOU LISTENING TO THE CALL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT? Do you have a heart for working with young people in a rural parish? Would you like to work in a five hour paid capacity per week to help connect young Catholics across a wide geographical area but centred on Bannockburn and also involved with the new St Mary MacKillop Primary School. Help and support is readily available. Please call Father Charles on 0417319556 to have a chat if you even have an inkling of an interest or email parishofmeredith@bigpond.com



REFLECTING ON THE 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Nazara was a village of 300-400 people and it had a small town mentality. The inhabitants were enraged when Jesus found good precedent for extending his saving mission to foreigners outside the community of the Chosen People. Jesus embodied the boundary-breaking nature of God's grace.

Many Christians recite the old formula: 'No salvation outside the Church.' But we Catholics believe that, by responding to God's (often anonymous) grace, a person can lead a good life which prepares them for heavenly glory.

This means that the billions around the world who will never hear the Gospel, or who hear it distorted through the megaphone of an alien culture, can be saved. There is no limit/boundary to the Merciful God's finding a way into the hearts of all human beings.

We could take a moment to pray in gratitude for our graced privilege of being members of the Church, nourished within it by the Sacraments and the Gospel, but whose boundaries can never circumscribe the mercy of God. - Fr Michael Tate

What do you think God is asking of us in Australia?

As we continue in this time of preparation for the Plenary Council 2020, we reflect on the moving of the Spirit in the life of our world, our Church and each other.

As we do so, let us also reflect on the movement of the Spirit in the lives of our young people in our parish.

Maybe the Lord is calling them to serve in consecrated life or priesthood?

Pray for them each day; support them, encourage them.

/Cont'd from P1...

We can take this enormous gamble to love like this only when others have loved us enough to tell us the truth about ourselves and we in turn have spoken the truth to them. That's love.

And we can plunge into the unknown, even to the brink of death, because along with others we have held on to hope in the face of difficult times. That's sacrificial love and that is what Christian love is all about.

Jesus does not promise us in the Gospel that any of this is going to be easy, just necessary if we are going to live life to the full. And we also have legions of companions who have been down this road before us.

From Jeremiah to Jesus to Paul to the martyrs and saints and to our own families, we know that it is possible to face down our fears, trust the track record of those who have done it before us, publicly show our courage, even to the brink of death and leap

into the future with only three ropes tied to our ankles.

On one is written 'faith'. On the second is written 'hope' and on the third and strongest rope is written 'love'.

Let's pray in this Eucharist, then, for the grace to be foolish in the eyes of the world and heroic in the courage it takes to love others sacrificially, and be loved by them, even to the point of death.