



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

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Holy Family

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Rachel Holdsworth

Minerva Rd Manifold Hts

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St Patrick's

John Grant

Petrel St, Geelong West

Phone 5229 4412

Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ

At Rome, during the 16th Century, the most famous confessor in town was St Philip Neri. Popes and paupers sought his counsel and spiritual direction.

One day a famous Duchess came to him and confessed the sin of gossip. Philip Neri told her to go home and get a feather pillow and return to the steps of the Church. Some time later he met her there and produced a small knife. He told the noblewoman to rip open the pillow. As she did, the swirling wind in the square picked up the loose feathers and they danced around the square and down the lanes.

St Philip and the Duchess watched in silence as the feathers went everywhere. He then turned to her and said, "Now, go and collect all the feathers." To which she protested, "They have gone everywhere, I couldn't possibly find and regather them." "So too with your tongue, Madam," St Philip scolded her, "You have no idea where you gossip

goes and you can never unsay it."

In today's Gospel Jesus teaches us that our words reflect the state of our hearts.

Psychologists tell us that there are three main reasons why people habitually gossip, or 'share the news' as Australian men prefer to call it: power, envy and boredom.

To know something about someone else can put us in a more powerful position with friends or colleagues. By being able to share what we have 'just heard', we are seen to be current and interesting. But this type of power is destructive because our friends normally assume that when they are absent they are maltreated in the same way. Gossipers have more alliances than friendships.

The most malicious gossip often comes out of envy. Envious gossip often sees people make things up about others and pass it off as though it were true. The worst of tabloid newspapers, television and radio trades on this destructive vice. There is no place for

the 'rumour file' in the Christian life. Sometimes, when a company or person have to deny the false accusations made about them, we get what we want – their reputations are tarnished and even their business can be in danger. No wonder medieval theologians called envy a 'deadly sin'.

Boredom, however, is a modern cause for gossip. Our relationships and the way in which we hold each other's trust and good name to be paramount, are undermined by images from the media about how exciting life should be for everyone. Scene after scene in novels, television programs and films where confidences are betrayed and lives are raked over for comment and intrigue fill in the boredom in our lives with a distorted portrayal of human behaviour. The more we take it in, the more we mirror it in our own conduct.

/Cont'd P4...

- 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year C - March 3, 2019)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

The Lord became my protector.
He brought me out to a place of freedom;
he saved me because he delighted in me.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

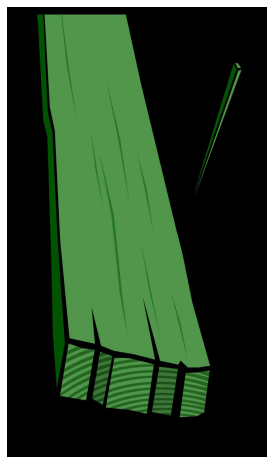
Lord,
it is good to give thanks to you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.
Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**1st Sunday of Lent**

1st Reading: Deut 26:4-10
2nd Reading: Rom 10:8-13
Gospel: Lk 4:1-13

**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:

Feb 18 - Mar 4: Martin family, 26 Honey Lane; **Mar 11-25:** Sharry family, 23 Lily St

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:

Danuta Augustyn, Vjekoslav Iskra, Giovanni Serra,
Joan Booth, Carlota Fernandes, Fred Tuddenham
Snr and 10 year anniversary of Salvatore Rizzo

BAPTISMS:

Domenico Posterino, Audrey Vuckovic and Peppa
& Lenny Morgan

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Allan Ansell, Alexander, Peter Brown, Sandra
Klinge, Greg Malishev, Wayne Gilbert, Amalia Zaino, Paul Kennedy,
Cheryl Lambert



After approx 5 weeks names will be taken off sick list. Please contact Office if you wish names to be reinserted.

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:

Rosary...	The Rosary is recited at 8.45am Tues and Thurs in Holy Family Church prior to the 9.15am Masses
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:

- ♦ **STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** During Lent there will be Stations of the Cross at Holy Spirit Church every Friday at 2pm, commencing on March 8 until April 12. All welcome!

Lent at St Michael's:



ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES - March 6:

9.30am...	Holy Family Church (all school children in attendance)
9.30am...	Holy Spirit Church (all school children in attendance)
12noon...	St Patrick's School
7.00pm...	Ss Peter & Paul's Church

TRUST LENTEN PROGRAM 2019:

This year there is an invitation to those who would like to be involved in small group conversations on the Readings for Lent. A clipboard will be available at the back of each Church to gauge interest or alternately, contact the parish office on 5278 1343. **We envisage meetings to be held each Wednesday evening during Lent 7pm at the Parish Community Centre, beginning on March 13th.**

LENTEN PROGRAM 2019 - A DAY OF REFLECTION BY THE SEA - Santa Casa Retreat Centre, Queenscliff

We walk in the footsteps of Jesus.



The day will include: Meditation, time of quiet and reflection, walking the Labyrinth, a foot wash and massage - Jesus said, "Do as I have done unto you."
Venue - Santa Casa, Flinders St Queenscliff on Tuesday April 9 or Wednesday April 10 from 10am to 3pm. Cost \$15 with morning tea and lunch included. For bookings, please contact the parish office on 5278 1343 or Sr Jean 0408 559 891.

PROJECT COMPASSION BEGINS ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6:

Each year Project Compassion brings together thousands of Australians in solidarity with the world's most vulnerable communities, to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. The annual Lenten-time event raises both funds and community awareness about important global issues, and Caritas Australia's role in empowering our neighbours across the world to build a brighter future.

St Michael's News:

- ◆ **RAFFLE TICKETS:** Combined Catholic Parish Fundraiser for Kuya (Sr Kate) - 170 books issued and 100 returned to date. **Please ensure the outstanding books are returned by March 10.** (David Lunn)
- ◆ **AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS:** The Autumn Edition of Australian Catholics is available for free today and includes articles on Reconciliation. In this edition, we explore reconciliation in the Catholic Church and ways that Catholics are working towards reconciliation around the world.
- ◆ **HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP: Monday 4th March 6.30pm** is Games Night. See you all there for an evening of fun and laughter! BYO Games.
- ◆ **CWL:** The next meeting of the Manifold branch of the CWL will be on **Wednesday March 6** at Rice Village. Please meet at Holy Spirit Hall 12midday to arrange transport. We will have lunch at Rice Village, cost \$10. Please phone Tricia 0431 512 354 or Bernadette 0417 514 598 to confirm your attendance and transport requirements.
- ◆ **ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL IRISH FOLK FESTIVAL:** Sunday March 17 - come join us for children's entertainment, rides, food stalls, prizes etc. At St Patrick's School, Britannia St Geelong West from 11am until 4pm. Everyone welcome!
- ◆ **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 15 Mar, 22 Mar, 29 Mar, 26 Apr, 3 May, 10 May, 31 May. Further dates will be added later.



Community News:

CATHOLIC SECONDARY COLLEGES OPEN DAYS:

- March 15...** **CLONARD COLLEGE** - Information sessions followed by tours 1pm and 4.30pm. Enrolments for Year 7 close **Fri May 17**. Pre-register online www.clonard.catholic.edu.au
- Mar 19...** **SACRED HEART COLLEGE** - Explore the College 4pm to 7pm to discover life at SHC. Enrolments for Year 7 will close **Friday May 17**.
- Mar 24...** **ST IGNATIUS COLLEGE** - Open 11am to 2pm with Information Sessions 11am and 12.15pm. Visit www.ignatius.vic.edu.au to view our online College Prospectus and download an enrolment application form. Year 7 applications close on **Friday May 17**.

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 March 12**, followed by a delicious meal for only \$33/person. We meet at **Capri Receptions, 258 Pakington St Geelong West**. Guest speaker - **Ray Reardon**, who will be speaking about his career as an artist, senior lecturer in art at Deakin University and his unique program for managing stress. For more information/reservations, please phone or text **Michael Belleville at 0431 959 584** by **Friday March 8**, the deadline for catering purposes.

Project Compassion:

In the coming weeks we have the privilege of walking with some of our sisters and brothers who participate in Caritas programs, and who feature in the Project Compassion stories this year. How might we learn about living hope-filled lives in solidarity with one another and for the common good of our one human family?

As the season of Lent approaches, we might consider: What could we do to commit ourselves to the flourishing of hope in our time? How can we give Lent 100%?

/Cont'd from P1...

Jesus does not tell us today that there is no place for criticism, challenge, confrontation and correction in the Christian life. Just that we have the responsibility to very careful about what we say about others and how we criticise and condemn them. Jesus reminds us

that most of our condemnation of others, is what we now call, "projection", where we ignore similar failings in ourselves, but roundly condemn them in others.

May this Eucharist, then, help all of us let go of the need to be powerful, the deadly sin of envy and more creative with what we do

when we are bored. May it help us make better choices about how we speak, to whom we speak and what we say.

St Philip Neri knew it all too well: most times we cannot know the consequences of what we say and we can never unsay it.