



# 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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<b>OFFICE HOURS:</b>	Mon-Wed, Fri 9am-5pm, Thurs 9-2pm.			
<b>PARISH SECRETARY:</b>	Bernadette Bilogrevic	Phone 5278 1343	Email: <a href="mailto:bellpark@cam.org.au">bellpark@cam.org.au</a>	
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<b>SCHOOL PRINCIPALS:</b>	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

**B**right and early on a Monday morning, in times that were much less ecumenical, Mick and Paddy, a pair of Irish ditch diggers, were repairing a Dublin road directly across the street from a house of ill repute.

Soon, they saw the Protestant Minister lurking about the place and then ducking into the house. 'Would ya look at that Mick!' said Paddy. 'What a shameful disgrace. That Protestant Minister sinning in the likes of that place!' 'Well', said Mick, 'he's got a ticket to hell anyway Paddy, so that's only getting him an upgrade on the seat.'

A short time later they watched as a Jewish Rabbi looked around cautiously and, when he was satisfied no one had spied him, darted into the house. 'Did ya see that Paddy?', Mick asked in shock and disbelief. 'Is nothing holy to those Jewish people?' 'God in heaven above', Mick replied, 'Do they have "half price Monday" for the clergy

at that sinful place?' 'Well, all I know Paddy is that a man of the cloth indulging himself in sins of the flesh is a terrible shame, I tell ya!'

Not long had passed when they saw a third man, Fr O'Donovan, their parish priest, lurking about the house looking around to see if anyone was watching and then quietly sneaking in the door. 'Mick, look it's Father O'Donovan', said Pat removing his cap. 'Ah Mick', said Paddy, taking off his own cap, 'one of the poor girls musta died ...'

Often our history colours everything about us, even those toward whom we can give the benefit of the doubt, be compassionate and forgive.

What is so shocking about Jesus' parable of the prodigal son is, that as the story goes, everything about the Jewish culture of first century Palestine set the boy up for a fall: he was greedy for his father's inheritance; we can assume he left the chosen land for the far country where he squandered his

inheritance recklessly; he ended up eating with the unclean pigs; and then he had the temerity to return and ask for forgiveness.

This was the least likeable kid in town. He did not deserve to be treated better than a slave. That's what makes the boy's father so magnificent in love. He was derided by his faithful older son for this folly of the heart and he would have been considered a fool by his neighbours. And this is the model of compassion Jesus gives us to emulate.

The context for this story, however, matters. The author of Luke 15 has Jesus responding to charges about the company he was keeping and especially those with whom he dined. In Jesus' day, one only ate with intimates and Jesus shared his table with losers. Three parables are given as an explanation for this practice: the lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son.

/Cont'd P4...

## - 4th Sunday of Lent -

(Year C - March 31, 2019)

### 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:

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Praise and honour to you,  
Lord Jesus Christ!**

I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:  
Father, I have sinned against heaven and  
against you.

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

#### 4th Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Is 43:16-21  
2nd Reading: Phil 3:8-14  
Gospel: Jn 8:1-11



### 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:

**Mar 31 - April 22:** Bourke family, 36 Pleasant St Newtown

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:

Adele Minazzo

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Leo Consedine, Stanley Millns, Eugenia Buhisan, Domenico Pellizzeri, Marija & Ivan Fantella, Betty Dark, Natale & Rosa Cucinotta and 10 year anniversary of Michael Posterino

### BAPTISMS:

Sunny Elford, Dulcie Vine and Harlow & Lux Walton

### PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Allan Ansell, Alexander, Sandra Klinge, Greg Malishev, Amalia Zaino, Paul Kennedy, Cheryl Lambert, Erin Kinch



*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

(1st Sunday of the Month)

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

Commentators C O'Brien  
Lectors Sr J McGonigal  
Special Ministers N Neeld, P McGlinchey  
Welcomers  
Projectionist D Whelan  
Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

### HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM

C Nielson  
B Middleton  
G Wright  
I Cleary, L Fossey  
L Coles

### HOLY FAMILY

**8.00AM**  
Commentators R Allum  
Lectors V Pavlovic  
Special Ministers J Bartolo, I Baulch, Peter McBride  
Welcomers K McArthur, L. Allum  
Projectionist R Allum  
Co-Ordinator L Kelly, 0409 291 138

### **9.30AM**

J Siketa  
M Bird  
P Carmody, B Kline, Horoba  
M&E Hoffman  
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. <b>BYO casserole &amp; drink to share.</b>
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](http://www.pastoralclustergeelong.org)**

## Lent 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 until April 12. All welcome!

### PALM SUNDAY 9.30AM MASS CHANGE OF TIME:



Please note, the 9.30am Mass on Palm Sunday, April 14, at Holy Family Church will begin at **9.15am** for that Sunday only. This is to ease traffic congestion with the Croatian Mass at 11am.

### HOLY THURSDAY MASS AT HOLY SPIRIT:

We are looking for volunteers from each Church to have their feet washed at this Mass. Please contact Bernadette at the Office on 5278 1343 if you would like to be part of this Service.

### 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. **Meetings will be held each Wednesday evening during Lent 7pm at the Parish Community Centre.**

### 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.

## St Michael's News:

- ◆ **PHILIPPINES PARTNERSHIP 2019 FUNDRAISING:** Sr Kate O'Neill will be home in Geelong in June for a few months and will be visiting St Michael's Parish Community. The Parish Leadership Committee would like to form a Fundraising Committee to organise events during this period. We are seeking your ideas and assistance to help make this a great success, and would love you to come on board and be part of our team. As the saying goes... "many hands make light work". Please contact Bernadette at the Parish Office on 5278 1343 or David Lunn on 0408 378 982.
- ◆ **PARISH MAGAZINE:** St Michael's Parish plans to produce a Parish Magazine to help keep us all informed about the various activities in the Parish. We envisage two productions a year. Step One - everything 'new' needs a name so there will be a competition to suggest the most suitable name, with a prize for the winner! If you have a suggestion, please leave it with Bernadette at the Parish Office before Easter, or email to [bellpark@cam.org.au](mailto:bellpark@cam.org.au)
- ◆ **HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP: Dutch Auction - Monday 1st April at 6.30pm** - come along for some fun and laughter. See you all there!
- ◆ **CWL:** The next meeting of the Manifold Branch of the CWL will be held on **Wednesday 3rd April, 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 26 Apr, 3 May, 10 May, 31 May. Further dates will be added later.

## Community News:

- March 31...** **ORCHESTRA GEELONG INC:** Concert 1 - *Czech Please*, 3pm with pre-concert talk at 2.30pm. Soloists Peter Sheridan and Lisa-Maree Amos (flute). Held at Keith Humble Centre, The Geelong College, Aphrasia St Newtown. Adult \$20, Conc \$15, U/17 free. Available at the door or ph 0409 008 818
- April 7...** **THE PLAINS YOUTH EVENT:** St Joseph's Parish Meredith invites all young people from Grade 6 upwards to this youth event from 6pm to 7.30pm. Bannockburn Stadium adjacent to St Mary Mackillop Primary School. Great contemporary Christian music and story telling!
- April 14...** **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Social Luncheon for Members and Ladies 1pm at the White Eagle, Breakwater. Bookings ph Frank Khan on 5243 4926.
- May 16...** **ARCHBISHOPS CATHOLIC MAN BREAKFAST SERIES:** Mr Joe de Bruyn, Union Leader and former National Secretary of the SDA, will speak on the application of Catholic Social Teaching in the Labour Movement. Venue - CQ Club, 113-123 Queen St Melbourne, cost \$45. 7-9am sharp. Enquiries Michael Bohan 0439 172 465. Bookings [trybooking.com/484991](http://trybooking.com/484991).
- June 8...** **CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES VICTORIA:** Will host a forum on "Homelessness - What can Parishes do?" at Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert St East Melbourne from 9.30am-1pm. Cost \$20 incl lunch. Bookings [trybooking.com/BBQOR](http://trybooking.com/BBQOR) Enquiries to Adrian Foley [Adrian.foley@css.org.au](mailto:Adrian.foley@css.org.au) or ph 0497 780 233.
- ◆ **POSITIONS VACANT - NAZARETH PARISH OFFICE:** Our parish is currently witnessing major building developments in Torquay North and Armstrong Creek. The Parish has three Church communities as well as three Catholic Primary Schools, with a fourth to open in 2020. Due to the retirement of two of our Office personnel we now offer the following positions - **Parish Secretary (approx 30 hours) and Finance Office (approx 15 hours)**. The positions are situated at St Therese Catholic Church, Torquay. **Closing date - Wednesday 3rd April.** Applications are to be sent to [recruitment@cam.org.au](mailto:recruitment@cam.org.au). For further information contact Ashley Thomas on 9926 5615, email: [recruitment@cam.org.au](mailto:recruitment@cam.org.au)
  - ◆ **GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS' CLUB:** Come join us for a 2-course evening meal, interesting guest speaker and the opportunity to meet new friends. We are open to members of all faiths. Appetisers begin 6.15pm on **Tuesday April 9** followed by a delicious meal for only \$33/person. We meet at **Capri Receptions**, 258 Pakington St Geelong West. Guest speaker is Sue Bowles, a breast care nurse for the McGrath Foundation. Information/reservations ph or text **Michael Belleville** at **0431 959 584** by **Friday April 5**, the deadline for catering purposes.
  - ◆ **SLAVERY-FREE EASTER: Pope Francis said "every person ought to have the awareness that purchasing is always a moral - and not simply an economic - act"**. It is estimated that up to 40 million people are trapped in slavery globally - 1 in 4 of these are children. They will never get an education and they will never taste the chocolate produced from the cocoa beans they pick. But people around the world are making decisions that could change this tragedy. **Good News** - St Vincent's Health Australia is working towards slavery-free procurement of the goods and services used across their 32 sites. **Action** - Follow the lead of Melbourne Catholic Schools and St Vincent's and buy only slavery-free. It is delicious and will feature one of these three logos - 'Fairtrade', 'Rainforest Alliance Certified' or 'UTZ Certified'.

## Project Compassi.....



**M**ichaela is a 21-year-old trainee at Purple House, a dialysis centre in the Alice Springs for people suffering from kidney disease. With the support of Caritas partners, Michaela is helping to build a social enterprise, a connection to culture and a new outlook for the chronically ill.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2019 and help provide essential care, employment and training for First Australians.**

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In each case the shepherd, the woman and the father go to ridiculous lengths to save that which is lost.

Who was admitted to the table of Luke's community was a huge issue. It seems some things never change. The action and words of Jesus, however, lead us to conclude the table is here for those of us who know the frailty of our lives enough to recognise our hunger and thirst for the

Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation. Today's Gospel is not just about each of us being welcomed into the arms of our compassionate God, it is also a challenge for us to defend the right of the outcasts, the public sinners and the losers who seek to turn their life around to be welcomed here as well.

This is not just about the table of the Eucharist, either. To the degree that we help our country be more hospitable to the most

defenceless, the poor and the displaced then we live out the power of this parable.

May this Eucharist then, help us live beyond our history, which so often colours those toward whom we can give the benefit of the doubt and show compassion and may it give us the courage and faith to be ridiculously generous, and magnificently loving.