



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

There is a tough phrase at the end of the Gospel we have just heard; 'Go and sin no more.' It's like a sting in the tail, standing in contrast to the compassion of Jesus in his encounter with the woman. Yet, on closer inspection, it is the most important phrase in the story. And that's saying something because this dramatic event is the only one in the Gospel where Jesus confronts sexual sin, where only the woman is dragged from the scene of the crime to answer the charge of adultery. Is it any wonder that in some early manuscripts of John's Gospel this story was left out, its authorship questioned? The dangerous memory of Jesus' compassion toward the woman was too strong in the minds of John's community for it to be excluded, however, and so it remains as an inspired text for us to make our own. It is sometimes very important to hear Jesus say to us, especially in the area of our sexuality, 'I do not condemn you.'

So often, however, we want Jesus to leave it at that. But Jesus goes further. He tells it as it is. If any of us want life and want it to the full, we have to stop doing the destructive things that get us into trouble in the first place. It does not matter if it is drinking, gambling, eating, working, stealing, sexual dysfunction, being into pornography, being violent at home or any other type of obsessive compulsive behaviour, there is little point in being sorry for the consequences of our weaknesses and not changing the pattern of behaviour that leads us to ruin each time.

Twelve step programs enshrine the wisdom of today's Gospel in how they help us to own up to the destructive behaviour of our lives and yet give us hope to live beyond our worst moments.

Steps four to ten say:

- Step 4. I have made a searching and fearless moral inventory of myself.
Step 5. I have admitted to God and to

another the exact nature of my wrongs.

- Step 6. I am entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
Step 7. Humbly ask God to remove my shortcomings.
Step 8. Made a list of all persons I had harmed and became willing to make amends to them all.
Step 9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible except where to do so would injure them or others.
Step 10. Continued to take personal inventory and when I was wrong promptly admitted it.

The thing I like best about these is that they are pro-active. They alert us to the fact that the best pathway to know healing and forgiveness is not to be passive, but to be active and admit our own faults and work to heal them. /Cont'd P4...

- 5th Sunday of Lent -

(Year C - April 7, 2019)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
King of endless glory!**

With all your heart turn to me,
for I am tender and compassionate.



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Palm Sunday

1st Reading: Is 50:4-7
2nd Reading: Phil 2:6-11
Gospel: Lk 22:14-23:56

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:

-

ANNIVERSARIES:

Theo Da Costa, Gaetano Pino, Madonna Lynch, Orlando Longo, Alojz Akmacic, Francesco & Caterina Iannuzzi, Maria-Grazia Leone, Elizabeth Jovic, Margaret Stewart, all members of Akmacic & Dzida families, Benedetto & Anna Belich, William Dempsey, John & Bessie Kepell and one month since death of Maria Gulli, Maria Bisinella and Antoine Alam



BAPTISMS:

Gabrielle Gallagher, Charlotte McDonald and Gabriela Skratulja

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

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

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 K Saunders
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 Verdnik, M Baird, E Glynn
V Resciniti, E Glynn
C Resciniti
J Mann, 0488 784 802

Easter Ceremonies:

You are warmly invited to share in our Holy Week Celebrations 2019 -

The Sacrament of Reconciliation, 2nd Rite...	Mon Apr 15... Tues Apr 16... Wed Apr 17...	7.00pm 7.00pm 7.00pm	Holy Spirit Holy Family Ss Peter & Paul's
Mass of Anointing...	Wed Apr 17...	11.30am	Holy Spirit, followed by Lunch
Mass of the Lord's Supper, Holy Thursday...	Thurs Apr 18...	7.30pm	Holy Spirit, followed by Adoration 9pm
Way of the Cross, Good Friday...	Fri Apr 19...	10.00am 11.00am	Ss Peter & Paul's Holy Spirit
CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION INCLUDING RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION:			
Good Friday...	Fri Apr 19...	3.00pm	Holy Family
Easter Vigil...	Sat Apr 20...	5.00pm 7.30pm 10.00pm	Ss Peter & Paul's Holy Family Holy Family (Croatian)
Easter Sunday Masses...	Sun Apr 21...	8.00am 9.30am 8.30am 10.00am 11.00am 11.30am	Holy Family Holy Family Ss Peter & Paul's (Lithuanian) Ss Peter & Paul's Holy Spirit Holy Family (Croatian)
Blessing of Easter Food...	Sat Apr 20...	4.00pm	Holy Family

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.
- ◆ **SPECIAL COLLECTION ON GOOD FRIDAY:** There will be a Special Collection taken up at the 3pm Good Friday Service for the upkeep of the Holy Places, maintained by the Holy Land.

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:

- ◆ **LUNCHEON FOLLOWING MASS OF ANOINTING:** Manifold Branch of the CWL will be providing a light lunch in the Holy Spirit Hall following the Mass of Anointing, 11.30am on **Wednesday April 17**. For transport please ph Noella Duggan 0437 121 533 or Tricia Joyce 0431 512 354.
- ◆ **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** We are seeking more volunteers to help out with the Communion Ministry at McKellar Centre. Please contact Ray Harrison on 5278 8012 if you are able to help.

Divine Mercy Sunday - April 28th, Holy Family Parish

1.30pm... Confession
2.00pm... Exposition Rosary Chaplet Benediction
3.00pm... Holy Mass
Enquiries 5278 1343 or Chris 0407 522 055



- ◆ **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
- ◆ **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 on 0409 416 945. We meet at Holy Family Community Centre, Separation St, from 2-5pm on 5 April, 12 April, 19 April, 26 April, 3 May, 10 May and 31 May. Further dates will be added later.

Community News:

- 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.
- 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 Enquiries to Adrian Foley Adrian.foley@css.org.au or ph 0497 780 233.

SLAVERY-FREE EASTER:

Last month, while speaking about modern slavery, Pope Francis said that, faced with the tragic reality of modern slavery, "no one can wash their hands of it, without being in some way an accomplice to this crime against humanity". Thinking of buying Easter eggs? Use your money justly - please. What easter eggs will you enjoy this Easter? There is now a wide range of slavery-free chocolate and Easter eggs available, including a budget-priced range of UTZ certified products in Aldi, Coles and a wide selection at Higgs and Oxfam shops; Chocolatier also produce Fairtrade Easter chocolate.

Project Compassion...



You may remember Salma, who featured in Project Compassion 2013. At the time she was pregnant with her first child, sick and terribly frightened. In distress, she sought the help of a midwife trained by Caritas' Safe Motherhood Program. Six years on, she's now a healthy mother of two strong, happy children. Salma is committed to giving her children the education they need to provide them with the future she hoped for.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2019 and help reduce infant mortality rates in countries like Bangladesh and provide hope to pregnant women in remote communities for happy and healthy families.

/Cont'd from P1...

Some of us may have been given a tough hand from life's deck of cards, but we do not have to be passive victims, never able to change the cycles of destructive behaviour. If the steps work and we trust today's Gospel then we can be happy, healed and forgiven because we heal and forgive others.

Jesus bestows great dignity on the woman by saving her from being condemned to death, but even more so he knows that it does not have to be like this and so challenges her to turn her life around.

May we hear the same challenge in this final week of Lent. No matter what we have ever done, sexually or otherwise, we are greater

than our worst moments. Jesus loves us enough not to condemn us, but to give us this Eucharist so that we might find the strength and hope to stop doing the things that destroy us and to live a life that leads to peace and joy.