



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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Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ

Have you noticed how many books, films, television and radio programs harken back to yesteryear? 'Retrospectives' are huge in the art world. Have you noticed when musicians play more romantic classical music in the first half and contemporary music in the second half that people leave at half time? It seems the public likes the art of the 19th Century more than that of today. Nostalgia is big business and we cannot get enough of it.

Nostalgia literally means 'a yearning for home'. And if our



artistic tastes reveal anything about who we are at present, maybe the home we yearn for is where things are clearer, roles are more defined, accepted harmony is developed and discord and dissonance is avoided – at least in public.

In today's Gospel, Jesus says that as a result of our love for him and fidelity to his word, the Father will come and make a home with us. The image of God as homemaker is, sadly, not very developed in Christian spirituality, maybe because too many undomesticated men have had too much of the say for far too long! But this is an image that holds a lot for how and where we meet God.

The best homes are places where

we relax because we are ourselves, we are known and we know the others with whom we live. It's a common experience, for example, that when we have been out from our homes, as soon as we enter our front door we want to go to the loo. There is something intimate and familiar about our home that enables us to relax on many levels as we turn the key. Home is an earthy place where we don't get away with much and our vulnerability can be on display. Christian homes are particularly hospitable places, where Christ dwells in them to the degree that dignity, love and forgiveness are present.

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We welcome and pray for the children receiving the Sacrament of First Eucharist this weekend.

- 6th Sunday of Easter -*(Year C - May 26, 2019)***ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;
proclaim to the ends of the earth:
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

O God, let all the nations praise you!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**Alleluia, alleluia!**

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we
will come to them.

Alleluia!**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:****The Ascension**

1st Reading: Acts 1:1-11

2nd Reading: Eph 1:17-23

Gospel: Lk 24:46-53

**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:

May 27-June 10: Bird family, North Geelong

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:

David Cervinski, Nicola De Leo, Eric Smith, Stefan Mack and Heather Aranyosi

ANNIVERSARIES:

Clifton Diniz, Connie Tolan, Nell Cummins, Antonio Croce, Peter Bordonaro, Carmela Caccamo, Marcelle D'Aprile, Loretta Simonti and 1 year anniversary of Raffaele Traficante

BAPTISMS:

Jackson Holcombe, Harrison Reed and Seth Lynch

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Allan Ansell, Alexander, Sandra Klinge, Amalia Zaino, Cheryl Lambert, Erin Kinch, Veronica Werzak, John McDonald, Andrew Kelly, Cassie McColl



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

(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:

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

St Michael's News:

- ◆ **ATTENTION LECTORS AND SPECIAL MINISTERS:** There are currently a few vacancies to fill at our weekend Masses for Lectors and Special Ministers. If you are interested, please contact Bernadette at the Parish Office on 5278 1343.
- ◆ **THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES:** There is a set of envelopes for all **weekly and monthly** contributors in the foyer today. They are in order, alphabetically by **STREET**. If you can't see your set of envelopes, please contact the office to see where they were sent and let us know which Church you prefer next time. Please take a pink sheet if you would like to start giving. If pledge information on your receipt needs to be updated, please contact Bernadette on 5278 1343 or email bellpark@cam.org.au. Thankyou for your continuing regular support.
- ◆ **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 31 May, 7 June, 14 June, 21 June.
- ◆ **HOLY SPIRIT HALL UPDATE:** The demolition of the existing hall and building of a new Childcare Centre and Parish Hall next to Holy Spirit Church is close to commencement. Hopefully in the next few weeks detailed plans will be available for viewing by parishioners after Mass. A list of surplus items currently in the hall will be published and available for sale (details to be advised). If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the parish office on 5278 1343 or contact Michael Scaddan, David Lunn, Meg Kroger or Lane Kelly.
- ◆ **CUP OF TEA AND COFFEE AFTER THE 9.30AM HOLY FAMILY MASS:** An invitation is extended to all parishioners to join us after the 9.30am Mass each Sunday at Holy Family Church for a Cuppa. All are most welcome!



Sacrament of First Eucharist



Over the coming weeks of May 26 and June 2, Grade 4 children from Holy Family, Holy Spirit and St Patrick's Schools will be making the Sacrament of First Eucharist. We wish them and the children from St Michael's Parish Sacramental Program all the best as they prepare for their special day.

Community News:

Fr Kevin Dillon's 50th Ordination Anniversary Celebration:

Anyone requiring transport to Rowville on Sunday 2nd June: There are 2 seats available. The Bus will leave from the Haymarket Carpark promptly at 12noon. The cost is \$25 per person. Payment in cash on the day, or for early payment or further inquiries contact Gael Perry on 0419 130 685 or Sr Anne 0452 161 937. (Late cancellations will incur the cost). Have early lunch or bring it to have on the bus.



SAMARITAN HOUSE GEELONG 2019 WINTER APPEAL:

Homelessness can happen to anyone. Winter is the toughest time of all for those affected by homelessness in the Geelong community. Samaritan House Geelong provides crisis accommodation and support for homeless men. Please consider making a donation to our 2019 Winter Appeal so we can continue to provide a place of warmth, sanctuary and hope. To make a gift online go to samaritanhousegeelong.com.au/donate

HELP!!

Two overseas university students looking for accommodation. Anyone know of any rental accommodation? References provided. Contact Fr Prakash or the Parish Office on 5278 1343 if you can help.

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Some people have the idea that God is awfully remote, dwelling beyond the edge of the cosmos. We make contact by sending a prayer like a long range rocket, hoping it will find its target.

This is far distant from Our Lord's teaching in today's Gospel.

'If anyone loves me and keeps my word, my Father and I will make our home with that person.' It is not in outer space, but in inner space that Divine Love will make a home.

What turns a house into a home? It is in sitting around a table sharing a meal. So, Jesus created a sacred meal for us and invites us to share in the Heavenly Bread and Spiritual Drink.

When we do so, we find, in the words of St John Paul II, that we 'digest, as it were, the secret of the Resurrection'. We take into ourselves the Real Presence of the Risen Lord who makes his home with us.

Coming to Communion, even after a long time away, satisfies the yearning of the human heart because it is made to be the habitation of Divine Love. We could pause for a moment to reflect on the gracious fact that God chooses to dwell in our hearts. Let us respond wholeheartedly.

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A home, however, is more than a house in which people live. Homes need work and attention. A friend of mine says memories rarely just happen, they need to be created. That's the sort of attention to a family's life that turns a house into a home.

And this is the world in which God enters our lives. God wants us to be relaxed and vulnerable in God's presence. We don't need to put on a show or say what we think God wants to hear, that's a theatre where we perform, not a

home where we know each other.

Easter faith is about being comfortable and intimate, about being who we are, rather than the persona we would prefer God to see.

As with most of our homes, being at home with God has its ups and downs, days when we think we cannot bear to stay one more moment, other days where we could never imagine being anywhere else and then most days where we are neither up nor down and we just get on with the routine of our lives. God the homemaker remains faithful

through it all, offering the gift of Easter peace, sending us out to proclaim Christ's Kingdom, welcoming us home eager to learn how everything went and reassuring us always that while God is at home with us our hearts should never be troubled and we are not to be afraid.

For Christians, nostalgia is not about living in the past, it is about yearning for the sort of home where our heart truly is.