



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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Minerva Rd Manifold Hts

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Petrel St, Geelong West

Phone 5229 4412

Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ

Among the frightening things said by Christian leaders in the USA following the bombing of the World Trade Centre was that 'God turned away from America because we have turned away from God' and that 'God sent these acts as a wake-up call for us to live righteous lives and return to Him.' One went as far as to confidently assert that, 'September 11 tells us we are living in end times.'

We all have different reactions to shock and grief. Everyone asks, 'Why is this happening to us?' when tragedy strikes on any scale. Christian ministers, who should know better, must never resort to bad theology to further their own social and political agendas. They give us all a bad name.

For as long as I can remember there have been people predicting the end of the world. Whenever there is a tidal wave, cyclone, hurricane, earthquake or other natural disasters, someone declares that 'the end is

nigh'. Just recall the Year 2000. Never mind that the dating of our calendar is out and so that the 2000th year occurred in 1996. The truth rarely gets in the road of the doomsday story. Sadly for us they usually invoke today's Gospel to support their case. The good news for us is that we are still waiting for the end of time. The good news for doomsday prophets is that one day they're going to be right!

We know from a variety of documents around the time of Jesus that the people of Palestine thought the world was soon coming to an end. Given they were being persecuted under an occupying Roman army and that their nation was in tatters, they seemed to have a better cause for this view than we do. In today's Gospel Jesus speaks to a demoralised people who thought, and maybe hoped, that it would all be over soon. In such a context people are liable to follow the loudest voice to what appears like the safest place and so Jesus offers us the hope of God's fidelity whatever

suffering we may endure. We are challenged to counter despair, not place our trust in things or institutions which we can see but to not be afraid and stand up for faith and hope.

When bad things happen to good people, when they happen to us, we have choices. We can give into desolation, depression and despair. Some of us make a life-long career out of it. This is understandable and tragic. Or we can choose to hope. Christian hope is not about 'pie in the sky when we die'. It is not about 'putting on a happy face, come what may'. St Augustine tells us hope is based on the justice God wants in this world, and will see done in the next. Interestingly, one of the signs Jesus speaks about in today's Gospel is famine. We have known for thirty years that if we all lived justly and shared from our abundance, we could have seen an end to starvation. We choose otherwise and sometimes blame God.

*/Cont'd P4...***- 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time -***(Year C - November 17, 2019)***ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Lift up your heads and see;
your redemption is near at hand.
Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**Christ the King**

1st Reading: 2Sam 5:1-3

2nd Reading: Col 1:12-20

Gospel: Lk 23:35-43

**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,
2nd & 4th Sundays 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:

Nov 18-Dec 1: O'Neill family, 11 Derby Rd; **Dec 9 - Dec 30:** Moore family, 39 Willana Ave

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:

Dennis Ingles, Peter O'Shea, Norm DeGrandi, Juraj Perin and Margaret Golding

ANNIVERSARIES:

Ray Fusea, Pete Culo, Teresa DeLuca, Agnes & Patrick O'Shea

BAPTISMS:

Marisa Bogovic, Max Delahant, Harriet King, Jude King and Andy Noonan

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Margaret Barry, Angelita Obaldo, Josica Markov, Joe Vanjek, Angelina Bove, Lucy Burville, Sandra Klinge, Barry McFarlane, Veronica Werzek, Ken Fusea



PRAYING FOR ALL SOULS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER:

Tues Nov 19... Iannuzzi & Pitaro family members

Wed Nov 20... Ferreira family members

Thurs Nov 21... Krasic family members

Fri Nov 22... Law & Whiteley family members

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, L Vannata
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
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
Holy Family Luncheon...	Third Sunday of each month at the Community Centre from 12noon. BYO casserole & drink to share.
St Michael's Luncheon...	First Sunday of each month at Louisa Fossey's house
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...	St Michael's Community Centre, 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.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au

St Michael's News:



- ◆ **THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK AND SENIOR PARISHIONERS LUNCHEON - HOLY FAMILY CHURCH:** A warm invitation is extended to all Senior Parishioners to attend the Mass and Luncheon on **Saturday Nov 30**, commencing with Mass at 11am and Luncheon at 12noon. If you wish to attend, please place your name on the signup board (white form) in the Narthex. **Catering for the Function:** Please place your name on the signup board (pink form) in the Narthex if you can assist with catering. Your assistance is welcomed and your support is valued.
- ◆ **VINNIES BUSHFIRE APPEAL:** Archbishop Comensoli would be grateful and encourages our parishioners to help support the communities in the north of our country devastated by the bushfires. Donations can be made via the website at www.vinnies.org.au, via Holy Family Bell Park Conference, or directly to St Vincent de Paul Society, Locked Bag 4800, Box Hill Vic 3128.
- ◆ **AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS:** The Summer edition of Australian Catholics is available for free today and includes articles on: **The Mystery of God - We explore what we can learn from the mystical tradition to help us better connect with God**, and much more interesting reading.
- ◆ **COLUMBAN CALENDARS:** Are available to purchase for \$9 from the Sacristy in all three Churches until **December 22**.
- ◆ **LECTORS PLEASE NOTE:** Your copy of the **2020 Break Open the Word** is now in the Sacristy where you are rostered. Please collect as soon as you can. Many thanks for your continued support.
- ◆ **CONGRATULATIONS** to the following parishioners who received awards for years of service as Volunteers at the Multicultural Aged Care Centre recently - **Sue O'Donoghue and Maureen Van Andel for 25 years of service; Anthona Henderson for 15 years of service; Silvia Spitale for 10 years of service.**
- ◆ **THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES:** There is a letter/set of envelopes for all contributors (including credit card etc) in the foyer today. They are in order, alphabetically by **STREET**. 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 at the Parish Office on 5278 1343 or you can email bellpark@cam.org.au. Thankyou for al your continuing regular support.
- ◆ **SISTERS OF THE HOLY ANGELS LUNCHEON: Wednesday November 20**, 12 noon in St Michael's Parish Community Centre. Cost \$10 - all welcome! There will be lots of Christmas ideas and goodies at the Stall.
- ◆ **PROJECTIONISTS REQUIRED:** Ss Peter & Paul's Church requires a couple of volunteers to help with the power point at the 5pm Mass on Saturday evenings. Please contact the Parish Office on 5278 1343 if you are able to assist.
- ◆ **ST MICHAEL'S CRAFT, CUPPA & CHAT:** Are you looking for something to do every second Friday? Come along for a cuppa, chat, bring your craft project and make new friends. We meet at St Michael's Community Centre, Separation St from 2pm - 4.30pm on 29 Nov and 13 Dec. For more information contact Debbie on 0409 416 945.

Liturgy at St Michael's:

Advent/Christmas Carols Service:

A warm welcome is extended to all parishioners, family and friends to our Annual Advent/Christmas Carols Service at Holy Family Church on **Tuesday December 10 commencing at 7pm.**



St Michael's Parish Social Events:

Early 2020... FILM NIGHT AND SUPPER: Date to be advised, at Lifestyle Village Bell Park with all proceeds to Fr Mick's Mates, Cancer Council Victoria



CHRISTMAS MARKETS - Proceeds to Fr Mick's Mates:

Sun Dec 8... Holy Spirit - 11am Mass
Sat Dec 14... Ss Peter & Paul's - 5pm Mass
Sun Dec 22... Holy Family - 8am and 9.30am Masses

If you wish to buy "Christmas Hampers", please call Margaret Brown 5229 1280.

Community News:

- Nov 19...** **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Monthly meeting 7.30pm in St Bernard's Church foyer area. Please endeavour to attend and bring a plate of supper.
- Nov 25...** **BELMONT SENIORS CONCERT HALL:** Proudly presents, direct from Melbourne, "Fabulous Phil Golotta", ex Blue Echoes cabaret performer/songwriter. He will sing all your favourite hits, 1.30pm. Entry \$10, aged care residents \$5, afternoon tea included.
- Nov 30...** **PAMPER DAY:** Pastoral Healthcare Network Geelong invites you to a relaxing afternoon of pampering and pastoral healthcare including hand, shoulder and foot massages, Bowen therapy, blood pressure testing, meditation and afternoon tea. St Bernard's Church Foyer, Fryers Rd Belmont. Cost - donation appreciated. For bookings/enquiries ph Jacquie on 0488 527 656 by **Wed Nov 27.**
- Dec 1...** **RICE VILLAGE - CHRISTMAS MARKET FAIR:** 11am-3pm at Rice Village. All are welcome to enjoy lots of fun, delicious food, to search goodies for yourself or for gifts, and to try your luck. Funds raised will go towards the purchase of a wheel chair accessible bus for residents to enjoy outings. Mercy Place Rice Village - Marshalltown Road, Marshall.
- Dec 7...** **FRIAR ALESSANDRO AT ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL:** You are invited to an evening of Christmas music and readings with internationally acclaimed Franciscan singer, Friar Alessandro. Entry free or by donation with all donations supporting the Vinnies Christmas Appeal - **bookings essential** via www.voicefrommassisi.org.au
- Dec 15...** **CELEBRATION OF ST LUCY MARTYR:** 2.30pm Rosary and Mass at the Church of St Brendan, 103 Wellington St Flemington, followed by Procession with the Statue and Eucharistic Benediction. Refreshments to follow - all welcome! Further information ph Vince Ricevuto 9350 1142.

MUSIC AT THE BASILICA - November and December

- Nov 22...** **Windfire Chamber Choir** - 8pm at St Paul's Church, Latrobe Tce. **Cesar Franck and his students** - choir, soloists, organ, harp and cello. Tickets \$50/45/40 at the door or trybooking.com/BABDC
- Dec 8...** **CHRISTMAS CAROLS AT THE BASILICA:** 6.30pm (after 5.30pm Mass) arrival for a 7pm start, hosted by our very own 'Santa' - MC Graham Rawlins and featuring talent from within our parish - St Mary's Basilica Choir, The Mixtures, St Mary's Junior Choir & Lumiere, Caterina & Giulia Monea and more... In the Basilica Grounds (in front of Anam Cara House), cnr Yarra & Lt Myers St - BBQ \$2 sausage sizzle, free face painting PietyStall Gift Shop, Zooper Dooper ice sticks for sale \$1 each, coffee van. All welcome!



FREE LUNCHTIME ADVENT ORGAN RECITALS: All recitals at St Mary's Basilica at 12.30-1.15pm Mondays 2,9,16 and 23 December.

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

The Sun of Righteousness

Our prayer can tell us a lot about the image of God we really have – holding a parking spot for us, or stopping rain on the second day of the Australian Open. But, if you were in Syria, your prayerful image of God would be as a Liberator from warfare, of a Saviour from Crimes against Humanity, of a Strengthened in time of torture and impending death.

In today's Gospel, Jesus promises his persecuted followers of every age, 'Your endurance will win your lives'. As Malachi prophesied: 'the sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays'.

It is our faith that, out of the darkness of the tomb, the Son of righteousness did rise with healing in His rays, bathing the world with that light which makes the world habitable for human beings.

We could take a moment to pray for contemporary persecuted Christians that their faithful endurance will win their lives.

/Cont'd from P1...

St Thomas Aquinas teaches us that hope, along with faith and love, is one of the prongs in the anchor of Christian belief. No matter how stormy are the waters, how much we are tossed and buffeted by life's winds, this

anchor keeps us rooted in God until calmer seas return. Hope is about holding on, come what may.

Today's Gospel is not interested in a timetable for disaster. It's about encouraging us to drop the anchor of

hope overboard when the times get tough.

May this Eucharist help us to keep choosing to hope until the end of time.