



St Michael's Parish

Incorporating the Churches of Holy Family Bell Park, Ss Peter & Paul's Geelong West & Holy Spirit Manifold Hts.

ASSISTANT PRIEST:

Fr. Minh Tran

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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

Doctors and dietitians would have some difficulty with the first part of today's Gospel. Jesus does not seem to know that salt is bad for hypertension and cholesterol! Just as health professionals are encouraging us to be careful in using salt, Jesus is telling us to keep it up. Salt in Jesus' day, and for centuries before and after, was the primary preserving agent for food. That day-to-day usage gives us a clue as to the challenge being laid before us.

We are told that if salt has lost its taste it's good for nothing. So the challenge is to keep it fresh so it can keep doing its job. Jesus suggests that, in the same way, we have to be on guard to make sure that our faith remains fresh so it's able to do its job as well.

The fifth and sixth chapters of Matthew's Gospel are devoted to describing the elements of Christian faith. At the start of the fifth chapter we have the Beatitudes that tell us that the presence of God can be discovered in all of life's situations. It reminds us that as Christians we can find God wherever we want to. The rest of these two chapters go on to give us specific directions about the dangers and aides to faith.

Jesus tells us that a hollow attachment to the letter of the law, unbridled anger, an inability to forgive, being unfaithful in marriage, seeking revenge on our enemies, not being true to our word and being enslaved by money are all examples of bad faith. Think for a moment of people you know who are trapped by any of these vicious forces. It's sad to see the energy it takes them

to remain angry, greedy, legalistic, fraudulent and unforgiving.

More positively Jesus tells us in these chapters that prayer, being generous to the poor, being discerning about whom we spend time with and what we see and hear, and going without things we often consider essential are helpful to living a faith-filled life. Think for a moment of people you know who live lives like this. Their detachment, sense of generosity and ease with others stands out in our stress-ridden world.

My professor of liturgy used to say 'Good liturgy enlivens faith and bad liturgy deadens it.' This is the same message Jesus gives us today about faith in general. It's crazy for us to keep spending time with people and doing things that deaden our faith. /Cont'd P4...

- 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year A - February 9, 2020)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; the man who follows me will have the light of life. **Alleluia!**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Sirach 15:15-20

2nd Reading: 1Cor 2:6-10

Gospel: Mt 5:17-37



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:

10.00am Communion Service every 1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesday

Multicultural Centre:

1.30pm - 1st Friday;

Elstoft House (formerly Vincentian Village): 3.00pm 3rd Tuesday, (1st, 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 Sunday 12.30pm at Ss P&P,
5th 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 10-24... Podbury family, 41 Calder 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:

ANNIVERSARIES:

Bill Hogan, Daniel Dempsey, Rosina & Salvatore Maiolo,
Bernard Tolan

BAPTISMS:

Oscar Chard, Ava Deery, Emma Henderson, Scarlett Matthews,
Thomas & Quinten McCartney and Mia Miller

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Veronica Werzek, Ken Fusea, Angela Reed, Narciso Baldasso,
Josica Markov, Giuseppa Forestieri, Maria Failla



PRAYING FOR ALL SOULS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER:

Tues February 11... Wolfe family members

Wed February 12... Sheahan family members

Thurs February 13.... Mullen & Walker family members

Fri February 14... Lukesic family members

Roster for Next Sunday

(3rd Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S - 5.00PM

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

Co-Ordinator

K Maddalena

K Maddalena

D Whelan

M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators

Lectors

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist

Co-Ordinator

8.00AM

M Howard

P. Carvalho

Sr Concepta, P Ruggeri, R Culo

P Ruggeri, R Culo

R Allum

L. Kelly, 0409 291 138

HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM

M Kroger

J McKenzie

L Stalio,

L Fossey

F Kearney

9.30AM

A Scaddan

H Verdnik, T McMahon

M Fiorillo, M. Perera

E Dalton

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

Liturgy at St Michael's:

- ♦ **PARISH LITURGY MEETING:** Tuesday February 25, 7pm at the Parish Community centre.

Lent at St Michael's:

- ♦ **ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES - February 26**
 - 9.15am... 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
- ♦ **GRACE LENTEN PROGRAM 2020:**

An invitation goes out 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. ***The meetings will be held each Wednesday evening during Lent, 7pm at the Parish Community Centre, beginning on Wednesday March 4.***

St Michael's News:

- ♦ **ST MICHAEL'S CRAFT & CONVERSATION GROUP 2020:** Come along and make new friends, bring along your current craft project, and spend an hour or two enjoying pleasant conversation over a cuppa while your project grows. **The day of the week has changed** - we will now meet on the first and third Thursday afternoons of most months at 2pm-4.30pm. Any questions ph Debbie on 0409 416 945. **Dates:** Feb 20, Mar 5/19, Apr 2/16, May 7/21, June 4/18, July 2. After a small gap we will again meet on Aug 20, Sept 3/17, Oct 1/15, Nov 5/19 and Dec 3.

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time A

Salty and Radiant

You are the salt of the earth, you are the light of the cosmos. 'You' is in the plural. So these descriptions are meant to apply to us as a Christian community.

Salt in the ancient world was a preservative for food. So, we are the ones who are to preserve the earth, to prevent its deterioration, to keep it life-giving.

Salt has to penetrate food to have an effect. We have to penetrate the world with our Sermon on the Mount values. Staying self-contained as a perfect little band of Christians is about as useful as salt remaining in the saltshaker. In Our Lord's scary opinion we would quite rightly be trampled underfoot.

How are we light for the cosmos? By 'good works'? No, a truer translation is by 'beautiful works'. These are those things we do which have grace, elegance and proportion and are therefore pleasing to observe: beautifully-good-works.

We could pause for a moment to pray that we remain salty and tangy, doing good beautifully and elegantly.

SAFETY AND WELLBEING:

The safety and wellbeing of our parishioners, staff and the wider community is important to us all. Please report any accidents, incidents or near misses to the Parish Office on 5278 1343. Also, if you notice any potential hazards or risks, please bring these to our attention so that we can address them as soon as possible.



Community News:

- Feb 14... THOMAS HEYWOOD VIRTUOSO ORGAN CONCERT:** St Paul's Anglican Church, Latrobe Tce Geelong 6pm. This brilliant performer returns to entertain us. Watch his flying hands and feet on the screen. \$30/\$25 (Concession), Under 18 Free.
- Feb 15... 2020 STRENGTH IN WEAKNESS CONFERENCE:** Planetshakers Centre, 400 City Rd Southbank, 9am. A day of prayer and renewal for all Christians to come together and be strengthened and encouraged in their faith. Encouraged by Pope Francis' message that we are all called to be saints, the underlying theme of the Conference is to rely solely on God's grace and strength - especially in times when your faith could be questioned and challenged. Guest speakers will include Archbishop Peter A Comensoli, Archbishop Christopher Prowse, Fr Augustine Valloran VC, Lenyce Willason, Fr Ken Barker MGL and Lalith Perera. We invite everyone to this free event. If you are interested in participating, please register online www.strengthinweakness.com.au
- Feb 24... BELMONT SENIORS CONCERT HALL** proudly presents, direct from Melbourne, **Margaret Dennis**, 1.30pm. Talented and versatile performer will deliver music and song to brighten your day. Entry \$10, aged care residents \$5. Afternoon tea provided.
- Mar 21... YOUTH FESTIVAL:** Emmaus College, 503 Springvale Rd Vermont South, 10am-6pm. Cost \$20 (early bird) and featuring Fr Rob Galea, Justine Cumbo and J Sano. Register now at www.trybooking.com/BHLGB



MUSIC AT THE BASILICA:

February and March - Lenten Journey 2020, Encounters series of Lenten Reflections, Poetry and Music. All at St Mary's Basilica, 136 Yarra St Geelong on Fridays 5.30 - 6.00pm. No charge.

- Feb 21...** WATER - Gilliam Turner, Vicki Hallett
Feb 28... FIRE - Helen Seymour, Tom Healey
Mar 6... EARTH - Alison Wong, Prue Farnsworth
Mar 13... WIND - Rosemary Blake, Frank DeRosso
Mar 20... LIGHT - Gillian Turner, Maximillian Rudd



Easter Concert -

The Seven Last Words of Christ, Sacred Cantata - Theodore Dubois

At St Mary's Basilica, Friday 27 March 8.00pm.

Tickets \$50 adult, \$45 senior, \$40 concession, children free.

Dramatic choruses, beautiful contemplative passages, Windfire Choir and Orchestra with Conductor Joseph Hie, soloists Teresa Duddy, David Campbell and Manfred Pohlenz.

Tickets available at www.trybooking.com/BHDZY or at the door.

Preferential seating - Friends of MAB and pre-purchased tickets.

www.musicatthebasilica.org.au

www.facebook.com/MusicattheBasilica

Contact Jeannette 0408 305 868

/Cont'd from P1...

We know the impact of these people or activities by the bad taste they leave in our mouths. After an encounter with them or it we usually tell ourselves that we must not go back for more, but the bad spirit seduces us into repeating the entire episode with frightening frequency. St Ignatius Loyola tells us that in these

situations we have to deal with the bad spirit quickly and consistently and learn a new pattern of behaviour that will lead us away from darkness into the light.

The job of faith is to enable us to live out and build Christ's reign of justice and love in this world as a foretaste of what awaits us in heaven. May this Eucharist enable us to seek out the

people and places that will see the saltiness of our faith remain fresh and interesting so that we will have every chance of preserving our faith in the dryer times, and of our faith in Jesus preserving us in the face of the trials and tests that come our way.