



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			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

SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY

by Dianne Bergant CSA

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time A

The Book of Sirach is a collection of proverbial teachings. This wisdom tradition presumes a fundamental order in creation and life. However, human beings are not predestined to conform to this order. On the contrary, its very nature presumes that humans are free. Women and men can decide to live in conformity with the way life unfolds –and this is wisdom, or they can choose to disregard this order – and that is foolishness. Although God desires that all live in conformity to this order, God has predestined no one to sin. All have been given freedom of choice. It is up to us to use it wisely. Today's reading addresses human freedom and human choice.

Composed of both instruction and prayer, the responsorial psalm focuses on adherence to the law (a word best translated 'instruction'). The language used throughout is typical of that found in the wisdom tradition, a tradition characterised by a clear delineation of two ways of living: the way of the righteous, and the way of the wicked. In the instruction, a beatitude describes the rewards that attend righteous living. In the prayers that follow, one asks to remain obedient. The commitment of which the psalmist speaks means that one is acting out of devotion, not merely out of external observance.

Jewish apocalyptic, within which Paul develops his instruction on wisdom, maintained that the secrets of the future had been written down at the beginning of time and

preserved somewhere safe from the eyes of humankind. At the fullness of time, they will be revealed. Time is thus divided into 'this age' of waiting and 'the age to come', when all things will be made known. Paul contrasts the wisdom of which he speaks with the wisdom of this age. Everything hinges on the essence of the revealed mystery which is the death and resurrection of Christ. Those who are mature have entered into this mystery by accepting the wisdom of the gospel.

Jesus' words today are based on the law and the prophets (the two major sections of the Bible). His teachings were so unprecedented that some accused him of rejecting his religious tradition.

/Cont'd P4...

- 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year A - February 16, 2020)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Lev 19:1-2,17-18
2nd Reading: 1Cor 3:16-23
Gospel: Mt 5:38-48



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; **Feb 24-Mar 9...** Trinder family, 20 Downie Cres.

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:

Valerie Parker

ANNIVERSARIES:

Elsie Gillett, John Vanstan and 1 year anniversary of Carmelo Napoli

BAPTISMS:

Claudia Henriques and Franklin McKay

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Veronica Werzek, Ken Fusea, Angela Reed, Narciso Baldasso, Josica Markov, Giuseppa Forestieri, Maria Failla, Brett Edwick, Denis Sanders



PRAYING FOR ALL SOULS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER:

Tues February 18... DiMauro family

Wed February 19... Zandria family

Thurs February 20... Burceta family

Fri February 21... Coronado family

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, L Fossey
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 Morning Tea...	After the 9.30am Mass each Sunday
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 7.00pm 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:

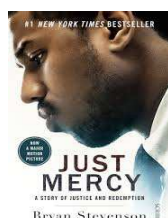
- ♦ **ST MICHAEL'S CRAFT & CONVERSATION GROUP 2020:** Come along and make new friends, bring along your current craft project, and spend an hour or two enjoying pleasant conversation over a cuppa while your project grows. **The day of the week has changed** - we will now meet on the first and third Thursday 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.

- FR MICK'S MATES -
Movie Night at **Life Style Village, Barton St Bell Park**
Wednesday March 25.

"JUST MERCY"

Recommended at Mass last week by Fr Denis Ryan
(Our final Fundraiser for Cancer Vic)

Two sessions - 3.45pm and 7pm, with finger food between sessions at 6pm.
Our price: \$20 per ticket with all proceeds going to Relay for Life.



For Bookings contact:
David Lunn... 0408 378 982
Parish Office... 5278 1343
Margaret Haines... 0413 690 625



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 18...** **KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:** Monthly meeting 7.30pm St Bernard's Church foyer area. Please endeavour to attend and bring a plate of supper.
- 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 16-19...** **THE GOSPELS OF HOLY WEEK AND EASTER RETREAT:** Fr Frank Moloney will lead this Retreat at the beautiful and peaceful Don Bosco Retreat Centre. Cost \$430 all inclusive (retreat, meals, accommodation, etc.) Further information and registration phone Candy on 9752 2432, or email dbrclysterfield@gmail.com
- Mar 19...** **CATHOLIC MAN BREAKFAST SERIES:** Featuring Dr Eamonn Mathieson, an Anaesthetist who will talk on "Medicine and the Culture of Life and Death". 7-9am, cost \$50 with group discounts available. Enquiries: michael.bohan@menalive.org.au
- 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
- Apr 17-19...** **MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND (Melbourne):** Invest in your most precious asset, your marriage. Based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome. 7pm Fri - 5pm Sun with accommodation and all meals provided. Ph 0409 183 676, vicbookings@wwme.org.au

ACCOMMODATION WANTED: A client of "Lifeboat Geelong", which provides practical and pastoral support for victims of church-related sexual abuse, is seeking affordable accommodation in the Geelong region, eg a 'Granny flat', self contained bungalow or small one-bedroom unit. He is tidy, has a good rental payment record and good references. Further information ph Fr Kevin Dillon on 0421 777 360 or frkd@stsimonsparish.com.au

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time A

Truth-Telling

We have just heard the least observed command of Our Lord in the Sermon on the Mount. Referring to oaths he taught, 'Do not swear at all ... instead let your "yes" mean yes and your "no" mean no. Whatever goes beyond these simple words is from the Evil One.' This is strong language.

Why does Our Lord say this?

In the same Sermon on the Mount, he teaches us the proper use of God's name: 'Our Father'. It is our privilege as adopted children of God to use God's name in that way. The use of God's name for oath-swearing is an *abuse*.

Our Lord was trying to establish a new sort of society (The Kingdom) within which truth-telling was of paramount importance, where there is no two-tiered way of speaking the truth.

Truth telling should issue simply from the character of the person – the truthful person truths.

We know this at the very private level of intimate relationships. As a Church, we need to heed this passage and listen to the epistle of St James recalling this passage almost verbatim. (James 5:12-13)

We could pause for a moment to pray that the Church herself heeds the Great Commission: 'Teach them to keep *all* that I have commanded you.' (Matthew 28:20)

- CATHOLIC COLLEGES OPEN DAYS -

Sacred Heart College Discovery Day 2020:

Discover life at Sacred Heart College. Tuesday March 17 explore the College from 4-7pm. Enrolment applications for Year 7 will close on Friday May 8.

Clonard College Open Day:

Friday March 13 with information sessions and tours 1pm-4.30pm. Enrolments for Year 7 close on Friday May 8. Pre-register online at www.clonard.catholic.edu.au

St Ignatius College Open Day:

Sunday March 22 from 11am to 2pm with information sessions 11am and 12.15pm. Tours of facilities, course information, presentations and exhibitions, plus meet our staff and students. Enrolments for Year 7 will close on Friday May 8.

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The contrast he sets up is not between himself and the law, but between his interpretation and that of the scribes and Pharisees, the interpreters of the law for the

people of that day. The formula he uses ('You have heard it said ... But I say to you ...') shows that he demands much more than mere external conformity. The four

teachings he contrasts demonstrate how radical is his reinterpretation of the law.