



# 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. Minh Tran**

**OFFICE:**

147 Separation St Bell Park 3215  
Phone: 5278 1343 - Email: [bellpark@cam.org.au](mailto:bellpark@cam.org.au)

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

**PARISH SECRETARY:**

Bernadette Bilogrevic Phone 5278 1343 Email: [bellpark@cam.org.au](mailto:bellpark@cam.org.au)

**PASTORAL WORKER:**

Sr Anne Lourey Phone 5278 1343 Email: [anne.lourey@cam.org.au](mailto: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

**Web Page Address:**  
[www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au](http://www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au)

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

**RECENT DEATHS:** Merica Bujas; Marie Holdsworth; Vida Vasilevski

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Len Cotter; Mary O'Neill; Ken Gallagher; Marjorie Hill

**BAPTISMS:** Ryder & Mason Norman, Sebastian O'Toole

**PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Pat Stanhope, Fr Philip Godsell, Cheryl Lambert, Jenny Maloney, Carl & Jennifer Stewart, Paul Secen



## Happy Mother's Day!



**- 6th Sunday of Easter -**  
(Year B/1- May 9, 2021)

**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:**

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

**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 of the Lord**

1st Reading: Acts 1:1-11  
2nd Reading: Eph 4:1-13  
Gospel: Mk 16:15-20

**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 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.



## *A Prayer for Mother's Day...*

*God our Creator, we come before you and lift up in prayer all women: mothers, grandmothers, stepmothers, aunts, godmothers, nurses and all women who have taken on a mothering role.*

*We give you thanks for their presence, talents and gifts which they share with their family, church, society and the world.*

*May they all know your loving and gentle presence and may they always turn to you in times of joy and in times of sorrow,*

*We ask this in your name. Amen.*

## **ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY**

(3rd Sunday of the Month)

### **Ss PETER & PAUL'S - 5.00PM**

Commentators  
Lectors K Maddalena  
Special Ministers K Maddalena  
Projectionist  
Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

### **HOLY FAMILY 8.00AM**

Commentators  
Lectors P. Carvalho  
Special Ministers Sr Concepta, P Ruggeri, R Culo  
Projectionist R Allum  
Co-Ordinator L. Kelly, 0409 291 138

### **HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM**

M Burn  
J McKenzie  
L Stalio,  
F Kearney

### **9.30AM**

A Scaddan  
H Verdnik, T McMahon  
M Fiorillo, M. Perera  
C Resciniti  
J Mann, 0488 784 802

## **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  
(8.45am Rosary before Mass on Tues & Thurs)

#### **Holy Spirit:**

9.15am Wed, 9.15am Fri. (Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament)

***Reconciliation after Friday Mass each week.***

### **BAPTISMS:**

Please contact the parish for new bookings

### **COMMUNAL PRAYER:**

**Mon...** Rosary Prayer Group 11.00am Holy Family Community Centre

**Tues...** Meditation Group 5.30pm Holy Family Community Centre

**Fri...** Divine Mercy 3.00pm Holy Spirit Church

**Prayer Room is open Mon-Fri 9.30am-2.30pm**

### **OUR LADY'S STATUE:**

#### **May 6-20 Hennessy family**

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.

## 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.



## Liturgy at St Michael's:

- ◆ **RECRUITMENT OF LECTORS, COMMENTATORS, PROJECTIONISTS & SPECIAL MINISTERS:** The parish is currently looking to recruit more volunteers to assist at our weekend Masses. Some of these roles may be on a regular basis or to cover when needed. We would love to hear from you and training & guidance will be provided. Please contact the parish office on 5278 1343 if you are interested or would like more information.
- ◆ Pope Francis has called on the faithful to unite in praying the holy rosary this May to ask the Blessed Virgin Mary's intercession for an end to the corona virus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and the resumption of social and work activities. During the remainder of May at all our weekend Masses, we invite our parishioners to pray the rosary prior to the start of each Mass.

---

## St Michael's News:

- ◆ **MOTHER'S DAY SPECIAL FLOWERS:** Special flowers are available to purchase today at the 8am & 9.30am Masses, Holy Family Church. Money raised will go to help the Missions.
- ◆ **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 Ph: 5278 1343 or email [bellpark@cam.org.au](mailto:bellpark@cam.org.au). Thankyou for your continuing regular support.

## Community News:

- ◆ **GEELONG CATHOLIC DINER'S CLUB:** Come join us for a two-course evening meal, an interesting guest speaker and the opportunity to meet new friends. This month our guest speaker will be Rebecca Kay from Bapcare speaking about Homecare Packages and My Aged Care. This includes how the process works and how to sign up for care. We are open to members of all faiths. Appetisers begin at 6:15 pm on **Tuesday, 11 May**, followed by a delicious meal and dessert for only \$33 per person at 6:45 pm. We meet at **Capri Receptions** located at **258 Pakington Street, Geelong West**. For more information and reservations, please phone or text **Michael Belleville** at 0431 959 584 by **Friday, 7 May**, the deadline for catering purposes.



---

St Michael's Parish holds the care, safety and wellbeing of children as a fundamental responsibility of the Church. We are committed to upholding the safety and dignity of each child and young person and ensuring that they are able to grow and develop in a caring and supportive environment in our Church.

**A REMINDER: Children must be accompanied to the toilet area by a parent or guardian! at all times.**

## **HOMILY by Richard Leonard**

The Italian film, *Life is Beautiful* vividly portrays the truth of today's Gospel. It shows a father convincing his five-year-old son that the concentration camp is an elaborate game that the Nazis had invented to test the Italians. Some members of the Jewish community criticised this film because they claimed it made light of the holocaust. Writer and director, Roberto Denigni, however, argued that the heart of the film lies in the fact that most parents will do anything to spare their children the reality of evil. Most parents who have seen and wept through the film know exactly what he's talking about.

And if parents could take such risks and go to such lengths for their children, how much more has God done for us in Christ Jesus. We are the only world religion to believe that our God took our form and died out of love for us so that we might understand the love God has for us, and the love we are called to have for each other.

It isn't, however, just any old love Christ calls us to practise. It's not about a fleeting feeling or having a warm fuzzy inside. Jesus tells us today that the character of Christian love is the degree to which it's sacrificial. This is a challenging way of working out who we really love, isn't it? The people we love are those for whom we are prepared to sacrifice something of ourselves, maybe everything.

If that's the case we could decide to stop telling people we don't love that we love them. The goal of the Christian life is to love everyone, but until we achieve that, the more we lie about love the more we lower its currency. It's perfectly acceptable to like, enjoy, be fond of, respect, admire and be grateful to others, and not love them. There are a very few people for whom most of us would be prepared to lay down our lives. This criteria sorts out our intimates fairly quickly.

We could also decide to stop saying we love things, animals, ideas or organisations which cannot love us back. Human beings can only truly love people. Jesus did not die for an ideology or an institution. He was put to death because of his uncompromising love for all humanity everywhere. If we find ourselves saying we love our pets, house, car, job, our ideology, even our Church more than we love other human beings, then we're in trouble.

That's what I like best about the model of loving Jesus gives us in today's Gospel. Just when we might expect to find him using the analogy of a family, he talks about us being his friends. Sometimes we can hear people lament that they are 'stuck' with their families, and that they prefer their friends. It's an instructive moment, usually born out of a bitter and unloving history.

We choose our friends, and the strength of any particular friendship is usually found in how we know their history and story, and they know ours, in the way we give them time, attention and affection. A true friendship is mutual. Jesus loves us, his friends, enough to know us, be available to us, challenge and forgive us. And his love is mutual. The only thing stopping us from having a deeper relationship with Christ is our desire for it.

But Jesus also shows how friends are prepared to give their lives for one another. That's what we celebrate here each Sunday, that Jesus the Lord showed the quality and care of his love for us so that we might be empowered to go out and enable others to know and experience his love in the joyful way we sacrifice ourselves for them.

No one promised us that the Christian life would be easy. All we have is our brother Jesus and all our friends, our family in faith. to support us in every loving sacrifice we make.