



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

OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Fri: 9am-5pm Email: bellpark@cam.org.au

PARISH SECRETARY: Bernadette Bilogrevic Email: bellpark@cam.org.au Phone 5278 1343

PASTORAL WORKER: Sr Anne Lourey Email: anne.lourey@mercy.org.au Phone: 5278 1343

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	Luke Sheehan	Petrel St, Geelong West	Phone 5229 4412

Web Page Address:
www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au
[www.facebook.com/michaelparish .st](https://www.facebook.com/michaelparish.st)

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS: Damir Milos;

ANNIVERSARIES: Alina Synoradzki; Steve Majstorevic; Stanislaw Karpinski; Carmelo Coppolino; Colin Henderson; Anne Moore; Margaret McFarlane; Matthew Barr; Joao Henriques (1st anniversary); Jesus Herrera (1st anniversary)

BAPTISMS: Elma Lombardo; Tully McKay; Zoe McKeon; Nolan O'Garretty; Millie Roberts

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Nicholas Teague; Anthona Henderson; Daryl Squires; John Paton; Harry Howard; Helen Dean; Hugo Riedl.



St Michael's Parish is committed to upholding the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults. Through our behaviour we show we are followers of Jesus who cares for all the children, the vulnerable.... If you have any questions or concerns, the parish safeguarding committee of Louise Kearney; Bernadette Bilogrevic; Marg Gifford or Joan Mann can be contacted on 5278 1343.



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

We acknowledge the living culture of the Wathaurong People, the traditional custodians of the land we stand on, and pay tribute to the unique role they play in this region.

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

(Year A/1— 18 June 2023)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The kingdom of God is near;
repent and believe the Good News.

Alleluia!

TODAY'S READINGS NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

1st: Exod 19:2-6	1st: Jer 20:10-13
2nd: Rom 5:6-11	2nd: Rom 5:12-15
Gospel: Matt (:36—10:8	Gospel: Matt 10:26-33

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...9.00am Sunday
Croatian 5.00pm Sunday

Holy Spirit, Manifold Hts:

11am Sunday

Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West:

Saturday 5.00pm

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Holy Family: 9.15am **Tuesday & Thursday** (Followed by Novena to St Anthony),
8.45am (Rosary before Mass on Tues & Thurs)

Holy Spirit: 9.15am **Wednesday**, 9.15am **Friday**. (Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament)

Reconciliation after Friday Mass each week.

BAPTISMS: Please contact the Parish for new bookings

COMMUNAL PRAYER:

Tuesday:..	<i>Meditation Group</i>	5.30pm	<i>Parish Community Centre</i>
	<i>Legion of Mary</i>	10.00am	<i>Parish Community Centre</i>
Friday	<i>Divine Mercy</i>	3.00pm	<i>Holy Spirit Church</i>

STATUE OF OUR LADY:

If you are interested in having the statue in your home, please phone Cristita on 0435 780 716 or June on 0432 257 568.

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEK

(4th Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S—5.00PM

Commentators	A Henderson
Lectors	G Tolan
Special Ministers	A Henderson; G Tolan
Welcomers	
Projectionist	B Middleton
Co-Ordinator	M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY SPIRIT—11AM

T McMahon
J Fraatz
L Fossey
L Fossey
A Zarb

HOLY FAMILY 9.00AM

Commentators	M Lukesic
Lectors	F O'Neill; M Scaddan
Special Ministers	D Lunn; C Simpson; V Resciniti
Welcomers:	V Resciniti
Projectionist	C Resciniti
Co-Ordinator	J Mann 0488 784 802

So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God. He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time. 2 Timothy 1:8–9, NIV

Lord our God, radiant, light giving, and almighty God through all the ages, be with us in our time too, Strengthen the grace we have received from Jesus Christ, and let it be known over all the world so that your name may be honored everywhere. Bless us, we pray, and let your blessing spread from us to others, to the glory of your name. Grant that the good may be strengthened in us, the good you have let us hear about for so many years. May everything that belongs to your Word come alive in us and in the world. May your blessing be on our actions, for we want to remain under your blessing, to the glory of your righteousness and truth. Amen.

Liturgy at St Michael's:

- ◆ **CONGRATULATIONS:** To the grade 4 students from St Patrick's School & Parish Group who make their First Eucharist this weekend.
- ◆ **MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION:** Nominations from parishes are now being accepted for the next online training program for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. **Starting 28 June..** This engaging 5 week online program includes weekly Zoom classes and many enjoyable interactive elements. In addition to the practical training needed for this ministry, it provides formation on the history and theology of the Eucharist and ministry. Participants independently observe and engage with their local community throughout the program which culminates in a local training session. Further details can be found online at: www.acu.edu.au/centreforliturgy/pastoraltraining.
- ◆ **CUPPA & CHAT** After the 9.00am MASS : Parishioners are welcome to catch up for a cuppa & chat each Sunday after Mass in the Parish Community Centre.

St Michael's News:

- ◆ **PARISH LEADERSHIP:** Our next Parish Leadership team meeting will be held on **Wed July 5th, 7pm** in the Parish Community Centre.

Community News:

- ◆ **SAMARITAN HOUSE:** Since commencing our services over 10 years ago, Samaritan House has helped over 1,000 men through their challenges. To help more men, we need your support. Samaritan House receives no government support—and we operate each year thanks to the support of our amazing Geelong Community. We would greatly appreciate your consideration of a donation to this year's Winter Appeal 2023. Donations are fully tax deductible, can be made through our website.
- ◆ **TEMPORARY USE OF CAR—URGENT NEED:** An heroic lady who is a recent widow with significant health issues requiring ongoing medical treatment, and who is caring for 2 adult children with disabilities, is in urgent need of a reliable vehicle in good order— If possible as a loan of 2 to 3 months. Her own car has 'died' and is not worth repairing. And her story, if it was told, is an extraordinary mix of courage and heartbreak. Do you know someone who might help? Any additional insurance required will be covered. For further information, contact Fr Kevin Dillon on 0421 777 360 or frkdillon@outlook.com.au
- ◆ **FRIENDS OF FAITH AND LIGHT GEELONG:** A Christian community for people with disabilities (especially intellectual disability), their carers, families and friends. You are welcome to come to our next monthly meeting on Saturday 24 June. We have a sharing news time, gospel reflection with songs and prayers, and a fiesta afternoon tea. **Theme:** Pentecost. Gathering from 2pm-4.30pm, hall open 1.30pm for preparation. Our Venue is St Mary's parish, Pioneer Room, level 1 (by lift), 150 Yarra Street. Enter via Little Myers Street. **RSVP Thursday 22 June.** If you would like to know more, please contact the Joint Coordinators. **Tricia O'Keeffe on 0414 672 267 or Kevin Mark: kevin@stmarysgeelong.com.au** **Faith and Light is a worldwide organisation, began in Lourdes, in 1971. www.faithandlight.org**
- ◆ **MenALIVE: Corio & Lara Parish is hosting a MenALIVE Mens' Weekend** over the second weekend of **8-9 July**. It will be held in the Parish Hall at St Francis Xavier, Corio and is mostly on the Saturday, but will continue on Sunday morning, concluding with the regular Sunday mass. Cost \$25 (covers materials and all meals). For More information please ring Marty 0419 528 495 or Shayne 0407 965 906.
- ◆ **AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS:** Give a helping hand this season at Red Cross in Victoria, volunteers are the heart and soul of your local Red Cross Shop. They are there to give to the community, make new friends, improve language skills and build confidence. Everyone is invited to give the gift of being a Red Cross Shop volunteer and your local Red Cross Shop in **Geelong** invites you to be a part of their volunteering team. To apply please call **VIC HUB on 0467 778 125**
- ◆ **INNER HEALING: 'Meditation on Jesus'** Prayer & Meditation through gentle postures and breathing in the Holy Spirit, heals body, mind and soul). Retreat begins with dinner at 6pm Friday June 30, and concludes at 4pm on Sunday 2 July. Guided by **Fr Gilbert Carlo SVD**, **Cost: \$210 (live-in) \$150 (live-out).** **Contact: Janssen Spirituality Centre, 22 Woodvale Road, Boronia. RSVP Tel: 03 9762 6625 or gilbertcarlo@gmail.com**
- ◆ **MERCY PLACE RICE VILLAGE**—currently have Independent Living Units available to purchase. Please call Sally on 5247 2202. For more information or to organise a tour.

Reflection by Richard Leonard

Damian told me that his life changed when his sister was involved in a car accident that left her with brain injuries. As tragic as this terrible event was for his sister, Damian told me that it was a defining moment for him as well because it enabled him to work out what truly matters, what he took for granted, what he hoped for and whether he could hold on to faith in the face of tragedy.

Damian said that one of the things he learnt in the experience was what not to say to people in grief and shock. He reported that the nicest people said some of the worst things to him and his family. 'It's all God's will and now you just have to accept it.' 'God only gives the biggest crosses to those who can bear it.' 'God was clearly trying to teach you all a lesson and we'll only find out in heaven what she did to deserve this.' He said he wanted to scream. Some of his family have not been back to church since the accident.

The most helpful comment, however, the one that gave Damian and his family the greatest consolation, was, 'I can only imagine what it would be like if it were my sister.' The people who made this comment weren't trying to find an answer for him in his shock and grief; they were trying to struggle with him in his pain and questioning and understand what it might be like.

This response has a name. It's called compassion and it is what today's readings are all about. The Lord claims the Israelites as his treasured possession out of compassion. Saint Paul reminds us that God sent his Son to save us from our own destructiveness because he had compassion on us in our sinfulness. And when Jesus saw the crowds he had compassion for their diseases, sufferings and lack of leadership and he did something about it.

We are called to see the crowds of our own day and be moved with compassion. Compassion asks us to imagine what it's like to be a refugee, homeless, a victim of domestic violence, HIV positive, disabled, substance addicted, a single parent or unemployed.

We may not be able to answer these people's suffering or perhaps for some reason we should not be the ones to respond to their suffering. In either event, what we should do is secondary to how we feel with them.

And often the people we find it hardest to be compassionate toward are the ones to whom we are closest. We often expect so much of our wife or husband, children, friends and parents that we allow the poor to lay a greater claim on our compassion before those we love.

We don't have to be stingy with compassion; there will always be enough to go around. By virtue of our baptism and our coming to this Mass, however, we should be well known for being very compassionate, even foolishly so.

For Jesus doesn't teach us today to solve all the world's problems, just that we have to have the right attitude toward our brothers and sisters, imagining what it's like for them and treating them in the way we would want to be treated.

In the ministry of compassion we are *all* labourers sent out to harvest love in Christ's name; *all* of us are commissioned to confront evil and offer goodness in its place. And *all* of us are called, like the Apostles, to go to every lost sheep, especially the one who may be under our own roof, and offer healing and peace.

No one said following Jesus in this way was easy. Nearly every name read out in today's Gospel died a martyr for our faith. May the way we live be worthy of their example.

So this week when we catch ourselves jumping to an immediate condemnation of someone, let's stop and pray for the gift of compassion. That we might ask, 'What must life be like for you?' At that point, our understanding will be touching the Divine.

© Richard Leonard SJ

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The major themes today are call and discipleship. Most of us are rather insignificant in the eyes of the broader society. And even those who are well known or in some way famous are still just simple human beings with needs and fears and dreams like the rest of us. Yet we have been called by God. This is what makes us special. Paul picks up this theme in his development of justification. He argues that we are special because when we were still sinners we were justified. All this has come to us as a pure gift from God. It is God who calls; it is God who chooses; it is God who justifies. If we are to boast, we must boast in God.

Paul further teaches that good works do not gain faith. It is the other way around. It is faith that manifests itself in works. In the gospel we see that the disciples are sent out to give to others the gift of faith which had been given to them. They proclaim the gospel, the good news that the time of fulfilment has come, and then they perform mighty works that demonstrate what they preach. We too have been called to discipleship; we have been made God's special people. To us has been entrusted the good news of salvation to proclaim to others. We must be the healing touch of Christ in our world. We must comfort those who mourn, bring back to life those who are in despair, embrace those who have been ostracised by society, drive out anger and fear and hatred.

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