



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: Alvaro Alcalá; Pavo Hrkac

ANNIVERSARIES: Fr Mick Fitzpatrick; Orlando Pacheco; Vincenzo & Elisabetta Pitaro; Josip Dubrovic; Breda Gajic; Aurora Santoro.

BAPTISMS: Raine Duc-Siu

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Nicholas Teague; Anthona Henderson; Daryl Squires; 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.

TWELTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

(Year A/1— 25 June 2023)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

The Lord is the strength of his people, a saving refuge for the one he has anointed. Save your people, Lord, and bless your heritage, and govern them for ever.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Lord, in your great love, answer me.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, and you also will be my witnesses.

Alleluia!

TODAY'S READINGS

1st: Jer 20:10-13
2nd: Rom 5:12-15
Gospel: Mt 10:26-33

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

1st: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16
2nd: Rom 6:3-4, 8-11
Gospel: Mt 10:37-42

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>	<i>5.30pm</i>	<i>Parish Community Centre</i>
	<i>Legion of Mary</i>	<i>10.00am</i>	<i>Parish Community Centre</i>
Friday	<i>Divine Mercy</i>	<i>3.00pm</i>	<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

(1st Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S - 5.00PM

Commentators	M Carson
Lectors	P Balkin
Special Ministers	N Neeld,
Welcomers	
Projectionist	B Middleton
Co-Ordinator	M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM

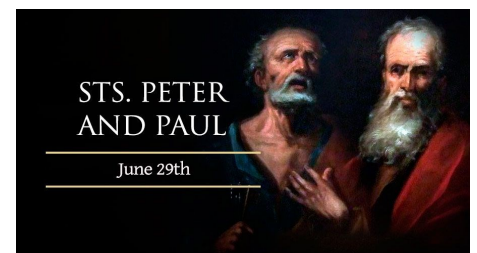
C Nielson
M Kroger
G Wright
L Fossey
L Coles

HOLY FAMILY 9.00AM

Commentators	J Siketa
Lectors	M Bird, S Costa
Special Ministers	E Karakchi; B Kline; Sr Concepta
Welcomers	K McArthur
Projectionist	C Resciniti
Co-Ordinator	J Mann, 0488 784 802

FEAST OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

Died as martyrs at Rome under Nero, between 64-67.
this pre-eminent feast day of the city of Rome
has been observed on this date since the mid-third century.
It commemorates the martyrdoms of Peter the 'chief of the apostles'
and Paul the 'apostle to the Gentiles'.
Remembered for their faith, their courage,
and their leadership during the difficult days
of the birth of the Church



Liturgy at St Michael's:

- ◆ **PETERS PENCE COLLECTION:** There will be a leaving collection at all Masses this weekend for the Annual Collection for the Intentions of the Holy Father.
- ◆ **NO 9.15AM MASS AT HOLY FAMILY ON THURSDAY 29 JUNE:**—Instead Mass will be celebrated at **SS PETER & PAUL'S** on **THURSDAY 29 JUNE AT 5PM.**
- ◆ **ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SUNDAY, JULY 2:** Each year, Catholics from all corners of Australia gather on this day to celebrate the unique gifts and contributions of Australia's First Peoples. This year's theme, "**A New Life in Christ**" reflects the hope and promise of a brighter future, rooted in unity and shared commitment to positive change.
- ◆ **PROPOGATION OF THE FAITH APPEAL 2023 :** The annual Catholic Mission Appeal will take place in the Parish over the **weekend of July 8 & 9.** There will be a third collection to be taken up. A special feature of the work of Catholic Mission this year is our partnership, through the Salesian Sisters, with the people of Timor-Leste. Envelopes will be in the churches next weekend. Donations can also be made online at catholicmission.org.au/timor.

St Michael's News:

- ◆ **SCAM**—If you receive any text from Fr Minh Tran, regarding Amazon or something, please disregard and not click on any links, as it is a Scam.
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM:** Our next Parish Leadership Team Meeting will be held on **Wed July 5th, 7pm** at the Parish Community Centre.
- ◆ **HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP:** Lunch Monday 3rd July, 12.30pm at the 'Sphinx' hotel, Thompson Rd, North Geelong. See you all there!
- ◆ **CWL:** Next meeting of the Manifold branch of CWL will be held on Wednesday 5th July, 1.30pm at Holy Spirit Hall, Bostock Ave, Manifold Heights. All St Michael's parish ladies are most welcome. For transport please contact Tricia 0431 512 354.
- ◆ **PARISH VOLUNTEER CHILD SAFEGUARDING WORKSHOP:** **Friday August 4, 11.30am** at the Parish Community Centre, Separation St, Bell Park. Rosemary Teed, Child Safeguarding Officer, from the Western Region at the Archdiocese will run this workshop for any volunteers who have not yet completed the training. To register, please contact the parish office on 5278 1343. Bernadette will also contact volunteers in the next few weeks who have not yet completed the training. Morning tea will also be provided.

Community News:

- ◆ **FUNDRAISER MOVIE NIGHT AT ST MARY MACKILLOP BANNOCKBURN:** To raise money for some of our parishioners going to World Youth Day in Lisbon this year, we are hosting two movie nights in the foyer of St. Mary Mackillop Parish, (24 High Street, Bannockburn). First movie night will be 28 June, 6pm-8:30pm where we will be screening the animated movie "Sing." Second movie night will be 5 July, 6pm-8:30pm where we will be screening the movie "Night at the Museum." Tickets \$10 primary school students, \$15 non-primary school students and \$50 for families (the cost is all inclusive of pizza and refreshments). You are very welcome to both nights and we hope to see you there!
- ◆ **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. Donations are fully tax deductible, can be made through our website.
- ◆ **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:

A few years ago there was an English film entitled, *Secrets and Lies*. It charted the story of a dysfunctional family who sat on terrible secrets and told many lies for decades.

Like many successful dramatic films, audiences flocked to see it, not only because of its compelling story, but also because it tapped into an important truth about family life as many of us live it.

When I was a boy I was often told that 'What's said and done in the home, stays in the home.' And to a degree, this is a good and loyal principle.

There are, however, family secrets and lies that cause untold damage for generations because no one is allowed to speak about them. Sexual abuse, domestic violence, suicide, incest, drug-taking, alcoholism, theft, adoption and abortion are only some of the secrets and lies that many families sit on.

Jesus, however, tells us in today's Gospel that what you 'say in the dark, tell in the light. What you whisper in darkness, shout from the housetops.'

This doesn't mean that Christians tell everyone their personal business, but it does cut to the heart of what stunts spiritual and personal growth.

To the degree that something shameful remains buried, hidden and unhealed, then its power over us is increased. It remains the thing about which we can never speak. The bad spirit has a field day with this sort of stuff, feeding our fears and lowering our self-esteem.

In this regard some Christians make a false distinction between their spiritual and psychological lives. They hold that the exploration of one's personal history or emotional problems is self-indulgent or unimportant to how we live.

We all know people who, in the pursuit of emotional health, become obsessed by their own story, feelings, reactions and psychology. We also know others who never deal with the heavy hurts they seem to carry through the years, even though the pain of them seem to be as powerfully felt now as they were when they were inflicted upon them. Today's Gospel reminds us that there is a middle road between denying what should be acknowledged and dealt with, and being absorbed by it.

The Church, rightly, holds that the best psychological tools can bring out into the open memories and experiences that can be seen for what they are and dealt with. We just have to be sure that we don't get conned into believing that psychology and therapy is anything but a pit-stop in life, so that we can attend to the working order of our mental machinery, and, importantly, get back on the road with everyone else, calling in later if needs be.

Long before the therapist's office Christ enabled the Church to develop the Sacrament of Penance where we admit our most destructive behaviour and hear that we are forgiven and healed.

That's why, when I am hearing a confession, I can't tell you how happy I am to hear the penitent say, 'Father I have never told anyone this before.'

At that moment I know the love of God is active in the person, drawing out what Christ wants in the light, spoken of and healed.

This Sunday Jesus invites all of us to find a person we respect and trust, and to end the tyranny of the power of secrets and lies. I promise you when you take this risk with the appropriate person, the presence of God won't be very far away either.

© Richard Leonard SJ

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The demands of discipleship can be very difficult. The strength that is needed to continue on the chosen path despite its hardships can come only from God. We live in a world that desperately needs to hear the call to conversion, but it is a world that is subject to the death that entered it through the sin of Adam. Those who answer the call of God may have to face the hostility of this world, because their values and their commitment to righteousness threaten its moorings. To commit oneself to the reign of God is to challenge the reign of the world, and this can make one very unpopular. In the midst of this suffering we can find strength in the promises of God, and we believe that God is faithful to these promises.

Only half of today's picture is bleak. The other half is radiant with hope. Paul assures us that the gracious gift that God offers us is far greater than the transgressions brought on by sin. This gracious gift is Jesus Christ himself. The gift exceeds anything for which we might have hoped. He is the comfort that will carry us through our disappointments. He is the strength that will enable us to endure the misunderstanding and hardship that come with discipleship. We are called to acknowledge him before the world, and we are promised that if we do, he will acknowledge us before God. There is light even in the midst of darkness. There is hope even in the midst of suffering.

© Dianne Bergant CSA