



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:

ANNIVERSARIES: Carmelo Montalto; Ivan Cengija; Joseph Radojevic; Anica Pavicic; Jean Allison; Antonio Fiorillo; Ernesto & Assunta De Lorenzo; Frank & Helen De Lorenzo; John Cummins; Brian Lynch

BAPTISMS: Alana Britvic; Rylan & Elijah Harvey; Max & Maverick McLean

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.

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

(Year A/1— 2 July 2023)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

All peoples, clap your hands. Cry to God with shouts of joy!

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people. Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvellous light.

Alleluia!

TODAY'S READINGS NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

1st: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16	1st: Zech 9:9-10
2nd: Rom 6:3-4, 8-11	2nd: Rom 8:9, 11-13
Gospel: Matt 10:37-42	Gospel: Matt 11:25-30

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.

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SUNDAY, JULY 2ND...

A New Life in Christ: Uniting as One People on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday.

Each year, Catholics from all corners of Australia gather on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday 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.

As we commemorate this special day on the Liturgical Calendar, we invite you to listen to our voices and walk alongside us on our journey towards progress. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday symbolizes our unity as one people in Christ, and we urge both Indigenous and non-Indigenous Catholics to come together in every Catholic Parish and School across this great Southern land.

NATSICC Liturgy Team



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 SUNDAY

(2nd Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S—5.00PM

Commentators	M Carson
Lectors	R Perera
Special Ministers	P McGlinchey
Welcomers	
Projectionist	B Middleton
Co-Ordinator	M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY SPIRIT—11AM

C Nielson
M Martin
L Vannata
L Fossey
R Martin

HOLY FAMILY 9.00AM

Commentator	K Saunders
Lectors	D Lunn, A Negro
Special Ministers	J Genova, C Marcantonio; H Verdnik
Welcomers	C Marcantonio
Projectionist	C Resciniti
Co-Ordinator	J Mann 0488 784 802

Liturgy at St Michael's:

- ◆ **PETERS PENCE COLLECTION:** Thankyou to all parishioners who supported the Peters Pence collection last weekend of which \$751.20 was raised.
- ◆ **PROPOGATION OF THE FAITH APPEAL 2023 :** The annual Catholic Mission Appeal will take place in the Parish next **weekend July 8 & 9**. A special feature of the work of Catholic Mission this year is our partnership, through the Salesian Sisters, with the people of Timor-Leste. There will be a third collection to be taken up after Communion. Envelopes will be in the churches this weekend and donations can also be made online at catholicmission.org.au/timor.

St Michael's News:

- ◆ **SCAM ALERT**—If you receive a text(s) from Fr Minh Tran, regarding Amazon or something else, please delete 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: MONDAY AUGUST 7, registration from 11.00am** and the workshop from 11.30am-1pm. Venue: 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. If you are able to attend, 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/light lunch 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.
- ◆ **GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS CLUB:** You are warmly invited to join us for a social get-together for food & friendship on Tuesday July 11; 6pm at The Bistro, Belmont Hotel, Hight St Belmont. Purchase meals & drinks at your own cost. Please advise your attendance to John Santospirito 0409 165 943 or john.santospirito@bigpond.com by July 10.
- ◆ **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**
- ◆ **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:

For all the great things the Church of yesteryear achieved, it also did some terrible things. One of the worst demands it made was that a Catholic who married a person who was not a Catholic did so at a side altar, oratory or in the sacristy of the Church. How humiliating this directive was. For how long were we going to punish the Protestant Reformers and young Catholic woman or man who fell in love with someone from these denominations? In these ecumenical days, it's hard for us to understand these actions.

Today, especially at weddings, I hear older Catholics talk about this experience more than anything else. It's often given as the reason why the person or their family stopped practising their Catholic faith. Recently an older wedding guest told me that her wedding day at the side altar was the last day she came to the Church of her own free will. She never had her children baptised and her painful experience was still palpable forty years on as she compared and contrasted her wedding day with the Catholic marriage ceremony of a couple in a similar religious circumstance to her own which we had just celebrated. All I can do in such circumstances is apologise for the hurt our shortsightedness caused and be full of admiration for those who were subjected to similar treatment but have remained constant to our Catholic community.

These days inter-denominational marriages are rarely the reasons over which a family will divide. But we know that other religious issues can still break up a family. It's always a tragedy when this happens. For example, maybe you've had a son, daughter or a grandchild join a religious sect or cult. It's heartbreaking stuff for parents who wonder what their child sees in the sect and where it will all end.

The Church has sometimes let families down in this regard. Appearing to prefer dogma to the complexities of people's lives, formal liturgy to creating communities of hospitality, care and justice, the church can appear to be out of touch, especially with our young. I know that every person in authority in the Church today knows that the Catholic Church needs to listen to our young people, hear about the issues that concern them and present our faith in a way they find accessible and engaging. Very often it's not what we say about our rich faith, it's how we say it. Many people don't leave the mainstream churches because they are attracted by another group's doctrine, though some do want the world to be very black and white. Many leave for smaller groups offering a tightly knit community.

From today's Gospel we know that the same family heartbreak occurred in the early church. At this time, however, Christianity was the small sect drawing believers away from Judaism, to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah. It ripped families apart. The early church became the new family of many followers who were disowned. They lost their life and found a new one in Christ.

There can be moments when a family's lifestyle, beliefs, behaviour or values are such that one member feels that, in conscience, or by conviction, he or she does not belong anymore.

When this happens we can listen carefully to reasons the family member gives. Maybe we have lost something essential in our life together that needs challenging and change. And maybe it's the family member who is in the wrong.

Keeping the lines of communication open, speaking the truth with calmness and love and remaining as compassionate as possible are the best Christian responses.

I can't pretend that any of this is easy, but, when I have seen families do it, the prophetic, truthful and charitable rewards Jesus offers in today's Gospel are powerfully in evidence.

© Richard Leonard SJ

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today we are faced with the cost of discipleship, but we are also comforted by the promise of the providence of God. Baptism is for us both death and life. Through it we enter into Christ's death and we die to lives of selfishness and sin. Through it we rise with Christ to a new life freed from everything that previously held us down. As glorious as this new life might be, it requires death to our old ways of living, and this is always difficult.

The cost of discipleship cuts right to the core of our beings, it lays bare the very structures of kinship. Baptism recreates us as children of God; through it we are given a new life and born into a new family. The bonds of discipleship are now even stronger than the bonds of blood. Discipleship requires our very lives. As disciples we can no longer put ourselves first. We must be willing to spend ourselves and to be spent, to serve others in the day to day unfolding of life. We may find such commitment very demanding, but that is part of the cost of discipleship. God promises that if we lose our lives in this way, we will really gain them. If we are unselfish in the way we share ourselves with others, we will be enriched through our generosity. If we spend ourselves and are spent in our service of others we will be filled with blessings unimaginable.

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