



# 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](mailto:bellpark@cam.org.au)

**PARISH SECRETARY:**

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

**PASTORAL WORKER:**

Sr Anne Lourey Email: [anne.lourey@mercy.org.au](mailto: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](http://www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au)  
[www.facebook.com/michaelparish .st](https://www.facebook.com/michaelparish.st)

## As a Community We Pray For:

**RECENT DEATHS:**

Margaret McCarthy; Fr Frank Smith; Ivanka Hudich.

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

Walter Augustyn; John & Santana Da Costa; Ana & Luka Gengija; Garry Giles; Giuseppe Santoro.

**BAPTISMS:**

Coco Biviano; Aria Rush.

**PRAY FOR THE SICK:**

Anthona Henderson; Daryl Squires; 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!**

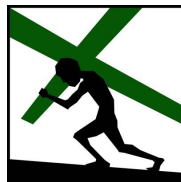
We acknowledge the living culture of the Wathaurong People, the traditional custodians of the land we stand on, and pay tribute to the unique role they play in this region.

### TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

(Year A/1— 3 September 2023)

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.



**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

**TODAY'S READINGS**

1st: Jer 20:7-9  
2nd: Rom 12:1-2  
Gospel: Matt 16:21-27

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**

1st: Ezek 33:7-9  
2nd: Rom 13:8-10  
Gospel: Matt 18:15-20

**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 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.



**What makes a real dad...**

God took the strength of a mountain;  
the warmth of a summer sun;  
the calm of a quiet sea and the generous soul of nature.

Satisfied He called it...DAD

'A dad is someone who wants to catch you before you fall but instead picks you up, brushes you off, and let's you try again.'

**A FATHER'S DAY PRAYER**

God our Father, we give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old.

We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocations; may they find courage and perseverance to balance work, family and faith in joy and sacrifice.

We pray for our own fathers around the world whose children are lost or suffering, may they know that the God of compassion walks with them in their sorrow.

We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor & guide us with fatherly love & advice.

We remember fathers, grandfathers, and great grandfathers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love...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..** Meditation Group 5.30pm Parish Community Centre  
Legion of Mary 10.00am Parish Community Centre  
**Friday** Divine Mercy 3.00pm Holy Spirit Church

**STATUE OF OUR LADY:** Our Lady's statue is ready to be taken to your home call Cristita: 0435 780 716 or Vickie: 0401 213 505. we will collect Our Lady's statue, when you ask us.

**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**

L Strzelecki  
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**



**ST MICHAEL'S PARISH** incorporating the churches of Holy Family Bell Park, St Peter & Paul Geelong West and Holy Spirit Manifold Heights

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY—EVENTS IN THE PARISH OVER THE COMING MONTHS

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Sept 3....  | Father's Day   |
| Sept 29...  | St Michael's Parish Feast Day  |
| Oct 18-20.. | Confirmations in the Parish  |
| Oct 27-29.. | Archbishop Peter Comensoli— Visit to St Michael's Parish and our Schools. And will be the main Celebrant at all weekend Masses. More information on this visit to be provided in the lead up to this date. |
| Nov 1.....  | All Saints Day   |
| Nov 2.....  | All Souls Day  |
| Nov 4-5...  | Annual Bereavement Masses  |
| Nov 7 ..... | Melbourne Cup Day Luncheon—Holy Spirit Hall  |
| Nov 17....  | St Patrick's School Confirmations  |
| Dec 3.....  | Advent begins  |
| Dec 14....  | St Michael's Parish Christmas Carols Evening   |
| Dec 25....  | Christmas Day  |

### Liturgy at St Michael's:

- ◆ **COMMUNION SERVICE:** Fr Minh will be away in Bathurst NSW, for the week and there will be a Communion Service, in place of the daily Masses on Sept 7, Sept 8, Sept 12 & Sept 13. Fr Jude Pirootta will celebrate Masses on the weekend of Sept 9 & 10.

### St Michael's News:

- ◆ **PRIEST'S RETIREMENT FOUNDATION ANNUAL FATHER'S DAY APPEAL:** At all Masses this weekend, there will be an extra 3rd collection to be taken up after Communion. Envelopes are available in the churches.
- ◆ **MELBOURNE CUP DAY CHICKEN AND BUBBLY LUNCHEON:** Holy Spirit Hall; Tuesday 7 November. Can you organise a table for 6 or more people?. **Cost \$25.00 per head, BYO other drinks.** All profits to support our Philippines Partnership. For tickets, please contact **David Lunn** 0408 378 982; **Carol Hullin** 0491 703 880; **Michael Scaddan** 0410 780 985 or **Marguerite Giles** 0417 707 276. Thank you for your support.
- ◆ **CWL:** The next meeting of the Manifold branch of the CWL will be lunch on **Wednesday 6 September, 12.30pm, Fyansford Hotel.** Any St Michael's Parishioners who wish to join us are most welcome. Please confirm your attendance with Bernadette: 0417 5147 598 by **Monday 4 September.**
- ◆ **HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP:** Lunch, Monday 4 September, 12.30pm at 'Pekish' Geelong Bowls Club Ballarat Road, See you all there!
- ◆ **LEGION OF MARY:** Meets after Mass every Tuesday at 10am. We meet in the St Michael's Parish Meeting room. We would love you to visit our meeting and see what we do. All are welcome.
- ◆ **INTRODUCING CUPPA & CHAT AT HOLY SPIRIT HALL:** Commencing from Sun Sept 3 we invite all parishioners to catch up after the 11am Mass on the **1st & 4th Sundays of the month** for a cuppa & chat.
- ◆ **AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS - SPRING 2023:** In this issue, we look at 'Climate for change!' Explorations: A changing church?. Let the world be. In shaping the world to meet humanity's needs, humans need to be mindful of the difference of dominion & domination. Please take a copy, now available in all churches.

### Community News

- ◆ **CHILD PROTECTION WEEK 4-9 SEPTEMBER:** is a national campaign held each year to raise awareness of child-abuse prevention in our communities. In 2023, the overarching message that 'Every child in every community needs a fair go' will be complemented with the theme 'Where we start matters'. Child Protection Week is a good time for us to think about how we, as adults, can address some of these issues that affect children and to consider how we can change things to make a difference. In the Catholic Church, Child Protection Week is highlighted through Safeguarding Sunday, which falls this year on 10 Sept.
- ◆ **GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS CLUB:** You are warmly invited to join us for a social get-together for food & friendship: **12 September, 6pm The Bistro, Belmont Hotel, High St, Belmont.** Purchase meals and drinks at your own cost. **Please advise** John Santospirito by **10 September** Ph: 0409 165 943 or email: john.santospirito@bigpond.com.
- ◆ **HOLY MASS & FELLOWSHIP AT DEAKIN UNI:** Catholic chaplain of Deakin Uni, Fr. Daryl Montecillo, invites all Catholic students to a Holy mass followed by a fellowship on Sunday, 10 Sept from 3.30 pm at KE1.104 (Waurm Ponds campus). This will be an opportunity to meet fellow students and discuss future programs. Please contact Dr. Susanga Costa 0433 786 787 or Dr. John Long 0404 385 952 for more details.

## Community News cont:

- ◆ **MARY MACKILLOP AUSTRALIAN PILGRIMAGE 17-28 OCT 2023:** The Sisters of St Joseph have prepared an Australian Pilgrimage 'In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop' commencing in Melbourne 17 Oct, journeying through Victoria and South Australia and ending at Mary Mackillop Place, North Sydney 28 Oct. for more info, itinerary & application form contact national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au or Ph: 8912 4818.
- ◆ **COMBINED REFUGEE ACTION GOUP GEELONG:** The Fairness Yet to Come—Unfinished business in Australia's refugee policies. This forum will explore the situation for the refugees and the action that needs to be taken to provide them with safety. **Thursday 14 Sept, 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start. Wesley Uniting Church, 100 Yarra St, Geelong.** Speakers: **Sr Brigid Arthur AO; Ben Goulding;** and **Geetha Ramachandran;** MC: Wes Cusworth, former WIN News sports presenter.

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## Reflection by Richard Leonard - 3 Sept 2023

At the morning parade in Dachau on 22nd July 1943, six prisoners were found to have escaped. Retribution was swift and brutal. Randomly selected, 12 people were hanged. As the other prisoners watched their 12 fellow inmates gasp for breath, someone in the crowd cried out, 'Where is God?' Silence descended on the yard. The 12 bodies were now in spasm, jerking and struggling for breath. As everyone watched, the voice came again, this time more urgently, 'Where is God now?' 'My God', another voice yelled back, 'My God is hanging there'.

This sort of faith is what today's Gospel is all about. Christianity is the only world religion that holds that God took our flesh, suffered, died and was raised to life.

It is certainly true that we have domesticated the scandal of the cross, even to the point that, these days, it dangles from various parts of people's anatomies. I often wonder, had Jesus been electrocuted to death, whether we would have little golden chairs around our necks? But while we have tried to tame the reality of Jesus' tortured hours in Jerusalem, the reality of the cross in each of our lives cannot be so commercially soothed.

Christians are not meant to be smiling masochists. We are not meant to be lovers of pain – just bearers of it.

We are invited, by Jesus, to see the burden of suffering in our lives as an opportunity to be faithful to his example. It also gives us an opportunity to be in solidarity with all those who suffer in our world. This is easier said than done. When we suffer in our daily lives, thoughts of others rarely come to mind easily, but it can be consoling to keep our suffering in context and know that we are not facing it alone.

We are encouraged to see that suffering can be an opportunity to grow in love. If we understand our crosses as our particular schools of love, then we learn more about ourselves and God and are able to help others carry their crosses as well.

Carrying our cross, however, is not just about bearing physical, personal, sexual, spiritual or emotional pain; it can also be in the sharing of our gifts and talents, our love and compassion. In every gift there is a burden. Following Christ's example, we are called to share our gifts heroically with anyone in need, even to the end.

Some people complain these days that God is often presented as a big marshmallow, all sweet and soft. Today's Gospel shows the 'edge' involved in being a follower of Christ. I don't know of a more demanding vocation in our world than that of taking up the cross of being faithful, loving and selfless.

And while we are invited to take up our cross and follow Jesus, we never do it alone. If we have the eyes to see it and the humility to accept it, Christ, literally, hangs in there with us every step of the way.

So let's recall the first cross from which we take comfort as we bear our own crosses. 'In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.'

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## Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA - 3 Sept 2023

The gospel does not say that Jesus will gallantly step forward, take suffering upon himself, and thus demonstrate his power. Instead, his fate will be a demonstration of his vulnerability. He will be taken forcibly and will suffer at the hands of others. He will do this willingly, but not as a volunteer. Jesus will be a victim. This picture of Jesus carries implications for discipleship. Whoever follows him must follow him to the cross. If we participate in his success, we must also share in his shame. Disciples have a choice to follow or not to follow, but if they choose in his favour they must be ready for suffering and humiliation.

Paul exhorts us to reject the standards of the world. This is a very difficult path to follow, especially when it seems that those who conform to this age prosper. Following Christ can place barriers between ourselves and others. If we no longer share their values and their interests, we may feel alienated. Suffering is bound to invade our ministerial lives as well. We must remember that Jesus' message antagonised many people in his day. Those who proclaim the same message in their own contexts must be prepared for a similar reaction.

After witnessing the marvelous feats that Jesus accomplished, we discover that he is going to suffer and be put to death. How can this be? With Peter we protest. With Jeremiah we wonder: Have we been duped? The realisation that we too will have to suffer becomes a crucial test of our faith.

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