



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: Natale Caruso; Adam MacLeod; Kevin Mahoney.

ANNIVERSARIES: Agnes Tuddenham; Ivan Matijevic; Francisco Alfaiate; Matt De Grandi; Filippo & Concetta Leone; Giocinto (Jack) Palmieri; Giuseppa Resciniti; Luigi Palmieri

BAPTISMS: Starliah Beaumont; Oliver Kasper; Laylah Lynch

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Pat Carson; Hugo Riedl; Daryl Squires; Cam Resciniti



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-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

(Year A/1—1 October 2023)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

TODAY'S READINGS

1st: Eze 18:25-28

2nd: Phil 2:1-11

Gospel: Matt 21:28-32

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

1st: Is 5:1-7

2nd: Phil 4:6-9

Gospel: Matt 21:33-43

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.

Celebrating our Feast Day of St Michael the Archangel:

St Michael the Archangel is the leader of all angels and the army of God. As an archangel, he is above all other angels in the rank. Archangel Michael holds a significant place in the Roman Catholic Tradition. He is an Archangel, associated with courage, protection and divine intervention. St Michael is the Patron Saint of sick people, soldiers, police and doctors.

In our Catholic tradition, St Michael has four duties:

- To continue to battle against Satan;
- To save the souls of the faithful from the power of Satan;
- To protect the people of God;
- To lead us from this life to God.

Prayer to St Michael the Archangel;
St Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.
Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil.
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou,
O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God,
Thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl the world seeking
the ruin of souls. 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: 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	
Co-Ordinator	M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY SPIRIT—11AM

L Strzelecki
M Martin
L Fossey
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





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

- 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

St Michael's News:

- ◆ **MELBOURNE CUP DAY CHICKEN AND BUBBLY LUNCHEON:** Holy Spirit Hall; Tuesday 7 November. 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.
- ◆ **CUPPA & CHAT AT HOLY SPIRIT HALL:** We invite all parishioners to catch up after the 11am Mass on the **1st & 4th Sundays of the month**. The next catch up will be **this Sunday 1 Oct**.
- ◆ **HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP:** Lunch, Monday Oct 2nd, 12.30pm at 'The Spinx', Thompson Road. See you all there!
- ◆ **CWL:** The Annual General Meeting of the Manifold Branch of the CWL will be Wednesday Oct 4th, 1.30pm at Holy Spirit Hall, Bostock Ave Manifold Heights. Guest speaker is Anna Krohn AO, General President, Catholic Women's League of Victoria and Wagga Wagga. All St Michael's parishioners are most welcome to attend. For more info & transport please call Bernadette 0417 415 598.
- ◆ **COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES RAFFLE:** Books to be returned by **Sunday Oct 8th**. Thank you David Lunn.
- ◆ **SISTERS OF THE HOLY ANGELS:** Will hold a stall after the 9am Mass at Holy Family Church on Sunday October 22nd. Produce; craft items and much more will be available to purchase. Please support this event as all proceeds go to the needy!

Community News

- ◆ **ST VINCENT DePAUL CONFERENCES:** The three previous St Vincent de Paul Conferences have now amalgamated to form the **St Michael's—Bell park Conference**. The Conference meets at the Parish Centre, Separation Street, Bell Park on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month at 4pm. If you are interested in assisting those who are less fortunate than ourselves, then you are most welcome to attend.
- ◆ **CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S Emergency Appeals—Morocco / Libya:** Caritas Australia needs your support to respond to the devastating earthquake in Morocco and floods in Libya. Thousands of people have died and others have been injured. Communities need shelter, food, water and medical assistance. Please support **Caritas Australia's emergency appeals**. **DONATE at www.caritas.org.au**
- ◆ **MARCH FOR THE BABIES:** Come and show your support for the unborn. Join the March for the Babies on 7th October, 2023 at 12.30pm in the Treasury Gardens, cnr Spring & Wellington Pde. Wear blue or pink.
- ◆ **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 information, itinerary & application form contact national pilgrimage @mmp.org.au or Ph: 8912 4818.
- ◆ **CATHOLICARE:** We are looking for **Volunteer Tutors** to assist newly arrived refugee students at Northern Bay College in Years 11&12. to support & improve their study in the following subjects: **General Maths; English; Biology; Legal Studies; Business Management**. If you're a university student studying one of the above subjects, a retired teacher, or someone with expertise in the above, this volunteer role will be a rewarding experience for you! Training sessions will be provided to tutors about the school curriculum and how to work effectively with students who have English as a second language. **Location:** VCE Centre, Northern Bay College, Goldsworthy Road, Campus, 3/25 Goldsworthy Rd, Corio. **Thurs 3.15-4.30pm during school terms**. More Info contact: **Jaclyn Fraser / Volunteer Program Coordinator, M: 0499 001 022 / E: Jaclyn.fraser@catholiccarevic.org.au**

Community News

- ◆ **WINDFIRE MUSIC FESTIVAL GEELONG, 6-15 OCT:** Music at the Basilica is proud to present the 14th Annual Windfire Music Festival. Experience a diverse range of concerts ranging from love songs of 17 century England to music for a brass ensemble. We have 6 great concerts featuring local, national and internationally acclaimed performers. For more details and ticks visit www.musicatthebasilica.org.au
- ◆ **NORTH GEELONG SECONDARY COLLEGE with CATHOLICCARE:** Volunteer Tutors are needed to assist newly arrived refugee and migrant students at North Geelong Secondary College, 130 Separation St Nth Geelong in Years 7 & 12 on **Thursday, lunch time (12:40-1:30pm) during the school term.** Contact **E: Jaclyn.fraser@catholiccarevic.org.au**. Or **M: 0499 001 022**
Skills: Good interpersonal skills, cross cultural communication, able to assist refugee students in homework learning, social & language development.

Reflection by Richard Leonard

A young priest was sent by his bishop to a parish that had a 'red light district' within its boundaries. On his first day in the parish a nun, who had worked in the area for many years, took him on a tour of her beat, the area where all the women-in-prostitution were plying their trade. As they went along Sister introduced the priest to her friends Bubbles, Ginger and Calamity Jane. 'Sister it's fantastic that you know these women so well', he said. 'Don't worry', replied Sister, 'you'll know them in no time as well, and they'll know you by name too.'

Seized by panic, the young priest had visions of the bishop, the parish priest or, worse still, his mother coming to visit and walking with him down the street as Bubbles, Ginger and Calamity Jane all wave and call out across the road, 'Hello Father'. Who would ever believe he only knew them pastorally?

'Truly I tell you that prostitutes and tax collectors are going ahead of you into the kingdom of God.'

The preaching of Jesus attracted all sorts of people who lived at the fringes of, or were oppressed by, Palestinian society. Jesus' message was especially attractive to them. Tensions among the huge variety of Jesus' disciples, between the rich and the poor, men and women, the Jews and Gentiles, the socially respectable and those with outrageous backgrounds continued after his death throughout the next decades, during which the Gospels were written.

It's hard for us to imagine what a diverse and scandalous group, in many respects, the first fathers and mothers of our faith were seen to be. Imagine, if you will, the fuss that would still be created if the local bishop was seen constantly dining with women in prostitution, drug dealers or known terrorists. People would be outraged, but the bishop would be doing nothing short of following Jesus' example. This situation gives us a little insight into how affronted the Chief Priests and Pharisees were by Jesus and, in turn, by his disciples' behaviour.

For Jesus there was never a lost case, or a person beyond help. He didn't just spend time with the poor and broken of his society, but offered them a new way of life, an opportunity to start again and redemption from their destructive behaviour. He went to where they were, as they were. And we do the same because this is precisely what God has done for us. God didn't wait for us to 'talk the talk' before we could 'walk his walk'. Jesus came to us when we were religiously dumb and immobile and showed us how to speak, what to say and where to walk.

The Christian walk and talk is meant to have a profound impact on our daily lives, our concerns, our priorities and compassion. So much so that if, over a period of time, what we celebrate here each Sunday makes no inroads into our family life and workplace, our professional life, our business practices and our relationships, then we should ask ourselves what we are doing here.

And, what's worse, we could even miss the ongoing revelation of Christ's presence in the poor, weak and vulnerable of our own society. We constantly look for Christ in the spectacular and the wonderful and he comes to us in the least of our brother and sisters.

May this Eucharist give us the strength to not only 'look good', but to 'be good', to start over if we need to, and do our best to live out the faith we profess. May it strengthen us to find the Lord where he is, and not keep looking in the places where we would prefer him to be.

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Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

In every life there is a struggle between obedience and disobedience, and this struggle takes various twists and turns. At times we are willing to conform to regulations set from the outside, and at times we are not. We are invited to choose in favour of the reign of God, or we are free to ignore the invitation. Those who are fundamentally righteous sometimes fall from grace, and people considered evil to the core sometimes reform their lives. What ultimately counts are not the promises made, but the actions taken.

We are called to discipleship, and there may well be urgency in this call, but it is an invitation that is to be accepted freely. As is the case with life itself, options are placed before us all the way along the road. We are invited to choose in favour of the reign of God, or we are free to ignore the invitation. However, the invitation always remains open to us, because God's desire for our acceptance is persistent and enduring. The real choice set before us today is the imitation of Christ. The specific characteristic of Christ today is his humility. Since demanding one's rights can undermine the loving quality of community, Jesus' humility is offered for our imitation. It is very clear that whichever aspect of discipleship we examine, some aspect of community is also present. To be a disciple of Jesus is to follow him humbly as a member of a believing community.

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