



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: Antoinetta Emanuele; Louise Devienne; Joan Norris

ANNIVERSARIES: Joseph Gillett (Snr); Josipa Ribaric & Boris Ribaric; Liam McCloskey; Federico Oddi; Maria Sciarrone; Francesca & Rocco Daniele.

BAPTISMS: Mattheo De La Pena; Harper Sarapuu; Cruz West

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-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

(Year A/1—8 October 2023)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of All.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!

TODAY'S READINGS **NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**

1st: Is 5:1-7	1st: Is 25:6-10
2nd: Phil 4:6-9	2nd: Phil 4:12-14, 19-20
Gospel: Matt 21:33-43	Gospel: Matt 22:1-14

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.

Archbishop Peter Comensoli's Visit:

Schedule on Saturday morning October 28: Focus—Parish Community

9.30am: Meet with members of the Child Safeguarding Committee; Liturgical Ministries; Catechetical ministries; CWL and other ministries.

10.30am Morning tea with parishioners and ministries

11.00am Parish Forum (no clergy)

Opportunity for Parishioners to speak with the Archbishop about priorities, goals and challenges.

Questions posed:

Tell me where you find Jesus in the life of your Parish?

(What is evangelisation)

Think about how and where you would like to see the Parish in 5-10 years... and How are WE going to get there?

(What is Mission?)

12.30pm Lunch: BBQ with parishioners

All St Michael's Parishioners are most welcome to attend and as this is a catered event, please RSVP your attendance to the Parish Office on 5278 1343 or email bellpark@cam.org.au or 5278 1343 by Friday October 20.

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

(3rd Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S—5.00PM

Commentators

Lectors K Maddalena

Special Ministers K Maddalena****

Welcomers

Projectionist

Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY SPIRIT—11AM

M Kroger

J McKenzie

M Drake-Bemelmans

L Fossey

F Kearney



HOLY FAMILY

9.00AM

Commentators

A Scaddan

Lectors

H Verdnik; T McMahon

Special Ministers

M Fiorillo; M Perera; P Ruggeri

Welcomers

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. Celebrant at all weekend Masses.
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**. N.B. The next catch up will be **on Sunday 29 Oct** which coincides with the Archbishop's Visit.
- ◆ **COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES RAFFLE:** Books to be returned by this **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!
- ◆ **WORLD MISSION DAY 2023:** The 2023 World Mission Sunday Appeal will take place on the weekend of October 21 & 22. There will be a leaving collection taken up at all weekend Masses. Envelopes will also be available in the churches.

Community News

- ◆ **GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS CLUB:** You are warmly invited to join us for a social get-together for food and friends for our dinner; **Tuesday 10 October 6pm, The Bistro, Belmont Hotel, Hight St Belmont**. Purchase of meals and drinks at own cost. Please ring Michael 0431 959 584 or Joan 0429 215 111 by **Sunday 8 October, if attending**.
- ◆ **ST VINCENT De PAUL 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.
- ◆ **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**
- ◆ **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 CATHOLICARE:** 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.
- ◆ **VINNIES:** Our Vinnies South Geelong Op Shop store is looking to welcome some new volunteers. We love seeing our volunteers enhance their skills and connect with our community. Free police check. We are very flexible regarding various days and times For more information, please ring Allison 0418 577 112 or email geelong.centre@sudp-vic.org.au

Reflection by Richard Leonard

Canadian theologian Bernard Lonergan had a major impact on philosophy and theology last century. Sometimes his language was so complex we had to buy a companion book to help us read the original work! Surprisingly, however, his most important insights were very simple and expressed in very simple language. One of them was that we regularly have 'ah-ha' moments, where we get an insight into God, the world or ourselves. These moments make sense of things we have previously only seen as problems.

Matthew's Gospel is filled with 'ah-ha' moments. Written for a generally Jewish audience it reflects on Jesus in light of the history of Israel, the Hebrew Scriptures and the expectations of the Messiah. Jesus was for Matthew's community, and is for us, the 'ah-ha' in world history. By Matthew reflecting on his life, death and resurrection, things he had previously only wondered about now made sense.

The phrase 'the stone rejected by the builders' originally referred to Israel. In Psalm 118 and, more generally, in the Book of Psalms, the trials and defeats of Israel are seen to be tests of strength, love and endurance. Despite everything Israel has gone through, the people continue to sing of God's fidelity to them and what marvels God has done before their eyes, making them into a more faith-filled people.

Matthew, however, reflects on what happened to Jesus at the hands of the Chief Priests, Scribes and Romans. In a great 'ah-ha' moment he sees that it is Jesus, not Israel, who is the stone rejected by the builders which has now become the key building block of a new edifice.

Doing exactly the same as Matthew does with this passage, we can apply it to our own lives as well. There are often facets of our personality or character of which we are ashamed or about which we despair. From gossip to greed, past hurts to anger, sexuality to broken relationships, we can often get discouraged at how un-together our Christian life is.

Even though we have worked hard to overcome our worst traits, we often think nothing good will ever come of them. In such a context we need to hear today's Gospel, 'The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.'

The parts of our character we most despise could be the most marvellous moments of amazing grace. Nothing is irredeemable to God; nothing has gone too far or become too entrenched. In the Christian life there is no room for shame, only for repentance and starting over. Looking at things we have thought of as only being problems provides us with the greatest potential for 'ah-ha' moments, where the healing and love of Christ enables us to turn our lives around, to demolish all the negative and defeatist self-talk in which we can indulge and rebuild ourselves with Christ, the master builder.

Once we get into the habit of doing this, it's amazing how many 'ah-ha' moments we have as our history ceases to be a problem to be overcome but turns into a challenge to be harnessed for the building up of the Kingdom of God on earth.

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Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The metaphor of the vineyard, cherished by both ancient Israel and the early Christians, suggests that while vines might be hardy, they are also vulnerable. So is the reign of God. It must be tended and protected from what might endanger it, so that it may produce abundant and delectable fruit. In the gospel account, the vine does indeed produce an abundant crop. In fact, it is the very productivity of the vineyard that sets the stage for the treachery described. We can see ourselves in both uses of the vineyard metaphor. There are times when, regardless of what God seems to be doing for us, we simply rebel against God's plans. We stand in defiance. There are other times when we, who are disciples of Jesus, act as if the kingdom is ours. We might even marginalise or force out others with whom we do not agree, so that we have sole control.

When we consider the justice of God, it is important that we place it within the right context, lest we create a picture of God that is false and misleading. It is because of God's tender love for the vineyard that treachery cannot be tolerated. If we have produced unacceptable fruits, it is for our own good that God steps in and dismantles the structures that enabled us to produce bad fruit. It is appropriate that God would snatch the vineyard from our grasp and entrust it to one who will faithfully carry out God's plans.

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