



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-Thurs: 9am-5pm Fri: 9am-3.30pm
Email: bellpark@cam.org.au

Web Page Address:

www.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au
[www.facebook.com/michaelparish .st](https://www.facebook.com/michaelparish.st)

PARISH SECRETARY:

Bernadette Bilogrevic Email: bellpark@cam.org.au Phone 5278 1343

PASTORALWORKER:

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

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS:

Pedro Duque

ANNIVERSARIES:

Elsie Gillett; Bernard Tolan; Fred Tuddenham Snr; Nina Croce; David Grant

BAPTISMS:

Sylvie Garsed; Elyse Welsh

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Hugo Riedl; Daryl Squires; Harry Howard



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 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.

*SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
(Year B—11 February 2024)*

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people. Alleluia!

TODAY'S READINGS

1st: Lev 13:1-2, 44-46
2nd: 1 Cor 10:31—11:1
Gospel: Luke 7:16

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

1st: Gen:9:8-15
2nd: 1 Peter 3:18-22
Gospel: Mark 1:12-15

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.



Ashes to Easter Lenten Concert-Reflection

**St Michael's Parish invites you to an evening of
Lenten Concert-Reflection
with Peter Kearney.**

**Tuesday 27th February, 7.00pm at Holy Family Church, Bell Park.
Free admission.**

Peter Kearney is an Australian Catholic songwriter, singer and guitarist whose hymns and songs include 'Fill My House', 'The Beatitudes' and 'Where is Your Song, my Lord?' His 'Ashes to Easter' concert weaves songs and stories and reflections on Lenten themes and looks ahead to Holy Week and Easter. Mainly for adults though upper-primary and older students could also enjoy.

"A beautiful Lenten reflection...prayerful and spiritual...a worthwhile part of our Lenten journey"

To book your place, please contact the Parish office on 5278 1343 or email to: bellpark@cam.org.au.

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

LEGION OF MARY: The group meets after Mass every Tuesday at 10am. We meet in the St Michael's Parish Meeting room, next to Holy Family Church and we would love you to visit our meeting and see what we do. All are most welcome.

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

Liturgy at St Michael's:

◆ ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES—FEBRUARY 14

9.15am.... Holy Spirit Church (Whole school in attendance)

2.15pm.... Holy Family Church (Whole school in attendance)

7.00pm.... Holy Family Church



- ◆ **St Michael's Lenten Program** - An invitation goes out to those who would like to be involved in small group conversations on the Readings for Lent. **When: Thursday evenings during Lent at 7pm starting on 15 February** in the sun room at the Parish Community Centre, 147 Separation St, Bell Park. To be part of this, please contact the Parish Office on 5278 1343 or email bellpark@cam.org.au.
- ◆ **SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION:** This program is for children Gr3 or above who attend non-Catholic primary schools but are Catholic. The course will run over 4 Sunday morning sessions, from 8.45am—10am. Enrolments close on Mon 12 February. To enrol or enquire about the program, please contact the parish office on 5278 1343.
- ◆ **PROJECT COMPASSION 2024:** This year, Project Compassion showcases how we work with our local partners around the world to walk alongside communities as they strive to be the architects of their own development.

Your generosity is helping some of the world's most vulnerable people create a future full of hope for their families, communities and *for all future generations*. Project Compassion boxes are now available in the churches.

St Michael's News:

- ◆ **CUPPA & CHAT AT HOLY SPIRIT HALL:** The next catch is Sunday February 25 after the 11am Mass. All most welcome.
- ◆ **CUPPA & CHAT AT PARISH COMMUNITY CENTRE:** after the 9am Mass every Sunday. All most welcome.
- ◆ **PARISH OFFICE CHANGE OF HOURS ON FRIDAY:** Just a reminder, the Parish office now closes at 3.30pm on Friday.
- ◆ **ST MICHAEL'S PARISH SCHOOLS 2025 Enrolment Information**—St Patrick's School, West Geelong Ph: 5229 4412; Holy Spirit School, Manifold Heights Ph: 5229 8298; Holy Family School, Bell Park Ph: 5278 4634, from Feb 6—March 5, 2024. All new students welcomed. See each schools website for tour details and information.
- ◆ **VOLUNTEER GARDENER NEEDED:** To assist the Sisters of the Holy Angels with gardening and small maintenance jobs. If you can help out in any way, please contact the Sisters on 5277 3620.
- ◆ **NOTE OF THANKS:** St Michael's Parish Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society, would like to thank our Parishioners who so kindly and generously gave to our Jessie/Christmas Appeal. Your generous donations went to assist some 140 families throughout the Parish, to enhance their celebrations at Christmas.

We would also like to thank Jim & Maria Law and their family for their outstanding generosity in purchasing, co-ordinating and organising an amazing number of toys that were then distributed to the families that we assist.

Community News:

- ◆ **GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS CLUB:** You are warmly invited to join us for a social get-together for food and friends at our February dinner on Tuesday 13 February, 6.00pm at The Bistro, Belmont Hotel, cnr High St & Mt Pleasant Rd, Belmont. Cost: Purchase of meals and drinks at your own cost. If you wish to attend the dinner, *please phone or text Joan 0429 215 111 or Michael 0431 959 584*.
- ◆ **TAIZE PRAYER:** Santa Casa, Queenscliff. All welcome. **Save these dates for 2024: Saturday 17 February; 23 March; 19 May; 31 August; 5 October; 14 December.** 2.30pm-3.30pm followed by afternoon tea. For catering and seating purposes please **RSVP Sr Lizzie 0418 194 261 or via santacasa@ismapng.org.au**.
- ◆ **ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY:** Regional Council is seeking a skilled IT person to help record the important information pertaining to the various good works that we are engaged in. There is a template that is being designed to ensure that information is correctly inputted. For further information please call Martin P. Butler GRC President M 0418 572 967, mputler@bigpond.com.
- ◆ **NAZARETH PARISH—GROVEDALE, TORQUAY, ANGLESEA:** Are currently looking to employ a Liturgical & Sacramental Co-ordinator at Nazareth Parish encompassing Grovedale, Torquay and Anglesea. However the role can be separated. The position is approximately 10 hours per week and is located at St Therese Catholic Church, Torquay. For further information, including a Position Description, email the Parish office, grovedale@cam.org.au. Applications are to be sent to Fr Linh Tran at grovedale@cam.org.au and should include a cover letter together with a current resume. Closing date for applications is February 26 2024.
- ◆ **CLONARD COLLEGE OPEN DAYS 2024:** Will take place on Wednesday 13, Friday 15 and Friday 22 March 2024. Bookings are essential and can be made online at Clonard.vic.edu.au.

Project Compassion Sunday 10 & 11 February

Please take home a Project Compassion box to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **For All Future Generations.**



With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction. Project Compassion 2024 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come.

As St Pope John Paul II said, **“The future starts today, not tomorrow.”**

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes available from your parish, by visiting: caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.

Reflection by Richard Leonard:

Sometimes translators of the Bible get it wrong for all the best reasons. We are used to hearing in today's Gospel that Jesus was 'filled with pity' when he encountered the leper, but the Greek word Mark uses is more accurately translated 'anger', not 'pity'. With the exception of the cleansing of the temple in John's Gospel, generations of translators found it hard to imagine Jesus angry. Jesus' anger, however, provides a wonderful insight into him, and a strong challenge to us.

Anger tells us that something is wrong. It is an important and valuable emotion. Anger is value-neutral. It's what we do with it that defines its effect in our lives. Some of us sit on it and stew. Others gain energy from their anger to right the wrong.

People who had any type of skin disease in first century Palestine were called lepers. They were treated shamefully. They had to live outside the villages and towns, call out 'unclean, unclean' when they came near others, could never attend the temple and were considered cursed by God and so excluded from the Chosen People. No wonder Jesus was angry when he encountered a man with leprosy. Here he also confronts a social class system that robbed this man of his human dignity and religious laws that robbed him of hope.

There are two details in this story that are especially important. The man with leprosy feels comfortable enough to go straight up to Jesus, to put his case, and ask for healing. We are told that Jesus touched him. Social and religious laws were being broken in this encounter. But Jesus' healing of the man isn't just about challenging social laws and taboos. Jesus tells the man to fulfil his religious obligations so that he can attend the temple again and rejoin the community. Jesus was interested in converting all those he met to the higher laws of love and compassion.

We are challenged this Sunday to trust our anger. This is not only about fighting for our rights when we have been wronged, but more so, it's fighting for the dignity and rights of others. It can take many forms: taking the life of those yet to be born, or who are near natural death, fighting for future generations by calling for a just care of the earth. And it can be about standing up for those people in our home, parish, workplace, neighbourhood, country and world who are treated shamefully, excluded, derided, or declared unclean.

Why should we bother? Because this Sunday Christ comes to us, again, and declares that despite what we might think about ourselves, or what we have been told, there is nothing in us which cannot be healed or is beyond hope.

May this Eucharist give us the love and compassion of Christ to fight for others' dignity because of the dignity we have received from Him. May we trust our anger and pray that it be like that of Jesus, and so turn us into agents of change for a more just church and for a more just world.

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