



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

**Web Page Address:**

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

**PARISH SECRETARY:**

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

**PASTORALWORKER:**

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

## AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

**RECENT DEATHS:**

John O'Neill; Harry Howard; Anton Cikoratic

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

Rita Barbic; Lou Resciniti; John Duggan; Joan Booth;  
Velia Di Rocco (1 month since death)

**BAPTISMS:**

Archie Paliouras; Oliver Pino;

**PRAY FOR THE SICK:**

Hugo Riedl; Daryl Squires; Noella Duggan



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.

### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (Year B—3 March 2024)

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

**TODAY'S READINGS**

1st: Exodus 20:1-17  
2nd: 1 Cor 1:22-25  
Gospel: John 2:13-25

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**

1st: 2 Chron 36: 14-16, 19-23  
2nd: Ephes 2:4-19  
Gospel: John 3:14-21



**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.

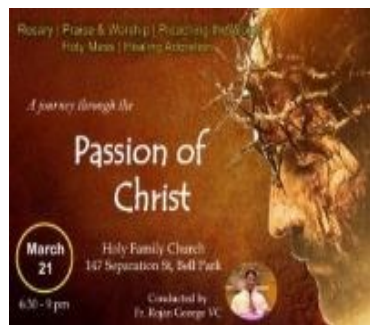
Encircle our families with your loving care. To the sick grant health, to the aged bring serenity and to those in sorrow, joy. May we grow stronger in faith and may our love for one another become deeper in our daily living. Amen.

**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.



## **A Journey through the Passion of Christ**

St Michael's Parish invites you to a profound Lenten exercise with Holy Mass and Healing Adoration reflecting on the Passion of Christ with Fr Rojan George VC.

Thursday, 21 March, 6.30pm at Holy Family Church, Bell Park. Free Admission.

Fr Rojan George is the Director of the Vincentian Retreat Centre in Melbourne. As a retreat master of the Vincentian congregation, he conducts parish retreats and travels to many parts of the world preaching and serving Healing Masses.

*"A prayerful and spiritual evening .... This lent, journey to the heart of Jesus."*

### **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

### **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 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**

C Simpson; B Kline

### **St Michael's News:**

- ◆ **CUPPA & CHAT AT HOLY SPIRIT HALL:** The next catch up is this Sunday March 3 after the 11am Mass. The catch ups to occur on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month. All most welcome.
- ◆ **CUPPA & CHAT AT PARISH COMMUNITY CENTRE:** After the 9am Mass every Sunday. All most welcome.
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **CWL** The next meeting of the Manifold branch of the CWL will be held on Wednesday March 6, at 1.30pm, Holy Spirit hall, Bostock Avenue Manifold Heights. All St Michael's parish ladies are most welcome. For transport please contact Tricia 0431 512 354 or Bernadette 0417 514 598.
- ◆ **HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP LUNCH:** To be held Monday 4 March 12.30pm at Pekish. Geelong Bowls Club, Ballarat Road. SEE YOU ALL THERE!
- ◆ **PARISH OFFICE CLOSED:** The Parish Office will be closed on Monday March 11 due to the Labour Day Public Holiday.

## Community News:

- ♦ **'KIWANAS GEELONG' Ladies sewing group:** Has a collection of children's clothing they wish to donate to Kuya Street Boys in Manila Philippines. Total weight of 10kgs plus Air freight in excess of \$100. We are looking for any Parishioners or someone you may know travelling there in the next month that may be prepared to take 'some' and or mail or deliver to Kuya. If you can assist contact David Lunn Ph: 0408 378 982.
- ♦ **TAIZE PRAYER:** Santa Casa, Queenscliff. All welcome. **Save these dates for 2024:** 23 March; 19 May; 31 August; 5 October; 14 December. 2.30pm-3.30pm followed by afternoon tea. **RSVP Sr Lizzie 0418 194 261 or via santacasa@ismapng.org.au.**
- ♦ **CLONARD COLLEGE OPEN DAYS 2024:** Will take place on Friday 22 March 2024. Bookings are essential and can be made online at Clonard.vic.edu.au.
- ♦ **CATHOLICCARE:** Volunteer Tutors are needed to assist newly arrived refugee students from years 9 to 10 at Northern Bay College, Monday afternoons during school term. The Refugee Homework Support Group provides Secondary College students with support to integrate into their school environment; develop their English language and study skills, while improving their interpersonal skills and social connectedness. Students are from Refugee, non English speaking backgrounds and tutors will assist the students to engage in bilingual language learning, homework & learning activities. This provides a rewarding volunteer experience within the Refugee settlement and education environments. For further details please phone Jaclyn Fraser (Volunteer Program Coordinator-CatholicCare Victoria) on 0499 001 022 or email: Jaclyn.fraser@catholiccarevic.org.au.
- ♦ **FAITH AND LIGHT GEELONG:** A Christian community for people with disabilities, their families and friends who meet together to share faith and friendship and to celebrate. You are invited to the next Gathering on Sat March 9, 1.30pm-4.00pm. Venue St Mary's Parish Offices', Hibernian Room (ground floor), 150 Yarra Street Geelong. Share your Lenten journey with the Gospel, Prayer & Activities and shared afternoon tea. Enquiries to Tricia O'Keefe 0414 672 267 or Kevin Mark Kevin@stmarysgeelong.com.au. International website www.faithandlight.org.
- ♦ **GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS CLUB:** You are warmly invited to join us for a social get-together for food and friends at our dinner for March. Tuesday 12 March 2024, 6pm at The Bistro, Belmont Hotel, cnr High St & Mt Pleasant Rd, Belmont. 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 by Friday 8 March.*

## We are an Easter people

You are warmly invited to share in our Holy Week Celebrations 2024

### THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - SECOND RITE

Tuesday March 26... 7.00pm Holy Family

### MASS OF ANOINTING

Wednesday March 27 ... 11.00am Holy Spirit, followed by lunch at the parish hall

### MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Holy Thursday March 28... 7.00pm Holy Spirit, followed by Adoration until 9.00pm

### WAY OF THE CROSS

Good Friday March 29... 10.00am Holy Family (Outdoors—school oval)

### CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION:

Good Friday March 29... 3.00pm Holy Family (includes Communion)

### EASTER VIGIL

Saturday March 30... 7.30pm Holy Family  
(TBC) Holy Family (Croatian)

### EASTER SUNDAY MASSES

Sunday March 31... 9.00am Holy Family  
11.00am Ss Peter & Paul's  
11.00am Holy Spirit  
(TBC) Holy Family (Croatian)

### BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD

Saturday March 30... 3.00pm Holy Family

**Holy Family**  
**Separation Street**  
**Bell Park**

**Ss Peter & Paul**  
**Malone Street**  
**Geelong West**

**Holy Spirit**  
**Bostock Avenue**  
**Manifold Heights**





## Project Compassion Sunday Weekend of 2-3 March - Leaia's Story. Samoa

Samoa may be a country surrounded by water, but access to clean drinking water is scarce in some areas, with many families facing extreme hardship as a result.

Leaia lives with her five children, husband, brother, and sister in-law on the island of Upolu in Samoa. Not having access to clean water for their daily lives has caused Leaia a lot of worry.

Their home is not connected to a piped water system, so they used to rely solely on rainwater collected in old fridges. When their water ran out, she had to walk with her young children to collect water in buckets and containers from a neighbour down the street.

With the support of Caritas Australia's local partner, Caritas Samoa, a water tank was installed at their home. She and her family now have a steady supply of clean drinking water at home. Next year, they will also have a toilet built, with the support of Caritas Samoa, which will further improve their health and living conditions.

"We are very thankful and grateful for the water tank. It has helped us so much and made our daily life easier," Leaia said.

You can help women like Leaia access clean water and look forward to a brighter future for her family by making a generous donation through Project Compassion boxes, visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

### Reflection by Richard Leonard

In recent years the Ten Commandments have become an unusual staging ground for various groups within the Church. Some people complain that young Catholics don't know them off by heart. This position is countered by those who say that rather than being able to recite them we should live them, though it's hard to see how we can do one without the other. Still, others rightly claim that Jesus summarised them in his new commandments, 'To love God with all our heart, mind and soul and to love our neighbour as we love ourselves.'

The problem with teaching the Ten Commandments is not what they say, but how they say it. The idea of 'coveting' anything, but especially 'wives, slaves, ox and ass' are all a bit dated these days.

In an article entitled 'Preaching to the Modern Pagans' journalist Bryan Appleyard tells how he interviewed a person who kept quoting them at length. Later he decided to read them for the first time since childhood and he was struck by their insightfulness into the human character. Appleyard thought all the Ten Commandments needed was a makeover so that we can reclaim the power of them.

'You shall have no other gods beside me.'

Be serious!

You shall not carve idols for yourselves ... nor bow down before them.'

Get real!

'You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God, in vain.'

Be humble!

'Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day ...'

Be quiet!

'Honour your father and your mother ...'

Respect age!

'You shall not kill.'

Do not kill, for all murder is suicide!

'You shall not commit adultery.'

Mean what you say!

'You shall not steal.'

Do not steal, or all the world will die!

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.'

Honour others, their frailties are usually your own!

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house or wife ...'

Be kind, be generous and don't play around!

So by putting some ancient words into the modern vernacular we are exhorted this Sunday to seriousness, facing reality, humility, creating space, respecting age, honesty, and fidelity, and we are bluntly told to stop killing and stealing. There is nothing old fashioned about these challenges. As in other instances, we can see that it's not what our tradition has to say but the way we say it that can be the problem.

And today's Gospel tells us of the consequences of moving away from these guiding principles. I think we need to take Jesus' anger very seriously. Rightly we have emphasised the love and compassion of Jesus over recent decades because for far too long the steadfast love of Christ was under-emphasised. We should never think, however, that it cancels out the anger God feels when he sees an unjust world filled with people who know better and do nothing.

God has given us the Ten Commandments, the Law, the Prophets and Jesus his Son, so that we might know the Way, the Truth and the Life. When we are called to account for how we spent our lives, whom we loved and how we made the world a better place for all, most of us will not be able to plead ignorance. May our Eucharist this Sunday enable us to be mindful of what the Ten Commandments say, but even more may it give us the courage and strength to live them out in a world that needs witnesses to them more than ever.