



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
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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:

Raymond Ibrahim

ANNIVERSARIES:

Marianna Mamone; Antonio Tassone; Hannah Barr; Maria Ivelja; Angela Zuclich; Giuseppa Pardo; Charlotte Henderson; Antonio Puglia; Members of the Ivelja & Tabain Families; Rocco Menchise (10 year anniversary).

BAPTISMS:

Jack Hogan; Grace & Patrick Kelly; Max Morgan; Olive & George Williamson

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Hugo Riedl; Daryl Squires; Noella Duggan



Anzac Day—April 25, 2024

'.....as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.....'

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Year B—21 April 2024)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made,
alleluia.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The stone rejected by the builders has become
the cornerstone.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!



TODAY'S READINGS

1st: Acts 4:8-12
2nd: 1 John 3:1-2
Gospel: John 10:11-18

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

1st: Acts 9:26-31
2nd: 1 John 3:18-24
Gospel: John 15:1-8

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.



St Michael's Parish Bell Park warmly invites you to a special

Mother's Day Mass—SUNDAY, MAY 12 | 9AM

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH, BELL PARK



Join us as we celebrate and give thanks to all mothers and mother – figures in our lives.
Family service lead by our children, followed by cake, pastries, tea/coffee and juice.

If you would like your child to be involved in the Mass,
please contact Anita Marinovic on 0405 070 536 or Parish office. Rehearsal after the 9am Mass.

For other Mother's Day Celebrations in the Parish, there will be pizza and drinks after the 5pm Mass at Ss Peter & Paul's Church on Saturday May 11 and a Special Morning Tea after the 11am Mass at Holy Spirit Church.

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.

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

(4th Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S—5.00PM

Commentators

Lectors P Balkin

Special Ministers

Welcomers

Projectionist B Middleton

Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY SPIRIT—11AM

T McMahon

J Fraatz

L Fossey

L Fossey

A Zarb

HOLY FAMILY 9.00AM

Commentators M Lukesic

Lectors F O'Neill; L Loney

Special Ministers D Lunn; C Simpson; V Resciniti

Welcomers: V Resciniti

Projectionist C Resciniti

Co-Ordinator C Simpson; B Kline



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.

St Michael's News:

- ◆ **50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CONGRATULATIONS:** To Pat & Murray Carson who celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary this Saturday, April 20. Pat & Murray were married at Ss Peter & Paul's Church on April 20, 1974. Congratulations to Marianna & Euguene Czulij who also celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary. We wish both couples many more anniversaries filled with continued happiness and good health.
- ◆ **FIRST EUCHARIST PROGRAM:** Today we welcome and pray for the children from the Parish Sacramental Group as they begin classes in preparation for their First Eucharist in June.
- ◆ **PARISH OFFICE CLOSED:** The Parish Office will be closed this coming Thursday April 25, due to the Anzac Day Public Holiday.
- ◆ **CUPPA & CHAT AT HOLY SPIRIT HALL:** After the 11am Mass this Sunday . All most welcome.
- ◆ **CUPPA & CHAT AT PARISH COMMUNITY CENTRE:** After the 9am Mass every Sunday. All most welcome.
- ◆ **ROSARY AT Ss PETER & PAUL'S CHURCH:** Beginning on May 4 and during the month of May, Rosary will be recited prior to the 5pm Mass at Ss Peter & Paul's Church beginning at 4.45pm. All most welcome.
- ◆ **MOTHER'S DAY - WEEKEND OF MAY 11 & MAY 12:** To celebrate and remember our Mothers & Women in our lives, there will be pizza and drinks provided after the 5pm Mass at Ss Peter & Paul's Church on Saturday evening and a Special Morning Tea after the 9am & 11am Masses.

Community News:

- ◆ **GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY 2024:** Today is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Pope Francis tells us: *There can be no greater joy than to risk one's life for the Lord! I would like to say this especially to you, the young. Do not be deaf to the Lord's call. If he calls you to follow this path, do not pull your oars into the boat, but trust him.* Let us pray for the young people in our community, and in our families and circle of friends. May our prayers help them to be open to the Lord's call to consecrated life or priesthood.
- ◆ **NEED TO DISPOSE OF A VEHICLE?:** If you need to dispose of a vehicle from a deceased estate or which is no longer required, could you consider gifting it to the "Lifeboat Foundation, a registered charity with tax deductible status, which for ten years has been providing pastoral and practical support to nearly 150 victims/survivors across Australia of church related sexual abuse. If you would like to explore the possibility of gifting a potentially suitable vehicle to "Lifeboat", contact Fr. Kevin Dillon (frkdillon@outlook.com.au or 0421 777 360) or Adam Kaali (adam-kaali@hotmail.com or 0411 486 605).
- ◆ **CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S SUDAN CRISIS APPEAL:** Please donate to Caritas Australia's Sudan Crisis Appeal. Sadly 25 million people including 14 million children are in dire need of humanitarian assistance. You can donate online www.caritas.org.au/sudan or phone 1800 024 413.
- ◆ **THE WORLD MISSION ROSARY:** Catholic Mission invites parishioners to join in online prayer to mark the traditional time for Marian devotions. During this virtual Rosary, we will reflect on the mysteries of the Rosary and offer our intentions for peace, healing and blessings for our parishes and the world.
This online gathering is open to everyone in the parish community. Catholic Mission will host the recitation of the Rosary every day (from Monday to Friday) at 2pm in May and invite you to join in. Join Zoom Meeting: <https://tinyurl.com/cmprayer>
Meeting ID: 893 8798 2280 Password: 876574
- ◆ **BOOK FAIR: St Bernard's Church Clairvaux School Hall, Reynolds Road Belmont.** To be held **Sunday 5 May, 8am—2pm**, Come along and browse through a huge selection of second-hand books- **Fiction, non-fiction & children's**, all at bargain prices. **Jigsaw puzzles, board games, DVD's & CDs & Scrumptious Scone Stall.** Something for everyone.

Reflection by Richard Leonard

Sometimes a piece of theatre can be so powerful it stays with you for your whole life. Many years ago I saw Jesuit dramatist Michael Moynahan perform his mime entitled 'Come-Passion'. It starts with a clown happily doing tricks and juggling for the audience. Soon, Jesus is led in by the soldiers and is crucified. The clown watches on in horror. When Jesus dies and the soldiers go home the clown remains at the foot of the cross. He removes the nails from the hands and feet of Jesus and cradles the corpse in his lap, as in Michelangelo's Pieta. He weeps for the evil that saw a just man crucified. Just then, the soldiers return and find the clown grieving over the body of Jesus. They crucify the clown. The clown suffers and dies on the cross. As they leave Jesus is raised to life, he sees the suffering clown, removes the nails, cradles him in his arms and holds him for what feels like an eternity.

When I saw this mime you could have heard a pin drop, and there wasn't a dry eye in the house.

The word compassion comes from the Latin word *compati* meaning to bear or suffer with. It's not pity, sympathy or commiseration. Those words imply that we stand outside an experience and feelingly look in on it. Compassion is about 'fellow-feeling'. It's what the Good Shepherd embodies, and what Easter is all about. If we are worthy followers of Jesus we will all have our fair share of Good Fridays, but Easter Sunday tells us that just as the Father remained faithful to Jesus, so Jesus will remain faithful to us, as one with us.

In recent years the bishops, who are often called shepherds of the local Church, have come under extraordinary scrutiny. And rightly so. All of us who are living the Christian life are accountable for what we have done and have failed to do, and the bishops are no exception. It's a tough time to be the local shepherd. The flock is highly educated and we no longer follow anyone's lead with a herd mentality. We want to know our shepherd, hear his compassionate voice call for justice for victims everywhere, but especially ones who have been injured in any way by the Church. We want to be confident that what our local shepherd says and does is what Christ the Good Shepherd would say and do. Over these past years our sense of dismay has come from a very few bishops who have chosen the so-called good name of the church, its social status and power, their public profile and even the threat of moral and financial liability over the voices of the most vulnerable members of our flock.

Today's Gospel reminds us what Christian leadership should look like. Jesus didn't liken it to princes in palaces or governors of provinces. His metaphor was of a compassionate shepherd who sleeps in the field with his flock, one who knows them so well and loves them so dearly that he lays down his own life for them.

Let's pray at this Eucharist that we always have the leaders we deserve, ones whose compassion is so transparent that it inspires us to be the same, even towards them.

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Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

This Sunday is traditionally known as Good Shepherd Sunday. Two major themes emerge from the readings: an image of the one who saves; and the power of salvation itself. The one who saves is not a mighty warrior who comes in military array. In fact, he is the one who was rejected, who was hunted down, humiliated, tortured and hung naked on a tree, there to die in shame. The one who saves is the cornerstone of the building, holding it together, forming a firm foundation so that the structure will not collapse. The one who saves is a lowly shepherd, entrusted with sheep, not with the affairs of state. The one who saves is an unlikely saviour. This characterisation should give us pause. Is it possible that we have been looking for a saviour in the wrong places?

God's saving power flows from steadfast covenant love. It broke open the world in the death and resurrection of Jesus and it overflows as healing grace. The saving power in the name of Jesus, a name that itself means 'saviour' (cf. Matt 1:21), is for all people, even for those sheep who do not yet belong to this fold. Furthermore, it is for all time; God's mercy endures forever. Through our baptism we can bring the saving grace of God to a world in desperate need of healing. We can do this in our families, in our local communities, in the workplace, in so many situations of our lives.

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A prayer for vocations

O God,
Who chose the apostles
to make disciples of all nations,
and who by Baptism and Confirmation
has called us to build up your Holy Church,
we implore you to choose from among us, your children,
many priests and religious who will love you
with their whole hearts and will gladly spend their lives
to make you better known and loved by all.
Through Christ our Lord,
Amen

