



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-3.30pm—Until July 19, 2024
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: Joso Galic; Thomas Bentley; Antonio Tortoreto
ANNIVERSARIES: Month mind Augustin Frlan; Miro Spaleta (2yrs)
Miro Spaleta; Tindaro Rao; Carmelo Montalto; Lucy Murphy; Hilda Smjith; Antoinetta Valentina.
BAPTISMS: Bear & Lottie O'Toole; Julia Carey
PRAY FOR THE SICK: Hugo Riedl; Noella Duggan; Eddie Echter



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, Fr Minh and the Parish Safeguarding Committee members 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.

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year B—14 July 2024)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we called.
Alleluia!

TODAY'S READINGS

1st: Amos 7:12-15
2nd Eph 1:3-14
Gospel: Mark 6:7-13

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

1st: Jer 23:1-6
2nd: Eph 2:13-18
Gospel: Mark 6:30-34



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 News:

- ◆ **CUPPA & CHAT AT PARISH COMMUNITY CENTRE:** After the 9am Mass **SUNDAY AND THURSDAY MORNING**. Everyone is most welcome.
- ◆ **PARISH OFFICE TEMPORARY CHANGE OF HOURS:** Monday June 24 until July 19. Monday—Friday 9am-3.30pm.



St Michael's Parish at Prayer

WEEKEND MASSES:

Holy Family, Bell Park: **Holy Spirit, Manifold Heights: Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West:**

English...9.00am Sunday 11am Sunday Saturday 5.00pm
Croatian 5.00pm Sunday

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. Please 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 C. Marshallsea
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 C Simpson; B Kline

Community News:

- ◆ **CARITAS AUSTRALIA —Catholic Earthcare Season of Creation Convocation (12-14 September 2024)** Please join us as we spend time together learning and sharing about how we can all care for creation. We will gather online during Thursday 12 and Friday 13 September to engage in keynote presentations, workshops, discussions and spiritual experiences. On Saturday 14 we encourage participants to attend one of 11 diocesan hubs to transform our learnings into action. If there is not a hub near you, we will continue online together. Attend for 1, 2 or all 3 days! Group discounts available. **For more information and to register, visit: www.caritas.org.au/soc-convocation Registrations close Monday 12 August 2024.**
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- ◆ **WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: Live Your Best Life in Love... A Marriage Encounter weekend is for you..** Every married couple deserves this very special weekend. Time-out to nurture your most precious relationship away from daily distractions. The two of you will come away from your weekend feeling more deeply connected and with tools to help keep the passion alive. No group sharing required. The weekend is based around Catholic values. Couples of all faiths are welcome. **Please check website for more details and to book your special weekend: next weekend is: 4-6 October 2024** at St Paul's Retreat Centre, Wantirna South. Starts Friday evening at 7pm and finished Sunday afternoon around 4.30pm. Info/Bookings: Phone **Mercy & James 0409 183 676** or Website: wwme.org.au Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au
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- ◆ **IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY MACKILLOP: Australian National Pilgrimage: 15-26 October 2024,** Come and join us on the official Pilgrimage created and led by the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart for the last 28 years. An all inclusive 12 day organised pilgrimage to sacred sites in VIC, SA, & NSW. **'Don't miss out'** Find out more Ph: **(02) 8912 4818** or Email: national.Pilgrimage@mmp.org.au or ww.marymackillopplace.org.au



Help us do a Stella job for seafarers—21 and 28 July

Catholics around Australia are being asked to reflect on and support seafarers over two Sea Sundays this year.

'without seafarers, we would not have most of the items we rely on for daily living,' Stella Maris chairman Ray Collins said.

'They work tirelessly to bring into our ports products that sustain us and our community.'

Stella Maris is the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church. In 1922, Pope Pius XI approved the first constitution of the movement, known as Apostleship of the Sea. Stella Maris now operates in over 300 ports across the world.

'People of the sea have always been important to the Church, from Christ gathering fishermen-disciples over 2000 years ago to chaplains and volunteers supporting merchant, passenger, fishing and other seafarers today,' said Bishop Promoter of Stella Maris, Tim Norton.

From very humble beginnings, with the support of the clergy and the St Vincent de Paul Society, Stella Maris now has centres in every state of Australia and in the Northern Territory but there is still work to do, including providing support for seafarers in all Australian ports.

Stella Maris supports seafarers in spiritual, social and material ways, including prayer, helping them contact their families and advocating in Australia and internationally for safe and fair working conditions.

Examples of this can be seen daily from transporting seafarers from the ships to Stella Maris centres, and providing accommodation and meals, to caring for those who are sick or injured and in times involving the death of a seafarer.

Donations to Stella Maris over \$2 are tax-deductible and can be made online.

Reflection by Richard Leonard

Many centuries ago the Pope decided that all the Jews had to leave Rome. Naturally there was an uproar from the Jewish community. So the Pope made a deal. He would have a religious debate with a member of the Jewish community. If the Jews won, they could stay. If the Pope won, the Jews had to leave. The Jews realised that they had no choice. Problem was that no one wanted to debate the Pope. The only volunteer was a poor, simple, old man named Moishe who opened the door to the synagogue each Friday night. Not being used to words Moishe asked for only one addition to the debate – that neither side be allowed to talk. The Pope agreed.

The day of the great debate came. Moishe and the Pope sat opposite each other. The Pope raised his hand and showed three fingers. Moishe looked back at him and raised one finger. The Pope waved his hand in a circle around his head. Moishe pointed to the ground where he sat. The Pope pulled out a wafer and a glass of wine. Moishe pulled out an apple. The Pope stood up and said, 'I give up. This man is too good. The Jews can stay.'

Later, the Pope explained what happened: 'I held up three fingers to represent the Trinity. He responded by holding up one finger to remind me that we believe in the same one God. Then I waved my hand around my head to show that God was all around us. He responded by pointing to the ground, showing that God was present right here. I pulled out the bread and wine to show that God has given us the Eucharist. He pulled out an apple to remind me of original sin. He had an answer for everything. What could I do?'

Meanwhile, Moishe explained to the Jewish scholars how he won the unwinnable debate. 'Well', said Moishe, 'First he said that the Jews had three days to get out of Rome. I told him that not one of us was leaving. Then he told me that this whole city would be cleared of Jews. I let him know that we were staying right here.' 'And then what clinched the debate?' asked the Rabbi. 'I don't know', said Moishe. 'It was strange. He took out his lunch, and I took out mine!'

Life always depends on how we read the signs!

In today's Gospel Jesus tells the twelve apostles that they should embody three signs: simplicity of lifestyle, dependence on others and hospitality. These instructions are such a contrast to what most of us value today, where it is often the rich and powerful, the independent and the inhospitable who are thought to be the best leaders.

For Jesus, however, the one truly sent in his name is the one who knows that another's worth comes from who they are, not what they have. It doesn't matter whether we're rich or poor. It's the way we use our money for others which reveals whether our wealth possesses us or not.

For Jesus, being 'a rock and an island' was not a sign of strength but one of fear and despair. A strong Christian is the one who rejoices in our dependence on each other, and is always grateful for the interconnectedness of life.

For Jesus, making room for others, especially toward those in legitimate need and even when it makes a large claim on us, is a pre-eminent sign of his Kingdom.

The Christian life is about reading the signs of the times. May our Eucharistic signs of his presence amongst us, the bread and wine, change us today, to match it with the best in being simple in lifestyle, happily dependent and extravagantly hospitable with our time, talent and energy for the sake of the Kingdom of God.

© Richard Leonard SJ

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

God chooses ordinary people and confers on them an extraordinary responsibility. Amos was a shepherd and a dresser of sycamores. Most of the apostles were fishermen. Paul was a tentmaker. Christians today are mechanics and clerks, teachers and engineers, doctors and housekeepers. These are all people following ordinary trades or professions, but what they do in them is truly remarkable. They touch minds and hearts and souls, and they heal them. They instruct and comfort people, and they help to drive out the demons that possess them. They participate in very ordinary ways in the extraordinary establishment of the reign of God.

Jesus inaugurated the reign of God on earth. He chose disciples and sent them out to continue the work that he had begun, to preach his gospel and, through healings and exorcisms, to conquer the forces of evil that threatened that reign. And now we have been called; in him we have been chosen, in all of our brokenness and vulnerability. The task to which we have been called is awe-inspiring; and every spiritual blessing in the heavens has been bestowed upon us so that we will be able to accomplish it. If we allow Christ's saving power to take possession of us, we too will further his prophetic ministry. We will bring the saving grace of God to the world that is terrified and that writhes in pain; we will bring it to those places where healing is needed and where demons still hold sway. We will bring all things under the headship of Christ.

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