



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: Maureen Millar; Ken Decker; Therese O'Loughlin; Ljubica Tomacic; Pantaleone Fusella.
ANNIVERSARIES: Harry Seales; Diane & James Horoba; Ursula Hangescy; Garry Dougherty; Angela Zulich; Peter Javni (Jnr); Isabel, Generosa, Silvestra, Gilacio & Cristito Ramirez; Anton Topic; Cosimo Mileto (15 years); Matilda Matjasic (20 years).
BAPTISMS: Luca & Scarlett Furolo
PRAY FOR THE SICK: Hugo Riedl; Noella Duggan; Eddie Echter; Fr Ray Zammit.



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.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year B—28 July 2024)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:
God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM:
The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:
Alleluia, alleluia!
A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.
Alleluia!

TODAY'S READINGS	NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
1st: 2 Kings 4:42-44	1st: Exod 16:2-4, 12-15
2nd Eph 4:1-6	2nd: Eph 4:17, 20-24
Gospel: John 6:1-15	Gospel: John 6:24-35

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.



World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly...

In the year of Prayer, this Sunday we celebrate World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. Pope Francis established the World Day in 2021 to take **place** on the fourth Sunday of July, near the liturgical feast of Sts. Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. Through this day, he aims to emphasise the importance of intergenerational solidarity and to remind us not to cast aside the elderly but to cherish and support them.

This year, the theme selected by the Pope is "Do not cast me off in my old age (cf: Psalm 71:9)".

Catholics can receive a plenary indulgence by participating in this celebration.

Pope Francis reassures the elderly that God never abandons His children.

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

(1st Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S - 5.00PM

Commentators M Carson

Lectors

Special Ministers E Carland

Welcomers

Projectionist B Middleton

Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM

C Nielson

M Kroger

M kroger

L Fossey

L Coles

HOLY FAMILY 9.00AM

Commentators J Siketa

Lectors M Bird, S Costa

Special Ministers E Karakchi; B Kline; Sr Concepta

Welcomers K McArthur


Projectionist C Resciniti

Co-Ordinator C Simpson; B Kline

Liturgy at St Michael's:

- ◆ **SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:** This program is for children Gr 6 and above who attend non-Catholic schools but are Catholic and have completed the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist. The course will run over 5 Sunday morning sessions from 8.45am-10am. Enrolments close on Mon Aug 5. To enrol or enquire about the program, please contact the parish office on 5278 1343.
- ◆ **FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION MASSES – THURS AUG 15:**
 - 9.15am Holy Family Church (Holy Family School students in attendance)
 - 12pm St Patrick's School
 - 2pm Holy Spirit Church (Holy Spirit School students in attendance)
 - 5.30pm Ss Peter & Paul's Church

St Michael's News:

- ◆ **CUPPA & CHAT AT PARISH COMMUNITY CENTRE:** After the 9am Mass **SUNDAY AND THURSDAY MORNING**. Everyone is most welcome.
- ◆ **HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP—Lunch**, at the **Great Western Hotel, Monday 5 August at 12.30pm.**  See you all there.
- ◆ **CWL:** The next meeting of the Manifold Branch of the CWL will be lunch on **Wed 7 August** at **The Yardz Hotel**, 77 Church Street, Geelong West, **12.30pm**. St Michael's Parish ladies are most welcome to join us. Please phone Bernadette 0417 514 598 to confirm attendance or for transportation.

Community News:

- ◆ **LEGION OF MARY:** You are invited to a Recollection, **MARY: THE DISCIPLE & APOSTLE** on **Saturday 3 Aug** at **St Francis Xavier Church**, 143 Bacchus Marsh Road, Corio. **9.15am Mass / Legion Prayers; 10.45am Talk (Fr Marcus Goulding); 11.45am Adoration / Confession; 1.00pm Shared Lunch** (Bring a plate to share). **All welcome.**
- ◆ **MINISTER OF THE WORD:** Nominations from parishes are now being accepted for the next online training program. Minister of the **Word** on 21 Aug. This engaging multi-week program includes weekly Zoom classes (held in the evening) and many enjoyable interactive elements of do-at-your-own-pace online learning (hosted on **Openlearning.com**) the program includes both practical training and necessary formation in history and theology relevant to the ministry. Participants independently observe and engage with their local community throughout the program, which culminates in a local training session. Further details can be found online at www.acu.edu.au/centreforliturgy/pastoral-training.
- ◆ **SEMINARY ENQUIRY DAY:** The annual Enquiry Day at Corpus Christi College is on **Saturday 10 Aug**. It is an opportunity for men to visit the seminary, hear from the Archbishop, students, and staff. An invitation is for you, to forward onto any young men (over 18) that might be interested. For catering purposes please RSVP by **Friday 2 Aug** to the Vocations Office at vocations@cam.org.au. For further enquiries, the Vocations Director, Fr Dishan Candappa would be pleased to assist you and can be contacted by email at vocations@cam.org.au.
- ◆ **ST MARY'S GEELONG PARISH FEAST DAY—THIS SUNDAY JULY 28, 2024** :11am onwards. Share your talent at the St Mary's Got Talent Show which begins at 2pm. You can call and register early—especially if you may need something to help you share your talent. Free BBQ sausage sizzle, gold coin donation for raffle, facepainting & Café Light and all donations received go toward the Parish Pantry. Everyone is welcome to enjoy this special day.
- ◆ **MISSION: Transform Lives—theirs...and yours:** Have you been considering whether an overseas professional placement with Palms is for you? Want to share your skills with communities in the Pacific, Asia or Africa to help develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty? Join our Palms' **Discovery Webinar** online Thursday 15 August. Meet Carolyn, currently in Timor Leste, and former Palms participants to find out more about **Assignments Aboard**. **Venue:** Online via Zoom—register at palms.org.au/event/discovery-online/ **Thursday 15 August 7.30-8.30pm** Ph (02) 9560 5333 palms@palms.org.au
- ◆ **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 www.marymackillopplace.org.au
- ◆ **LIVING OUT LOUD CHOIR EVENT Sun 11 Aug, 2.30-4.30pm.** Living Out Loud Choir have been bringing their infectious style of music to Melbourne audiences for over 20years. You are invited to a special workshop/concert featuring this talented Choir, to be held at the **Queenscliff Uniting Church**, 85 Hesse Street, Queenscliff. This event is hosted by Combined Refugee Action Group and Queenscliff Rural Australians for Refugees (QRAR). Tickets \$30 For bookings **Living Out Loud Choir Event Tickets, Queenscliff Uniting Church, Queenscliff | TryBooking Australia**

Reflection by Richard Leonard:



Recently I was invited to a relative's home for dinner. This family has been having more than a little trouble with their 13-year-old daughter, who is going through a particularly defiant and rebellious stage. The young girl was not happy with the vegetables her mother served at dinner and so she refused to eat them. The uneaten vegetables became the staging ground for an adolescent conflict. Trying to coax the girl into eating, her mother calmly used some lines I'd heard before. 'Wasting food is a sin' and 'There are starving people in the world who would be grateful for what you don't want'. With that the girl jumped up and left the dining room. A few minutes later she returned with an oversized envelope and a marker pen. She began to stuff the food into the envelope and as she did she angrily asked, 'What starving people do you want me to send these vegetables to?' Who said being a parent was easy? Celibacy had never looked better!

In today's Gospel, after the 5,000 have been fed, Jesus says, 'Gather the pieces together that are left over. Let nothing be wasted'. Some of us have never truly been hungry, so it can be hard to fully appreciate how wasteful our developed world must appear to those who watch their families die of starvation. People who lived through the Depression or have lived through wars often carry the scars of being hungry. To this day some of them are on guard against waste. Others try to numb the memory of want by overindulging. For most of us in the developed world, especially 13-year-old middle-class kids, hunger has only ever been fleeting, and we are presently eating ourselves into obesity.

Some people would prefer to think of the story of the feeding of the five thousand exclusively in spiritual terms. There is no question that today's Gospel refers to the Eucharist where all are spiritually nourished by Christ our host. It also refers to the eternal banquet where hunger will be no more. But this Gospel asks us to look at our world through the eyes of Christ's kingdom where the mighty will be cast down from their thrones, the poor will be raised up, and the rich who will not share will be sent **away**.

There is such a thing as healthy guilt. It's where we become aware of what we have done or failed to do to bring about Christ's Kingdom in our world. Given that it is entirely unnecessary for 29,000 people, on average, to die each day because of lack of food and water and the diseases this brings, guilt on our part seems a reasonable response. It becomes a healthy moment in our lives when we decide to change our priorities, and call for similar changes in a nation's priorities which spends more on bombs than starving babies.

I often wonder what God thinks when he hears wealthy nations say that the reason they refuse to share more with the poor is because these poorer nations often have unelected despots who divert their country's wealth into Swiss bank accounts or nuclear and conventional weaponry programmes. Even in the face of these complex issues we could find a way to feed the hungry who might, one day, be empowered to take charge of their nations.

'What starving people do you want me to send these vegetables to?', the 13 year old asked. To which I wanted to reply, 'Put your own name on the envelope because your own comfort makes you the neediest person in the world'.

May this Eucharist enable us to do on earth what is done in heaven, where the hungry are welcomed and fed, the leftovers are gathered together and nothing is wasted.

© Richard Leonard SJ

Reflection by Dianne Bergant :

Today we are reminded of God's providence. We live in a world that feeds us and shelters us and supplies us with everything that we need to grow and to thrive, and all of this comes to us from the hand of God. It is usually when we are in desperate straits that we become painfully conscious of our dependence on God, but this dependence is always there. God does not merely intervene when we are helpless; God's providence operates in our lives at all times.

Living in a society that promotes individualism, we sometimes undervalue the communal dimension of life. God certainly cares passionately for each of us (not even a sparrow falls without God knowing it), but God's concern is for the whole people. We are first and foremost members of a people. We would never have seen the light of day, we would not endure or develop, without others. As unique as we may be, we are a unique expression of a communal reality. God created a race; God formed a people; Jesus died for the world. By the grace of God, we belong to the community.

As members of the people of God, we are called to a way of life that is noble, not selfish. We are to live with each other in humility and gentleness, with patience. We are to bear with one another in love. Through baptism we all live by the same Spirit of Jesus; we are all united through the bond of God's love. The bread that we receive from the hand of God is the bread of full life, life in all its dimensions, life in Christ.

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