



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: Pasqualina Traficante; Maria Mikan; Milka Serdarovic; Kata Cucevic
ANNIVERSARIES: Miroslav Macarol; Caterina & Salvatore Giacomazzo; Vincenzo Cammarere;
Antonio Tortoreto (1 month since death); Carmela Cammarere (9 months since death)
BAPTISMS: Simon Mills; Lenny Ortiz
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.

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year B—11 August 2024)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord;
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.
Alleluia!

TODAY'S READINGS

1st: 1 Kings 19:4-8
2nd Eph 4: 30 - 5:2
Gospel: John 6: 41-51

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

1st: Prov 9:1-6
2nd: Eph: 5:15-20
Gospel: John 5:51-58



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.

FEAST OF ST MARY OF THE CROSS - 8 AUGUST

Mary MacKillop was born in Melbourne in 1842. Died in Sydney on this day in 1909.

Took the religious name Mary of the Cross.

Responding to the isolation of colonial families, she pioneered a new form of religious life to provide education for their children. She and her sisters shared the life of the poor and the itinerant, offering special care to destitute women and children.

Remembered for her eagerness to discover God's will in all things, for her charity in the face of calumny, and for her abiding trust in God's providence.

Australia's patron saint.



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's C Simpson; B Kline

2024 Archbishop's Campaign:



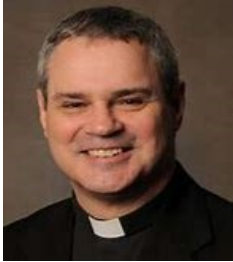
CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE
OF MELBOURNE

The 2024 Archbishop's Campaign is now underway, and we ask everyone to consider a pledge to support the vital ministries of our Archdiocese. These ministries are outlined in the Campaign brochure which you will find in your pew and in the foyer today. Gifts of \$2 or more are tax-deductible. Tax-deductible donations go to the Archbishop's Charitable Fund which supports the Corpus Christi College Building, the Priests Retirement Foundation, John Pierce Centre, Melbourne Overseas Mission, University of Divinity Building Fund as well as Catholic community agencies and service organisations through annual grants. Non-tax-deductible donations go to the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne Religious Projects Fund and support seminarian formation and evangelisation ministries. Please review the campaign material and prayerfully consider pledging a recurring monthly gift to help us continue to strengthen the Christian faith and address the needs of God's people.

Tear-off pledge cards are attached to the campaign envelopes in the church.

You can also make a gift online at melbournecatholic.org/archbishopscampaign or via the QR codes on the campaign materials.

I invite you to give generously to this important campaign.



Message from the Archbishop: Brothers and Sisters in Christ, as the first disciples responded to Jesus' invitation to "Come, follow me" and with him grow the early Church, so too are we called to continue this vital and life-giving work today.

To do this, we have this year streamlined our approach to fundraising by moving to just one annual campaign for the purposes of the Archdiocese. Your contribution to this campaign supports the vital ministries that serve all in our Archdiocese and helps build the community of faith in the future. Thank you for your generosity and support.

Yours in Christ - Most Rev Peter A Comensoli - Archbishop of Melbourne.

Liturgy at St Michael's:

- ◆ **SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:** Please keep in your prayers the children from the Parish Sacramental Program as they begin their lessons today in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- ◆ **FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION MASSES – THURSDAY 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.
- ◆ **ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY** would sincerely like to thank parishioners for their kind contributions to our recent winter appeal. A total of \$1700 was raised, which is greatly appreciated and will be very helpful this winter.
- ◆ **COMBINED PARISHES RAFFLE 2024:** Raffle Books for Kuya! Thank you to the parishioners who have taken raffle books so far and there are 50 books still available. If you would like to support the raffle and take a book to sell, please contact Bernadette at the Parish office on 5278 1343. Thank you from David Lunn.



Community News:

- ◆ **CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S WOMEN FOR THE WORLD APPEAL:** During the month of August we share our 'Women for the World Appeal'. To help support women to lift their families and communities out of poverty. Through your donations, you can create real change for women. Please donate online at www.caritas.org.au.
- ◆ **IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY MACKILLOP: Australian National Pilgrimage: 15-26 October 2024.** 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.**
- ◆ **NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK**—Please pray for our priests today in thanksgiving for their ministry and presence in our community. Please pray for the religious who do so much in pastoral care, education, health care and many other ministries. Pray also that the saints may inspire many vocations to consecrated life and priesthood, especially from our community.
- ◆ **GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS CLUB:** You are warmly invited to join us for a social get together for food and friendship. **13 August, 6pm, Great Western Hotel**, Shannon Avenue Geelong West. Purchase meals & drinks at your own cost. **RSVP: by 9 August to Michael Belleville Ph: 0431 959 584 Email: Michael.Belleville1970@outlook.com**

Reflection by Richard Leonard:

Around the world there are women's shelters run by the St Vincent de Paul Society called 'Manna House'. It's an inspired name for such an important work. Women and their children, in the midst of fear, and having suffered terrible abuse, are welcomed into a safe-haven where they can be loved and looked after. It's a temporary respite where broken families can piece their lives back together and be revived for the journey ahead.

What happens at 'Manna Houses' for women at risk happens for each of us when we come to the Eucharist. We receive manna from heaven. It's our stop on the journey of faith so that we can go out spiritually revived to be the face of Christ in the world. Sometimes we need this 'manna come down from heaven' when we are spiritually most at-risk.

I love the fact that as Catholics we believe that Christ is present in ordinary gifts of bread and wine blessed and offered at the Eucharist. We don't just believe that Christ is present in sunrises, sunsets and in natural beauty, we also believe that God comes to us in a special and unique way in the simple, ordinary things of life. And it is in what we do with these gifts of bread and wine that Christ is really present. The earliest Christians called the Eucharist 'the breaking of the bread'. It is the broken bread and the poured cup given into our hands to which we say 'Amen' and so affirm our belief that Christ is present here.

We often need to be reassured of Christ's presence when we are in the desert periods of our own life. We can feel we are wandering around in the wilderness looking for some sign of God's life. For all of us who are broken in mind, body or spirit, or who are pouring ourselves out in love for other people, communion is precisely the time Jesus meets us where we are. Is it any wonder that the Eucharist means so much to us? May we never feel as though we are not good enough to be here, for Jesus has invited us to his table where we are loved and cared for.

As important as the Eucharist is, however, it is not 'ours', in the sense that we can selfishly hold on to the gifts we receive here. We are given Christ in Word and Sacrament, so we can become Christ.

In a sense Jesus says the same thing in today's Gospel when he talks about how the Father draws people to faith.

Sometimes we can fall into the trap of thinking that faith is only an intellectual exercise. As important as good thinking and the power of strong arguments might be, the truth of faith is best demonstrated on an emotional and intuitive level when others see the power of God's saving love active in the way we live our lives. This is what really captures people's attention, and draws them to ask what gives our lives this quality, direction, purpose and meaning.

So may this respite from the journey of faith dispel our fears, revive us for the task ahead and enable us to live as though the only Bible others will read will be our lives, and the only Sacraments that will captivate them and draw them to Christ will be our justice and joy.

© Richard Leonard SJ

Reflection by Dianne Bergant :

There are times God seems to ask too much of us. We labour for others, but do not see the fruits of our labour. Our families take us for granted, and we are exploited at work. This is particularly trying when we only wanted to be of service to others, to help them wherever we could. What's the point of giving of oneself when it only seems to be futile? In this we are like Elijah.

There are other times when we are challenged to change our way of thinking and to accept what seems to make extraordinary demands on us. A new way of understanding church may call us to be open to the cultural diversity within the community. Or it might claim that we have a responsibility toward the poor and homeless in our midst. New biblical insights make us question our familiar understanding of God or of Jesus or of ourselves. In this we might be like the Jews who murmured against Jesus.

We want evidence to substantiate these radical new claims. But the evidence that Jesus offered could only be accepted in faith. And so it is with us. When we ask God for some kind of sign that will assure us that this new challenge is really what God wants, the answers received must themselves be accepted and understood in faith. The only assurance we have is rooted in faith, and those who are not open in faith will not understand. God does indeed ask a great deal from us.

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CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S —Support women to lift themselves, their families and communities out of poverty.

When Memory was growing up in Malawi, her family lived in extreme poverty—she often walked to school barefooted. A lot of girls from low-income families have no choice but to drop out of school, and the opportunity for vocational training is rare for women. These circumstances threaten a lifetime of poverty—so Memory feared for her future.

With the help of our partner, the Catholic Development Commission (CADECOM), generous people like YOU supported Memory with vocational training—helping her to create history becoming the first female carpenter from her village.

Other women and girls need the same support to lift themselves out of poverty—you can be a partner in compassion and make this a reality.

Donate: online at: www.caritas.org.au

