



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:

Luka Dula; Anthony Dunstan; Marko Ramic (Croatia).

ANNIVERSARIES:

Francesco Marafioti; Jozef Kot; Reg Doherty; Colleen Carroll; Francesco & Caterina Iannuzzi; Vincenzo, Elisabetta & Giuseppe Pitaro; Salvatore, Giuseppina & Antonio Rotiroti; Almor Mairros; Jose Medeiros; Madalena Ferraz & Family; Winnie & Mick O'Connell; Michael & Trent O'Connell; Danica & Jozo Grgic; Mario Marevic; Haberman family members.

BAPTISMS:

Jack Simunek

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Hugo Riedl; Noella Duggan; Fay Sullivan; Gayla Sullivan; Fr Prakash Cutinha



Congratulates to the Candidates from Holy Spirit School, who will be Confirmed next Thursday evening. The Holy Spirit gives Life to the People of God. "The Holy Spirit is the soul of the Church".....Pope Francis.



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 the children, the vulnerable....

A REMINDER: Children are to be supervised by their parent/ guardian at all times, and must also be accompanied to the toilet area by a parent or guardian!

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.

**THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
(Year B)—27 OCTOBER 2024**

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;
turn to the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death,
and brought us life through his gospel.
Alleluia!

TODAY'S READINGS

1st: Jeremiah 31:7-9
2nd: Hebrews 5:1-6
Gospel: Mark 10:46-52

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

1st: Deut 6:2-6
2nd: Hebrews 7:23-28
Gospel: Mark 12:28-34

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.

What is Alpha! explore life, faith, meaning

Dear friends,

At our sixth Alpha session on Monday we explored the theme “Why and how should I read the Bible?” We reflected on the Bible as the Word of God, offering us guidance, truth, and life. It points us toward eternal life, shaping how we live and love others. Participants shared their experiences of reading the Bible and discussed how it connects us personally to God’s voice. The Bible isn’t just a private journey but a communal one-strengthening our faith together as a parish. To love reading the Bible is to love God’s word, and through it, we deepen our love for others.

See you at the next session on **Monday 28 October** at 7pm..

For more info visit Alpha.org.au
or call Anita 0405 070 536 or Susanga 0433 786 787

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 P Balkin
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
H Phan

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



Advent Reflection featuring Maria Forde

**St Michael's parish invites you to an evening of Advent reflection with Maria Forde.
Thursday November 14, 7.00pm Holy Family Church Bell Park
Free admission.**

This is an unique opportunity to prepare to remember and celebrate
Jesus's birth and prayerful reflection.

Using music, ritual, scripture, and visuals, to reflect upon what Advent means to us
and how we can prepare for it.

Maria Forde is a Catholic educator, liturgist, spiritual director and performer and is currently an education officer
for the Sandhurst Catholic Education Office.

Taizé services at St. Michael's Parish, Holy Spirit Church Manifold Heights!

Taizé is known for its meditative style, with short, repetitive chants, quiet reflection, and scripture readings, all held in the peaceful glow of candlelight. The Blessed Sacrament will be placed on the altar, drawing us to encounter Christ's presence in a special way.

These services invite us to pause, reflect, and deepen our connection with God, both personally and as a community. We warmly invite everyone to join us for the next Taizé service on Thursday, November 21, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Come and rest in the presence of the Lord. All are welcome!



Annual Remembrance Masses: Next weekend, November 2 & 3 at all Masses, the focus will be "*Remembering and Praying for our Deceased Loved Ones*". As part of the Bereavement Mass there are notelets entitled "*In Loving Memory of*"... On the day of the Masses, your leaflets will be collected by the bereavement team and placed at the foot of the Altar on your behalf.

St Michael's News:

- ◆ **CWL:** At our Annual General Meeting we sadly decided we can no longer continue our Manifold Branch of the CWL as our membership has fallen and we are an ageing group and finding it hard to get a quorum at our meetings. We will however need to finalise the closing of the branch and are asking members to attend a meeting on Wednesday 6 Nov, 1.30pm at Holy Spirit Hall, Bostock Ave, Manifold Heights. Thank you. Bernadette 0417 514 598.
- ◆ **CUPPA & CHAT:** After the 9am Mass in the Parish Community Centre and after the 11am Mass this Sunday at Holy Spirit Hall.

Community News:

- ◆ **SACRED HEART COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION:** extend a warm invitation to anyone who is a past student of Sacred Heart College Geelong to come and celebrate our Centenary Tea Party on Sunday 10 Nov at Sacred Heart College Geelong. 11am Mass in the Sacred Heart College Chapel and 12noon—3pm Centenary Tea Party in Atrium. Tickets \$30. Please RSVP to Jo Welch on 5222 0464 or book online <https://www.trybooking.com/CSHTK>.
- ◆ **SVDP VOLUNTEER NEEDED:** St Vincent De Paul needs a volunteer to run their Food Pantry at 141 Fyans St Geelong. Food is distributed from this pantry to several SVDP Conferences. The current incumbent will be retiring at Christmas 2024 after several years in the job but is available to provide training for the position, prior to Christmas.

The position involves ordering, receiving, stacking and packing food parcels and would require the person to be available 2-3 part days per week. If anyone is interested please contact either Martin Butler on 0418572967 or Brian O'Kane on 52615200 or their local SVDP member.

- ◆ **AUSTRALIAN CHAMBER CHOIR:** ENCORES—Why wait for the encore to pull out the fun and fireworks? This program showcases the Afro-American spirituals, the fun a *cappella* arrangements and other favourites from the Australian Chamber Choir's encores collection including your best loved works by Mozart, Beethoven, Bruckner and Vaughan Williams. Music at the Basilica invites you to this concert at 5pm, Sunday 3 Nov at St Mary's Church. Tickets from www.Auschoir.org; children and school students free admission.
- ◆ **"GOD AND BEER"—EVENT IN THE WEST:** Knights of the Southern Cross Vic extends an invitation to parishioners to an upcoming formation program event tagged 'God and Beer West' on Thursday Nov 14, 6.30pm at the Hoppers Crossing club. To enquire or register, go to GodandBeer.com.au.
- ◆ **CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY AT UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL GEELONG—BARWON HEALTH:** St Mary's Parish provide for the services of a chaplain at the Geelong hospital as part of the Spiritual Care department. Our chaplain provides Spiritual Care by supporting patients and families through access to the Sacraments, Holy Communion, coordinating a priest to visit, and End of Life care. If you or someone you love is to be admitted to hospital, and would appreciate a visit and Spiritual Care from the chaplain, Peter can be contacted either on 4215 0627 or through St Mary's Parish office 5222 1977..



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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY—EVENTS IN THE PARISH OVER THE COMING MONTHS

Oct 31....	Confirmations in the Parish - Holy Spirit School
Nov 1.....	All Saints Day
Nov 2.....	All Souls Day
Nov 2-3...	Annual Bereavement Masses
Nov 14...	Maria Forde Advent Reflection - Holy Family Church 7pm
Nov 21...	Taize Prayer night - Holy Spirit Church; 7-8pm
Dec 1.....	Advent begins
Dec 12...	Taize Prayer night - Holy Spirit Church; 7-8pm
Dec 19....	St Michael's Parish Christmas Carols Evening
Dec 25....	Christmas Day

Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ:

One Monday, three priests, a Franciscan, a Dominican and a Jesuit were having a hard time on the golf course. The golfers in front of the priests were the slowest and worst they had ever seen. Golf balls were going everywhere. Against golfing etiquette, the group never asked the priests to 'play through'. By the 18th hole the priests were furious. At the clubhouse, just as they were going over to blast the group, they were told that the men were blind.

The Franciscan, moved with remorse at how they had spoken about the group, said to the Dominican and the Jesuit, 'I am going to say Mass every day that God may grant them a miracle and restore their sight'. The Dominican, equally filled with regret, told the Jesuit and the Franciscan that he was going to get the blind men an appointment with the best eye surgeon in town. The Jesuit, however, looked at the Franciscan and the Dominican and declared, 'I can't see why they don't play at night!'

To have any type of disability in first century Palestine not only meant financial hardship, but social segregation. Because Jesus' contemporaries did not understand the causes of disability and illness they assumed it was, to some degree, a curse sent by God in punishment for sins. They also thought the curse could be caught. So the blind, the lame, the crippled, the leper and the bleeder were desperately poor and socially outcast. Incredibly in our day, with all our supposed sophistication, some Christians have made similar statements about God cursing gay people with AIDS. Given the way Jesus acts toward those he encounters with illness, we know that God never sends disease as a curse for sin.

Bartimeus is, however, a desperate man and in the story he acts desperately, calling out until he is heard. And in one of the strangest questions in the Gospel, Jesus asks a blind man what it is he wants. Maybe Jesus wants Bartimeus to name his deepest desire. Maybe Jesus knows that it is, often, the unseen hurt that is the most diseased and needs healing first. Whatever of his motives, Jesus' question gives the man dignity.

American dramatist, Michael Moynahan, has written a moving play entitled *Bartimeus* which centres around that pivotal question, 'What do you want me to do for you?'. The action of the parable, as we have it in the Gospel, freezes when Jesus puts the question.

As Bartimeus considers his options, he hears the voices of those he might have to look at if he regains his sight. The poor remind him that, 'once before you could see and what you saw disgusted you'. The hungry ask, 'do you have the courage to experience and share my hunger?'. The elderly inquire whether he wants to see those 'put away because we remind you of the frailty of life'. The captives challenge him to see those 'unjustly bound and oppressed'. And finally the Self wants to know, 'Are you willing to look inside yourself to see your beauty and ugliness, darkness and light?'. It's a gripping scene.

It reminds us all that sight, and the insight that can come from what we see, bestows on us the dignity of having options and the responsibility to do something about what we behold. We are in the position of making choices about what we look at. Not everything in the world needs to be seen. There is enough violence and abuse of human dignity in real life to discourage us from seeking out most fictionalised portrayals of it. We cannot, however, let ourselves off the hook in regard to seeing the world as it is and doing something about creating a better vision of humanity for everyone, everywhere.

Michael Moynahan's play finishes, like the Gospel story, with Bartimeus requesting from Jesus the gift of sight. But in the play, in a powerful twist, as Bartimeus follows Jesus on the path, he stops, turns and sees the human faces behind the challenging voices. He goes back, embraces them and together they walk the Christian path.

In this Eucharist, then, the same question is put by Jesus to us, 'What do you want me to do for you?'. And if our answer is to have sight or insight, then let's also pray for the courage to shoulder the responsibility that comes with every gift.