



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
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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
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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: Joan Bellew; Anne Hernitz; John Ward
ANNIVERSARIES: Michael Rocky; Anna Menchise; Ivelja & Jurica Family members; Marie Gallagher; Hanne Badran; Raymond Ivrahim; Paul Fernandes
BAPTISMS: Isabelle Almond; Maeve, Delilah & William Conte; Leo Jones
PRAY FOR THE SICK: Hugo Riedl; Noella Duggan; Fay Sullivan; Gayla Sullivan; Fr Prakash Cutinha



SAINT MARTIN OF TOURS

Born in Pannonia (Hungary) about 316 A.D., died in 397 A.D. and was buried on this day in Tours (France). A catechumen who was in conscience unable to continue with military service. Baptised at the age of eighteen, for a time became a hermit, and then worked to establish monasticism in the West. Bishop of Tours for twenty-five years. One of the first non-martyrs to be venerated as a saint. Widely remembered for his legendary generosity to the poor for arguing against the persecution of heretics and especially for his active evangelisation and pastoral care of rural areas.



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.

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year B)—10 November 2024

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Let my prayer come into your presence.
Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Praise the Lord my soul!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs.
Alleluia!

TODAY'S READINGS

1st: 1 Kings 17:10-16
2nd: Hebrews 9:24-28
Gospel: Mark 12: 38-44

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

1st: Daniel 12:1-3
2nd: Hebrews 10:11-14, 18
Gospel: Mark 13:24-32

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.

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.



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!



St Michael's News:

- ◆ **THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES:** There is a letter/set of envelopes for all contributors (including credit card etc) in all churches. They are in order alphabetically by **Surname**. If your pledge information on your receipt needs to be updated, please contact the Parish Office, on 5278 1343 or email: bellpark@cam.org.au. Please take a pink sheet if you would like to start contributing to the Thanksgiving program. Thank you all for your continuing, regular support.
- ◆ **LITURGY MEETING:** The next Parish Liturgy Meeting is on Tuesday Nov 26, 4pm at the Parish Community Centre.
- ◆ **PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING:** The next PLT Meeting is on Wednesday Nov 27, 7pm at the Parish Community Centre.
- ◆ **BREAK OPEN THE WORD 2025:** Lectors, your copy of Break Open The Word 2025 is now available from the sacristy where you are rostered at.
- ◆ **AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS - SUMMER 2024:** In this edition, the focus centres on Catholicism and world religions—Understanding our and others' faiths. Please take a free copy, now available at all churches and the parish office.
- ◆ **CUPPA & CHAT:** After the 9am Mass and every Thursday after the 9.15am daily Mass in the Parish Community Centre.
- ◆ **COLUMBAN CALENDARS:** Now on sale for \$10 from all churches and the parish office
- ◆ **OPPORTUNITY—HAIR CUT:** Every Thursday morning 10am at the Parish Community Centre. There is no charge for the service, an optional donation to the parish is greatly appreciated. In accordance with Parish Child Safeguarding requirements, all persons must be 18 years and over.

Community News:

- ◆ **ARCHDIOCESAN CELEBRATION:** Archbishop Peter A Comensoli invites representatives from our community to the Archdiocesan Celebration on **Sunday 24 November at St Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne, 11am Solemn Mass** and Commissioning of Parish and Community Representatives to return to their communities with joyful proclamation of the upcoming Year of Jubilee. **12noon to 2pm** Festival in the Cathedral grounds launching ACYF with Food; Fun; Music. Embarking on a journey to the **Year of Jubilee 2025 Band counting down one year until the Australian Catholic Youth Festival Melbourne 2025**. Enquiries: proclaim@cam.org.au or (03) 9926 5761.
- ◆ **TORQUAY:** Signs of Hope - People of Faith Saturday 23rd November, 3.00-4.30pm St. Therese Church, 43A Surfcoast Highway, Torquay \$10 per person/ \$20 per family. Tea, coffee, biscuits provided at interval. Hosted by Nazareth Catholic Parish.
- ◆ **GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS CLUB:** You are warmly invited to join us for a social get-together for food and friends at our next dinner on Tuesday November 12, 6pm at the Great Western Hotel, "Western Room". Purchase of meals and drinks at your own cost. Please phone or text your attendance to Joan 0429 215 111 or Michael 0431 959 584.
- ◆ **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 today, 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>.
- ◆ **"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. 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..
- ◆ **2 X BEDROOM SHARE HOUSE:** Fully renovated, furnished, bills included \$310 per week for each room. Located in Corio, 2 mins to Corio Village, schools & transport nearby. Available mid December 2024 and preference to parishioners and friends. For more information, please contact Mary at Ace Property Share on (03) 8593 8240 or Jasmine 0440 120 627.





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

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

In today's Gospel Jesus lines up the religious leaders of his day and lets them have it with both barrels. It may come a surprise to learn that hypocrisy is the sin Jesus condemns most frequently in the Gospels. He could not bear it. And nor should we.

Being powerful and rich is not a problem in itself. As with all gifts, it is what we do with them that show us up for who we are. The problem with religious, political, social or even family power, and the wealth that can come from it, is that it is so seductive. The more powerful and rich we become, the more we can think everything is our due. We can take our eye off the Giver of all gifts and avoid our responsibility to share with those who are left with nothing.

In the second part of today's Gospel, Jesus does not praise the widow because she is poor. There is no nobility in poverty. Jesus praises her for being generous and he indicates how the poor teach the rich about what really matters in life.

This story teaches a similar lesson.

Centuries ago, the Pope decided that all the Jews had to leave Rome. Naturally there was a big 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 Jew won, the Jews could stay. If the Pope won, the Jews would leave.

The Jews realised that they had no choice. They looked around for a champion who could defend their faith, but no one volunteered. It was too risky. So they picked Moshe, an old, poor man. Moshe had nothing to lose so he agreed, but on one condition. Not being a learned man he asked that neither side be allowed to speak. The Pope agreed.

The day of the great debate came. Moshe and the Pope sat opposite each other for a full minute before the Pope raised his hand and showed three fingers. Moshe looked back at him and raised one finger. The Pope waved his fingers in a circle around his head. Moshe pointed to the ground where he sat. The Pope pulled out a wafer and a glass of wine. Moshe pulled out an apple.

The Pope stood up and said, 'I give up. This man is too good. The Jews can stay.'

An hour later, the cardinals were all around the Pope asking him what happened. The Pope said: 'First I held up three fingers to represent the Trinity. He responded by holding up one finger to remind me that there was one God common to both our faiths. Then I waved my finger around me to show him that God was all around us. He responded by pointing to the ground, showing that God was also right here with us. I pulled out the wine and the wafer to emphasise the Eucharist. He pulled out an apple to remind me of original sin. He had an answer for everything.'

Meanwhile, the Jewish community had crowded around Moshe, amazed that this old, poor man had done what all their scholars had insisted was impossible!

'What happened?' they asked. 'Well,' said Moshe, 'First, he said to me that the Jews had three days to get out of here. 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?' asked a woman. 'I don't know,' said Moshe. 'He took out his lunch and I took out mine.'

May this Eucharist, then, give us strength to avoid being seduced by power, riches and greed. May we use whatever gifts we receive to build up the entire human family and may we never stand condemned by Jesus for coming here each Sunday and saying one thing, and then leaving here and doing the very opposite.