



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

PARISH SECRETARY: Bernadette Bilogrevic Email: bellpark@cam.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: Stanko Kar
ANNIVERSARIES: Carmelo Napoli; Maria Rosa Marafioti; Bernard Tolan; Elsie Gillett; Matilda Matjasic; Ivan Matijevic; Rosina Virillo (Italy); Gina, Carmella, Maria, Massimo & Carlo Bisinella; Antonio Bisinella (40 Year anniversary) Franseco Pinto Ferreira (1 month since death)
BAPTISMS: Bobby Harris; Pia Spriggs; Alice Vasilj; Cooper Welsh
PRAY FOR THE SICK: Hugo Riedl; Noella Duggan; Fay Sullivan; Gayla Sullivan; Fr Prakash Cutinha; Kevin Hannan.



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.... If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the parish office on 5278 1343.

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.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year C) - 9 February 2025

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Come follow me, says the Lord,
and I will make you fishers of my people.
Alleluia!

TODAY'S READINGS

1st: Isaiah 6:1-8
2nd: 1 Cor 15:1-11
Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

1st: Jeremiah 17:5-8
2nd: 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20
Gospel: Luke 6-17, 20-26



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 PARISH incorporating the churches of Holy Family Bell Park, Ss Peter & Paul Geelong West and Holy Spirit Manifold Heights

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Feb 20... Taize Prayer night - Holy Spirit Church; 7-8pm
- Mar 5... Ash Wednesday
- Mar 9... 1st Sunday of Lent
- Mar 23.. 50th Anniversary Celebration - 50 Years since Blessing & Opening of Holy Family Church—9am Mass
- Apr 13... Palm Sunday
- Apr 14... Holy Week begins
- Apr 17... Holy Thursday
- Apr 18... Good Friday
- Apr 20... Easter Sunday
- Apr 25... Anzac Day

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: After Mass every Tuesday at 10am in the St Michael's Parish Meeting room, next to Holy Family Church.

Roster for next Sunday

(3rd Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S—5.00PM

Commentators C. Marshallsea
Lectors K Maddalena, S O'Shea
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
Projectionist C Resciniti
Co-Ordinators C Simpson; B Kline



HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY TO TERRY McMAHON - FEBRUARY 14.

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Terry McMahon on this momentous occasion, his 100th Birthday on Friday February 14. Have an amazing birthday celebration with your family and friends. May God Bless You always and may you celebrate many more birthdays.

St Michael's News:

- ◆ **SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION:** This program is for children Grade 3 or above, who attend non-Catholic primary schools and are Catholic. The course will run over 4 Sunday morning sessions from 8.45am-10am. Enrolments close on Mon Feb 17. For enrolments or to enquire about the program, please contact the parish office on 5278 1343.
- ◆ **CUPPA & CHAT:** After the 9am Mass and every Thursday after the 9.15am daily Mass in the Parish Community Centre. Cuppa & chat after the 11am Mass at Holy Spirit Church to begin on February 16.
- ◆ **LITURGY MEETING:** Thursday, February 20, 5pm at the Parish Community Centre
- ◆ **TAIZÉ SERVICES** at St. Michael's Parish, Holy Spirit Church Manifold Heights!
We warmly invite everyone to join us for the next Taizé service on Thursday, February 20, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Come and rest in the presence of the Lord. All are welcome!
- ◆ **CHILD SAFEGUARDING MEETING:** Friday, February 21, 2pm at the Parish Community Centre
- ◆ **CHILD SAFEGUARDING COMPLIANCE:** Thank you to our amazing volunteers at the parish, your time and efforts are always greatly appreciated. To adhere to the Archdiocese and Parish Safeguarding requirements, all volunteers must hold a current Working With Children check (WWC) and sign the Code of Conduct (due every three years for volunteers and annually for staff) as acknowledgment and acceptance. Bernadette to contact volunteers during the month of February whose WWC checks are close to expiry date and Code of Conduct requirements.

Community News:

- ◆ **GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS CLUB:** You are warmly invited to join us at a social get-together for food and friends at our February dinner. Tuesday 11 February 2025, 6.00pm at the Great Western Hotel, "Western Room" cnr Aberdeen St and Shannon Ave, Newtown. Purchase of meals and drinks at your own cost. If you wish to attend, please phone or text Joan 0429 215 111 or Michael 0431 959 584.
- ◆ **CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S GAZA CRISIS APPEAL:** We urgently need your support! The ceasefire means more aid can assist people in Gaza, but the need is immense and the recovery long. Gaza's people need the support of the global community to survive and rebuild. Please donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal. You can donate online www.caritas.org.au/gaza or Ph: 1800 024 413. 
- ◆ **ST JOSEPH'S PARISH—150TH ANNIVERSARY MASS:** You are invited to the... 150th Anniversary Mass on Sunday March 16, 11am at St Joseph's Church, 28 Lawler Street, Meredith followed by a fellowship lunch. The celebrant is Archbishop Peter Comensoli.
- ◆ **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY- MERCY EMPOWERMENT DINNER:** '*March forward with Mercy*'... Thursday 27 February 2025; 6pm to 9.30pm at McAuley Hall, Sacred Heart college Geelong (*entry via the Atrium, Aphrasia Street*). Tickets: \$60 (includes two course dinner and soft drinks). RSVP: Tickets must be purchased by Thursday 20 February for catering purposes. For any enquiries please contact Rita Chiavaroli 5221 4211. **Trybooking Link:** <https://www.trybooking.com/CXOQK>
- ◆ **PARISH PILGRIMAGE:** Meredith Parish invites you to join their 13 day parish pilgrimage to take place in October 2025. Following the war in the middle east, we were unable to travel to the Holy Land. Our intention is now to travel in the 'Footsteps of St. Paul' which will take us through the Greek Islands and to Ephesus in Turkey. Cost is approximately \$8,000 per person. Please email expressions of interest to parishofmeredith@bigpond.com.



PILGRIM TO THE JUBILEE OF HOPE: Melbourne to Rome, 21 July—5 August 2025. Young adults (18-30 y/o) from the Archdiocese of Melbourne are invited to a hope-filled Jubilee Pilgrimage in 2025. Deepen your faith as you journey through Italy, visiting places where saints like St Francis, St Clare, Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati lived the Gospel. The pilgrimage ends in Rome, walking through the Holy Doors of St Peter's Basilica to celebrate the Jubilee. The cost of the pilgrimage is approximately \$8990 per person. For enquiries and more details please email proclaim@cam.org.au or Ph: 9926 5761.

The Jubilee Prayer 2025:

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when,
with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

Reflection by Richard Leonard

Think about this for a minute!

It is time to elect a world leader, and yours is the deciding vote. Here are the facts about the three leading candidates:

Candidate A associates with crooked politicians, consults with astrologers, has had two mistresses, is severely disabled, chain smokes and drinks 8 to 10 martinis a day.

Candidate B was kicked out of office twice, slept until noon, used opium at university, is an undiagnosed manic-depressive and drinks a bottle of whiskey every day.

Candidate C is a decorated war hero, vegetarian, doesn't smoke or drink, except for an occasional beer and has never had an extra-marital affair. Who would you choose?

Candidate A is Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Candidate B is Winston Churchill.

Candidate C is Adolph Hitler.

Sometimes the best candidate on paper is the worst leader in reality. Thank goodness Jesus did not hire a management consultancy to help him recruit his earliest disciples. On paper Peter, James and John would not have got past expressing interest in the job. Jesus recognised, however, that they had the three things necessary for Christian leadership: faith, hope and love.

Not that they had it immediately. We know they constantly misunderstood Jesus and tried to steer in other ways. They made promises they did not keep and they abandoned Jesus when the going got tough. But they had the one thing that nearly all great leaders have in their formation: a mentor who knows they are not perfect, forgives their limitations, tells them the truth, brings them back to what they are actually on about and inspires them by what he says and how he lives.

Sometimes we think the Gospel always demands a very different lifestyle to the one we have, and sometimes it does, but today's Gospel should be taken seriously, not literally. Luke tells us that the disciples 'left everything and followed him'. We know that following Jesus did not demand of Peter, for example, that he abandon his family. And we also know that the disciples returned to their work of fishing a number of times in their life with Jesus.

Luke is telling us, then, that to follow Jesus is a radical option and that we have to divest ourselves of anything that stops us serving the kingdom of God. Conversely, it follows that we have to cultivate the very things that draw us on in the Christian life. For most of us the departures necessary in following Jesus are in our hearts.

Furthermore in this story, Luke is also telling us about the great number of converts attracted to the Christian life. We know that some of these were notorious sinners. No doubt the leaders of the early Church had anxieties about admitting them.

By relating the story of the sinful Peter being called by Jesus, Luke reassures the community that as long as anyone is able to leave behind the destructiveness of their previous life they can, with guidance, become a disciple of Jesus.

Luke teaches that it is not for us to condemn anyone caught up in the net of salvation: simply to trust in God's love and compassion that visits the sick and well alike.

May we pray in this Eucharist for the humility in the Church to accept that God can turn our judgments, laws, customs, protocols and management strategies upside down and sometimes bring forward, from the most unexpected quarters, leaders who show us new dimensions to God's power shining through our human weakness.

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Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA:

Today we consider the call to continue the mission of Jesus by engaging in some form of ministry. The first and the last readings are call narratives; the epistle contains a statement of the faith that undergirds our response to our call; the psalm response celebrates the gracious goodness of God that makes all of this possible.

Our call is more than a summons to faith; it is a call to ministry. Isaiah is called in order to be sent; the fishermen are called in order to gather others to Jesus. So it is with us. We are called to be sent out to the world. This call comes to us in the ordinariness of life. It will usually come to us as we wash our nets or our dishes, as we teach or raise children, as we prepare a brief for trial or examine a patient; as we repair cars or work at the computer. The call of God comes to us in the ordinariness of life.

We are called to proclaim the message of the resurrection by any and every means possible. Some, like Isaiah and the disciples of Jesus, will witness in open and dramatic ways. They will teach and preach; they will nurse the sick and care for the elderly. Others will witness in less conspicuous ways. They will insist on fair practices in their own workplaces; they will weed out expressions of prejudice and violence so that a new and just world can be fashioned for themselves and for their children. Called in the ordinariness of their lives, they will witness to the death and resurrection in that very ordinariness, thus transforming everything into extraordinariness.

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