



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: Maura Fulton (Ireland)



ANNIVERSARIES: Dominic Pellizzeri; Marija & Ivan Fantella; Arthur Allison; Raffaele Pietrapertosa;

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Hugo Riedl; Fay & Gayla Sullivan; Fr Prakash Cutinha; Lorraine McDonald; Joseph Akande



Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility!

St Michael's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and 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.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (Year C) - 30 March 2025

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:
Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

TODAY'S READINGS

1st: Joshua 5:9-12

2nd: 2 Cor 5: 17-21

Gospel: Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

1st Isaiah 43:16-21

2nd: Phil 3:8-14

Gospel: John 8: 1-11

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.



WE ARE AN EASTER PEOPLE

You are warmly invited to share in our Holy Week celebrations 2025

MASS OF ANOINTING:

Wednesday April 9... 11.00am Holy Spirit, followed by lunch at the Parish Hall

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - SECOND RITE:

Tuesday April 15... 7.00pm Holy Family

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER:

Holy Thursday April 17... 7.00pm Holy Spirit Church followed by Adoration until 9.00pm

WAY OF THE CROSS:

Good Friday April 18... 10.00am Holy Family (outdoors—School oval)

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION:

Good Friday April 18...
Includes Communion 3.00pm Holy Family

EASTER VIGIL:

Saturday April 19...
5.00pm Holy Family (Croatian)
7.30pm Holy Family

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES:

Sunday April 20...
9.00am Holy Family
10.00am Ss Peter & Paul's
11.00am Holy Spirit
5.00pm Holy Family (Croatian)

Blessing of Easter Food: Saturday April 19... 3.00pm Holy Family

Holy Family
Separation Street
Bell Park

Ss Peter & Paul
Malone Street
Geelong West

Holy Spirit
Bostock Avenue
Manifold Heights

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY

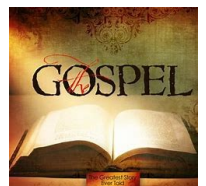
(1st Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S - 5.00PM

Commentators P McGlinchey
Lectors P Balkin
Special Ministers E Carland
Welcomers
Projectionist B Middleton
Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM

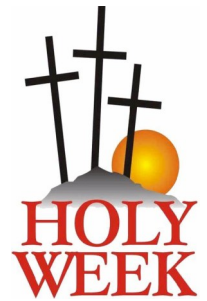
C Nielson
M Kroger
M Kroger
L Fossey
L Coles



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-Ordinators C Simpson; B Kline

HOLY WEEK 2025 ROSTERS



HOLY THURSDAY

Holy Spirit - 7.00pm	Commentator	M Carson
	Lectors	G Tolan, P McGlinchey
	Special Ministers	M Fiorillo
	Music	K Lynch
	Projectionist	H Phan

GOOD FRIDAY:

Holy Family - 3.00pm	Narrator	J McKenzie
	Lector	M Kroger
	Special Ministers	M Fiorillo, P McGlinchey, D Lunn
	Collectors	P McGlinchey, D Lunn, E Karakchi, ****
	Projectionist	C Resciniti

EASTER VIGIL:

Holy Family - 7.30pm	Commentator	M Carson
	Lectors	J McKenzie, M Kroger, M Bird, S Costa
	Special Ministers	M Fiorillo, M Giles, P Webb
	Collectors	****, ****, ****, ****
	Projectionist	C Resciniti

EASTER SUNDAY:

Holy Family - 9.00am	Commentator	C Simpson
	Lectors	T McMahon, H Verdnik
	Special Ministers	****, E Karakchi, P Ruggeri
	Projectionist	C Resciniti

Ss Peter & Paul's - 10.00am

Commentator	C Marshallsea
Lector	S O'Shea, ****
Special Ministers	P McGlinchey
Projectionist	B Middleton

Holy Spirit - 11.00am

Commentator	L Strzelecki
Lector	J McKenzie
Special Ministers	****
Projectionist	F Kearney

St Michael's news:

- ◆ **PROJECTIONIST NEEDED:** due to the end of daylight saving we need help with our projectionist team at St Peter & Paul's church for the 5pm Saturday Mass. We are happy to provide training. Anyone who can help please contact Bernadette Middleton 0417 514 598 or leave your name and contact details at the Parish Office.
- ◆ **JUBILEE 2025—PILGRIMAGE OF HOPE - DAY TRIP TO QUEENSCLIFF —22 May 2025** As part of 'Jubilee 2025 Pilgrimage of Hope', St Michael's Parish invites parishioners to join us on a day trip to Holy Trinity Church Queenscliff; Thursday May 22, leaving from the Parish office at 10am for an 11.00am start and return by 3.00pm. Lunch will be provided and shared with parishioners of Queenscliff Parish. Transport by bus, more information to follow.
- ◆ **STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** 2.30pm, every Friday during Lent at Holy Spirit Church followed by Adoration at 3pm.
- ◆ **CUPPA & CHAT:** After the 9am Mass and every Thursday after the 9.15am daily Mass in the Parish Community Centre. Next cuppa after the 11am Mass at Holy Spirit Church on Sunday April 6.
- ◆ **ANOINTING MASS LUNCH:** Lunch following the Anointing Mass on April 9, will be held in Holy Spirit Hall and everyone is most welcome. The St Michael's Woman's Group will provide sandwiches, tea and coffee, we ask those attending to bring a small plate of something sweet to share. Details Ph: Bernadette 0417 514 598.
- ◆ **HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP—Lunch Monday 7 April 12.30pm THE SPHINX', Thompson's Road, See you all there!**
- ◆ **PARISH OFFICE TEMPORARY CHANGE OF HOURS:** Monday April 7 until Thursday April 17 - 9am - 3pm.



Community News:

- ◆ **END OF DAY LIGHT SAVING:** Just a reminder, **next Sunday April 6** at 3am clocks go back an hour to 2am.
- ◆ **CDF COMMUNITY FUND:** Save with CDF Community Fund—it's in **everyone's best interest**. By opening a savings account or Term Investment, not only will you receive a competitive financial return, but your savings will also help build parishes, classrooms, hospital wings, aged care homes and social service facilities. With competitive interest rates available across a range of savings accounts, including **5.10%p.a. * on a 6 month Term Investment**, it's a way to save while doing good. To find out more, visit www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund/offer, or speak to us on 1800 134 135.
- ◆ **CATHOLICARE VICTORIA**—needs **VOLUNTEER TUTORS** to support Homework Clubs at schools for newly-arrived Year 7-12 students from refugee backgrounds. Apply now if you: Have good interpersonal skills and cross cultural communication; Have social & language development skills; Are a university student, retired teacher or have adequate knowledge of the topic of study. General Maths / English / Biology / Science / Humanities / Legal Studies / Business Management 12.40pm—1.30pm / 3.15pm—4.30pm during school terms; Mondays—Year 9 and 10 / Thursday—Years 7 and 12 Training sessions will be provided to tutors about the school curriculum and working with students who speak English as a second language. If you can help, please contact Sally Madigan - Manager, People and culture. Email: SALLY.MADIGAN@CATHOLICAREVIC.ORG.AU Mobile 0477 005 108.
- ◆ **AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL:** We have begun the year hope-filled and energised in our planning of the Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) and eagerly look forward to welcoming the young people of Australia to Melbourne this November, **Date: Sunday 30 November 9afternoon) and finish Tuesday 2 December (late evening)**. Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre, it is widely accessible via trams, trains (via Southern Cross Station or Flinders St Station; walking paths along the Southbank precinct. Registrations will open early May. Pricing will range from \$390-\$410pp. Contact www.acyf.org.au or acyf@cam.org.au or Ph: **03 7064 3995** during business hours.
- ◆ **MUSIC IN THE BASILICA** - Sunday March 30 - 5pm-5.30pm - Zinaida Campion (soprano), Music by Bellini, Verdi, Faure. Admission **FREE**. Join the artists for refreshments after presentation.
- ◆ **GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS CLUB:** You are warmly invited to join us for a social get-together of food and friends for our dinner in April. **Tuesday 8 April at 6pm. Great Western Hotel**, "Western Room" access from the bar, cnr Aberdeen Street & Shannon Avenue, Newtown. Purchase of meals and drinks at your own cost. If you wish to attend the dinner, please Ph or text Joan 0429 215 111. or Michael 0431 959 584 by Friday 4 April!

Fourth Sunday of Lent - Reflection



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

One of the most beautiful expressions in the Bible comes from the prophet Ezekiel (Ezk 11:19). *'Thus says the Lord, I will take their hearts of stone and give them hearts of flesh'*.



It is a call to be tender and compassionate.

You would need a heart of stone not to be affected by the stories we encounter today. Most of us have heard the story of the two sons in today's Gospel over and over. The brilliance of the way Jesus tells stories is that it still gets under our skin. Here are two young men who think they can live on their own terms. One demands his share of his father's estate which he then squanders. He is finally prepared to eat humble pie and find his way home. The other son, he believes that his hard work and reliability should provide him with a greater share of his father's love. At different times in our life, we can relate more to one or other of these people. Jesus implies that they are both blind to the way God's love works and that they both need to grow. They have both been dead and now must come to life.

The story we encounter this week is also deeply moving. Irene, aged 25, lives in the Kongolo region in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Her father was killed during a war and Irene lived with her mother on very meagre resources, often going hungry for extended periods of time. Irene first became pregnant as a teenager and later had to raise her two children on her own, with the support of her mother. As a single mother, it was challenging for Irene to care for her two sons without a stable income.

Irene's life changed after she participated in the Youth Capacity Strengthening program, run by Caritas Australia's partner, Caritas Kongolo. Through the program, she undertook training in sewing and livestock farming, enabling her to generate an income to support her family.

Our second reading today reminds us that we are **'ambassadors for Christ.'** St Paul says, 'for anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation.' Let us all be part of building that new creation, setting the world to rights as best we can. Our part is to reach out in compassion and love to heal the wounds of the whole human family. Let us all **Unite Against Poverty** as pilgrims of hope in this Year of Jubilee.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code. Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling: 1800 024 413.

Thank you for standing with us, as we Unite Against Poverty this Lent.