



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: Coral Aabling-Thomsen
ANNIVERSARIES: Peter Iskra; Maria & Manue Louro; Hanne Badran; Alojz Akmacic; Jozo & Mara Dzida; Vivian Dzida; Michael Hoffmann Jnr; Stefani Lehkamer; Raymond Ibrahim (1st anniversary).
BAPTISMS: Lulu Bovec; George Martin; Eleanor & Archer Davis; Molly Grozdanovski; Luca Podnar; Sage Symes
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.

"A BIG THANK YOU" To Rose Grgic and the team at Harcourts North Geelong Real Estate for designing and providing the amazing banners at each church to showcase the Holy Week & Easter Services 2025!

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (Year C) - 6 April 2025

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
With all your heart turn to me, for I am tender and compassionate.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

TODAY'S READINGS

1st: Isaiah 43:16-21
2nd: Phil 3:8-14
Gospel: John 8: 1-11

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

1st Isaiah 50:4-7
2nd: Phil 2:6-11
Gospel: Luke 22:14 - 23:56

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

(2nd Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S—5.00PM

Commentators M Carson
Lectors R Perera
Special Ministers P McGlinchey
Welcomers
Projectionist B Middleton
Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY SPIRIT—11AM

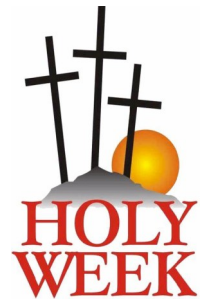
L Strzelecki
M Martin
L Fossey
L Fossey
R Martin

HOLY FAMILY

9.00AM

Commentator K Saunders
Lectors D Lunn, A Negro
Special Ministers J Genova, C Marcantonio; H Verdnik
Welcomers V O'Malley; S Jouana
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	C Simpson, 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	M Drake-Bemelmans
Projectionist	F Kearney

St Michael's news:

- ◆ **PLEASE NOTE:** The usual 9.15am daily Mass at Holy Spirit Church this Wednesday April 9, is cancelled due to the Anointing Mass at 11am on this day. Also, during Holy Week, the 9.15am daily Masses on April 17 at Holy Family Church & April 18 at Holy Spirit Church are cancelled and the 5pm weekend Mass on April 19 at Ss Peter & Paul's Church is also cancelled.
- ◆ **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 and please add your name to the sign-up boards, now in the three churches.
- ◆ **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 Easter Sunday April 20
- ◆ **ANOINTING MASS LUNCH:** Lunch following the Anointing Mass on Wednesday April 9, will be held in Holy Spirit Hall and everyone is most welcome. The St Michael's Women'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:

- ◆ **ST BERNARD'S CHURCH ANNUAL BOOK FAIR: Sunday 4 May Clairvaux School Hall, Reynolds Road. Belmont 8am –2pm.** Come along & browse the huge selection of **second-hand books**—fiction, non-fiction & children's—all at **bargain prices**. Plus: Jigsaw puzzles, DVDs & CDs. Plus a Cake Stall. Something for everyone.
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **CATHOLICCARE 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@CATHOLICCAREVIC.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 April 6 at 5pm-5.30pm - **Miranda Brockman (cello)** music by Carl Vine, Ernest Bloch, Michael Gonaventure. Admission **FREE**. Join the artists for refreshments after presentation. Also **EASTER CONCERT** at 5pm Sunday 13 April. The Windfire Choir & orchestra, conducted by Tom Healey will present a lovely program featuring Allegri 'Miserere Mei', Mozart's Laudate Dominum and 'Ave Verum'. Tickets from www.trybooking.com/CYIWR
- ◆ **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!



Fifth Sunday of Lent - Reflection

Pope Francis has spoken a great deal about our need for more women to occupy positions of leadership, both in the Church and in the world at large.



In his wonderful letter about the way we belong to each other, *Fratelli Tutti*, he says 'the organisation of societies worldwide is still far from reflecting clearly that women possess the same dignity and identical rights as men. We say one thing with words, but our decisions and reality tell another story.' he is concerned about 'those women who endure situations of exclusion, mistreatment and violence.'

Pope Francis very much reflects the attitude of Jesus whose closeness to women distinguished him as a leader and teacher in his time. You might think of significant encounters in the New Testament: the woman at the well, Martha & Mary, the widow of Nain. You might also think of the woman we met in today's Gospel, described by the scribes and Pharisees as 'caught in the very act of committing adultery.' Listen to the sneer in those words.

These men, who are supposed to be educated and respected, have been peeping through the window. Their behaviour is salacious, domineering and demeaning. In their self-righteousness, they threaten violence. There is no sign of the woman's partner who is surely just as much part of the story. Jesus neatly turns the tables.

He starts by sitting on the ground, occupying a position lower than that of the woman. He is the only one not taking an eyeful of her. Caritas Australia, whom we support through Project Compassion, has long acted in constructive ways to uphold the dignity of women and honour their strength, resilience and leadership. We have seen this during Lent, particularly in the stories of Irene from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Toefuata'iga from a school in Samoa. Please look at Caritas Australia's resources online; you will find many such stories. In so much of the world, development is led by women.

This Lent, we have also been mindful of the Year of Jubilee, a significant call to *Unite Against Poverty* as pilgrims of hope. Today's second reading reminds us that none of us is perfect. But like St Paul, we are still running, still trying to achieve 'the perfection that comes through faith in Christ.' this does not mean judging others as the scribes and Pharisees did. It means challenging ourselves to bring the world closer together as Jesus prayed 'may they all be one.'

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.