



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	Web Page Address:
OFFICE:	147 Separation St Bell Park 3215. Phone: 5278 1343	www.https://melbcatholic.org/bellpark
OFFICE HOURS:	Mon-Thurs: 9am-5pm & Fri: 9am-3pm Email: bellpark@cam.org.au	www.facebook.com/stmichaelparish
PARISH SECRETARY:	Bernadette Bilogrevic Email: bellpark@cam.org.au	Phone 5278 1343
PASTORAL WORKER:	Kanisha Tantanouvong Email: kanisha.tantan@cam.org.au	Phone 5278 1343
SCHOOL PRINCIPALS:	Holy Family, Peter Brunt, Separation St, Bell Park Holy Spirit, Rachel Holdsworth, Minerva Rd Manifold Hts, St Patrick's, Luke, Sheehan, Petrel St, Geelong West	Phone: 5278 4634 Phone 5229 8298 Phone 5229 4412

As a Community We Pray For:

RECENT DEATHS: Andrew Welsh; Vincenzo Nadile; Tony Doyle (Albury).

ANNIVERSARIES: Giuseppa Resciniti; Luigi Palmieri; Mirko Volarevic;

BAPTISMS: Mia Hohmann.

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Hugo Riedl; Denise Pollard; Stephen Dean; Davor Sikic; Gary Murphy; Ignacia Garcia; Gayla Sullivan; Gail Pollock; Brian Rainbow

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

- Children are special and will always be welcome in our Church -
 - All children have the right to express their views openly and honestly in all matters affecting them, and also, to respect other people's views -
- 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 whilst on church property, and must also be accompanied to the toilet area by a parent or guardian!

In the spirit of reconciliation, St Michael's Parish acknowledges the living culture of the Wathaurong People, the Traditional Owners and Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

11 OCTOBER 2026 - (Year A)
TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

If you O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand? But with you is found
forgiveness, O God of Israel.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart
that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.
Alleluia!

TODAY'S READINGS

1st: Isaiah 25:6-10
2nd: Phil 4:12-14, 19-2
Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

1st: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6
2nd: 1 Thess 1:1-5
Gospel: Matthew 22:15-21

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.

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 M Carson
Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY SPIRIT—11AM

J McKenzie
M Drake-Bemelmans
L Fossey
C Hullin

HOLY FAMILY 9.00AM

Commentators A Scaddan
Lectors H Verdnik; Sav Costa
Special Ministers M Fiorillo; M Perera; Sr Concepta
Welcomers
Projectionist C Resciniti
Co-Ordinator K Tantanouvong

St Michael's Parish at Prayer

Weekend Masses:

Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West:

Saturday 5.00pm

Holy Family, Bell Park:

English...9.00am Sunday
Croatian 11.30am Sunday

Holy Spirit, Manifold Hts:

11am 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 & 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, 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 in the Parish meeting room, next to Holy Family Church.

MELBOURNE SYNODAL

With the notion of "synodality", The late Pope Francis brought to synthesis many of the salient features of what Vatican II envisioned for renewing the church. "Participation" was at the heart of that renewal. This essay explores three dimensions of that participation. Firstly, in divine revelation, all the baptised are invited to participate in the very life of God; and, with the Holy Spirit's gift of faith (the loving response to God's revelatory outreach), comes a "participatory knowledge" of God, a "sense of the faith" (sensus fidei), which the Holy Spirit gives the faithful to guide their living of their faith. Secondly, the whole People of God (along with the hierarchy who serve it) are called to participate in the three basic aspects of ecclesial life and mission, the so-called "three offices of Christ" as prophet, priest, and king. Thirdly, the context within which that life and mission is lived is "the world". How the church most effectively lives out that mission is best achieved by listening to the Holy Spirit speaking through the People of God's "sensus fidei". Consequently, the starting point for a local theologian's reflection must be the sensus fidelium of their local church.

AMEN

EUCHARIST28 PRAYER



Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for the gift of your real presence in the sacramental of the Holy Eucharist.

Grant us the grace to receive you reverently, worship you truly and serve you with hearts renewed.

By the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen us, so that as you gave yourself to the Father and to us, we too may offer our lives to God and to others.

Inspire and help us to serve you in those who are in need, especially the defenseless and homeless, the lonely and lost. Unite us with your sacrifice of the Mass, so that we may truly become what we have received, the Body of Christ.

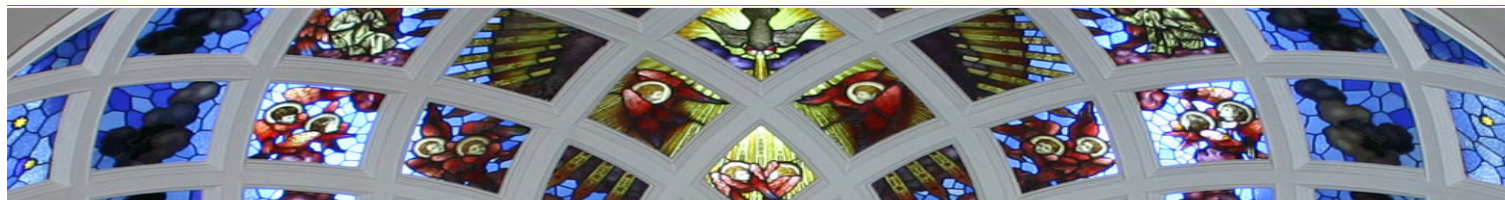
AMEN.

St Michael's News:

- **CONGRATULATIONS:** To the Candidates from St Patrick's school, Holy Family school, and the Parish Group who will be confirmed this coming week. The Holy Spirit gives Life to the People of God. "The Holy Spirit is the soul of the Church"...
- **PARISH WEBSITE UPDATE:** To access our newly updated parish website please go to: <https://melbcatholic.org/bellpark>
- **PARISH SYNODAL CONSULTATION SESSION:** We invite parishioners to participate in these important discussions, and we require at least **20 people** to be involved in the consultation with 2-3 facilitators to run the groups. John Lam from the Archdiocese will lead the session. **Venue:** Parish Community Centre, on Friday October 30, 5.30-7pm. For registrations, please contact the parish office on 5278 1343 or via the signup boards at all Masses.
- **TAIZE PRAYER SERVICE:** At St Michael's Parish, Holy Spirit Church Manifold Heights. We warmly invite everyone to join us for the next Taizé service on Thursday, Oct 22, 7-8.00pm. Come and rest in the presence of the Lord. All are welcome!
- **ROSARY at all weekend Masses:** During the month of October, the Rosary will be recited 20 minutes prior to the beginning of Mass in honour of 'Our Lady of Rosary'.
- **CUPPA & CHAT:** After the 9am Mass on **Sunday** and every **Thursday** after the 9.15am daily Mass in the Parish Community Centre. The next cuppa after the 11am Mass at Holy Spirit Church is on Sunday October 18. All most welcome!
- **CUPPA-CRAFT FRIENDSHIP GROUP:** BYO craft or just come along for a cuppa and chat. **2-4pm Tues**, on the following dates, **13 Oct, 27 Oct, 10 Nov & 24 Nov**. Contact **Debbie on 0409 416 945**.

Community News:

- **GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS CLUB:** You are warmly invited to join our social get-together for food and friendship at our dinner for October. If you wish to attend, please phone or text **Joan 0429 215 111 or Michael 0431 959 584 by Friday October 9, we need to know numbers please**. **Date:** Tuesday October 13, 6pm. **Venue:** Great Western Hotel, Cnr Aberdeen St. & Shannon Ave. Newtown.
- **GEELONG TERTIARY STUDENTS END OF YEAR MASS & DINNER:** Catholic university & TAFE students who live in the Geelong region are invited to celebrate the end of the academic year with Mass and Dinner on Sunday 1 November 2026. Mass will be at 5pm, Ss Peter & Paul's Catholic Church, Geelong. Family and friends are most welcome to attend Mass. Dinner will follow at Edge Bar & Restaurant Geelong. Attendance at the dinner is limited to students and partners. Booking for dinner is essential at www.trybooking.com/DQKKB. For more information, contact Fr Marcus Goulding corio@cam.org.au.
- **ST BERNARD'S FICTION BOOK CLEARANCE SALE** - Sun 18 Oct, 8am -12noon. Clairvaux School Hall, Reynolds Rd, Belmont
- **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA:** 17th Annual Windfire Music Festival, Geelong - Sun Oct 4, 3pm **LEGENDS, LOVERS AND LIEDER**. Fri Oct 9, 7.30pm **OTHER PLACES, OTHER TIMES**. Sat Oct 10, 3pm **SWEET AND LOW** The Vocal Consort of the Australian Boys Choral Institute. Sun Oct 11, 4pm **WATER OF LIFE: A musical voyage from Sky to Venice**. For details of concerts, dates, times and venues please visit www.musicatthebasilica.org.au or email us at music.basilica@bigpond.com
- **LIFEBOAT GEELONG FOUNDATION:** Can you help people who have suffered church-related abuse?
You could help this important work both by simply by bringing it to the attention of people who might consider donating a **motor vehicle, if possible in roadworthy or near-roadworthy condition** and which for whatever reason is no longer required, or contact: Fr. Kevin Dillon (0421 777 360 or frkdillon@outlook.com.au) or Damian Coyne (0400 170 374 or dkcoyne@hotmail.com) for more information.



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

Dates for the Diary—Events in the Parish over the coming months!

Oct 22....	Taize Prayer - Holy Spirit Church; 7-8pm
Oct 31&Nov 1	Annual Bereavement Masses
Nov 2.....	All Souls Day
Nov 3....	Melbourne Cup Luncheon—Holy Spirit Church Hall
Nov 19...	Taize Prayer night - Holy Spirit Church; 7-8pm
Nov 29.....	Advent begins
Dec 15...	2nd Rite Reconciliation—Holy Family Church; 7pm
Dec 17....	St Michael's Parish Christmas Carols Evening
Dec 25....	Christmas Day

Reflection by Richard Leonard

These days young couples ask for their children to be baptised for a variety of reasons. Initially, it's clear that for some, baptism is an elaborate naming ceremony, or the ritual preliminaries to having a 'we've had a baby party'. For others, while they don't quite know why they want baptism, they just know they do. And for some parents it's clear that they wish to pass on to their children the life of Christ that has nurtured them.

At the baptismal ceremony, I always begin by saying that for the first three centuries of the Church's history, this sacrament was celebrated at dawn on the Easter Vigil not only because the rising sun symbolised Christ's light dawning in our lives, but because baptism was always done in secret. For 300 years Christians who took the waters of baptism at dawn could be dead by lunchtime. For them, baptism was no social day out; it was a life and death commitment.

In the parable of the King's banquet, Jesus foreshadows the days when those whom one would expect to be Christian would reject the invitation to faith, and those thought least likely to respond to God's call would flock into the Church.

Since the earliest days of Christianity, the Wedding Banquet was seen as a metaphor for two things: the Eucharist and Eternal Life. Curiously, this parable, while using the imagery of the Banquet, is less concerned about the meal and more about who's in and who's out, and why!

We can see this through the tenants who turn down the opportunity to go to a Royal Wedding – still an almost unimaginable thing to do. It's seen in the poor who recognise the gift and the giver, get dressed up and have somewhere to go. And it's seen in the impostor who is not correctly dressed for the occasion and is speechless when called to account.

This last character is clearly the one in the earliest Christian community who has taken the waters of baptism, but was betraying St Matthew's persecuted community. When discovered, people like this guest were thrown out. In Matthew's time, impostors cost lives.

So what does all this have to say to our own time? It's not about how one dresses for Mass or for Eternal life! It's not about the fear of being found wanting in being able to mouth the right words when called to account. It is about being poor enough to recognise the gift of God in the invitation to faith and about being generous enough to respond completely. For taking care about what we say and do, the values by which we live our lives at home, at work, at play and in the way we relate to each other is how we show that we mean what we profess. It is also how others legitimately judge whether we are really genuine about our faith or just another impostor.

Like the earliest Christians, when we were baptised we were clothed in a white garment – a wedding robe. Like theirs, our baptismal day was no naming ceremony and no social day out. It was the day we were issued with a standing invitation to the feast of life in Christ where people act as they profess, and where frauds are spotted a mile away.