



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-3pm

Email: bellpark@cam.org.au

Web Page Address:

www.https://melbcatholic.org/bellpark
www.facebook.com/michaelparish.st

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

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:

ANNIVERSARIES:

Ivan Matijevic; Agnes Tuddenham; Erminio Perich; Maria De Angelis (1st Anniversary);
Milan Putnikovic (1st Anniversary); Ivan Lukesic (30 year Anniversary)

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Hugo Riedl; Denise Pollard; Fr Prakash Cutinha; Stephen Dean; Jacinta Fernando (Sri Lanka);
Davor Sikic; Gary Murphy; Ignacia Garcia; Gayla Sullivan; Gail Pollock

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.

27 SEPTEMBER 2026 - (Year A)
TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

TODAY'S READINGS

1st: Ezekiel 18:5-28

2nd: Phil: 2:1-11 or 2:1-5

Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

1st: Isaiah 5:1-7

2nd: Phil 4:6-9

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43

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.

A Message for the Feast of St Michael from Fr Minh:

Dear Parishioners, this weekend, with great joy, we celebrate the feast day of our patron saint, **St Michael the Archangel**.

This is a special time for all of us as a parish family to come together, give thanks to God, and celebrate the faith we share. Our parish is not simply a place where we come to Mass; it is a community where we pray together, support one another, share our joys and struggles, and walk together in faith.

As we celebrate, let us especially remember in our prayers those who have chosen St Michael as their patron saint, and all those who need God's protection, strength and peace at this time.

May St Michael continue to protect our parish, our families and each one of us, and help us to remain strong in faith and close to Jesus.

I wish you and your families a very happy, peaceful and joyful feast day. Thank you for being part of our St Michael's Parish family.

St Michael the Archangel, pray for us!

God bless you all,

Fr Minh Tran



ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY

(1st Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S -

5.00PM

Commentators

P McGlinchey

Lectors

P Balkin

Special Ministers

P Webb

Welcomers

Projectionist

M Carson

Co-Ordinator

M Gifford

HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM

C Nielson

M Kroger

M Kroger

L Fossey

A Zarb



HOLY FAMILY

9.00AM

Commentators

J Siketa

Lectors

M Bird, S Costa

Special Ministers

E Karakchi; B Kline; S Fernando

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.

ST MICHAEL'S FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS

We warmly invite all parishioners, families and friends to join us as we celebrate the **Feast of St Michael, our patron saint.**

After Mass today

Please join us for **light refreshments and fellowship.**

We look forward to celebrating this special feast day together as a parish community.

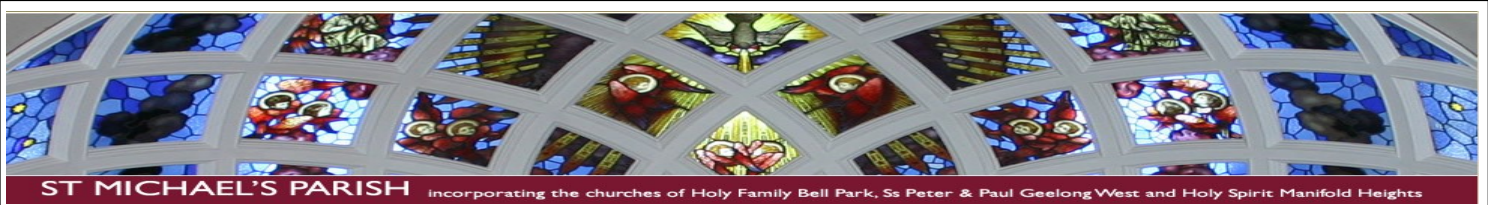
St. Michael, pray for us!

St Michael's News:

- ♦ **PARISH WEBSITE UPDATE:** To access our newly updated parish website please go to: <https://melbcatholic.org/bellpark>
- ♦ **DAY LIGHT SAVING:** Begins next Sunday October 4 at 2am. A reminder for clocks to go forward an hour
- ♦ **HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP:** You are warmly invited to join us for lunch on Monday 5 October at the Shell Club Purnell Road, Corio 12.30pm. All welcome.
- ♦ **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 4. 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.**
- ♦ **CIDLA CENTRAL SERVICES:** Is pleased to invite parishioners, community members, and family members to our final free digital literacy workshop for 2026, supported by a 'Good Things Foundation' grant.
Date: Friday October 9; 1pm at St Michael's Parish Community Centre, 147 Separation St. Bell Park. Details: An empowering, hands-on session designed to help you unlock digital confidence, navigate online services with ease, and feel completely secure using smartphones and computers in your everyday life.
- ♦ **MELBOURNE CUP LUNCHEON: Tuesday 3 Nov - Holy Spirit Church Hall, Manifold Heights.** So far interest has been slow and with just over 5 weeks to the day, we would love to hear from you. If you are planning to book a table or purchasing just the one ticket, we need to know by October 1. For this event to proceed, the aim is for at least 50 tickets sold and lots of helpers are required. Tickets are on sale now at a cost of \$25 which includes lunch. If you are interested in attending or helping on the day please call the Parish Office on 5278 1343.
- ♦ **HOLY SPIRIT PRIMARY SCHOOL - 'LEGACY PAVER PROJECT':** Our parish primary school is excited to be running a 'Legacy Paver Project' - a unique opportunity for parishioners, families, past students, staff and members of the wider community to purchase your own piece of Holy Spirit history. Each personalised paver will become a permanent part of the new entrance area at the front of the school, creating a welcoming and meaningful space that celebrates the people, families and connections that have shaped Holy Spirit over the years. For \$50 you can personalise a paver with your chosen wording and create a lasting connection to Holy Spirit Parish School for generations to come. Thank you for helping us celebrate and preserve the legacy of our wonderful community.
<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1619842>.

Community News:

- ♦ **FAITH AND LIGHT GEELONG:** Christian community for people with a disability, family and friends. All welcome to our next monthly Meeting Prayer, Music, Sharing time **Creation Theme: Water is life.** **Venue:** St Mary's Hibernian Hall, 150 Yarra Street, Geelong. Tuesday September 29 from 1.30pm—4.30pm. RSVP/Enquiries by 28 Sept to Tricia O'Keeffe 0414 672 267.
- ♦ **TAIZE-STYLE PRAYER:** You are warmly welcome to join us for Taize-style Prayer on **Saturday 3 October, at Santa Casa, Queenscliff 2.30pm—3.30pm.** Afternoon tea will follow. All are welcome. **RSVP Lizzie on 03 5258 2661 or email santacasa@ismapng.org.au** for seating and catering purposes.
- ♦ **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA: 17th Annual Windfire Music Festival, Geelong from 2 to 11 October.** There will be 6 concerts featuring some of our finest local and national musicians. The concerts range from classical choral music by the Australian Chamber Choir and The Vocal Consort (of the Australian Boys Choir), a flute, viola and harp trio, Opera star – Lee Abrahmsen, Axes saxophone quartet and the Evergreen Ensemble. During the week there will be 5 free short concerts with some unusual instruments. For details of concerts, dates, times and venues please visit www.musicatthebasilica.org.au or email us at music.basilica@bigpond.com
- ♦ **MULTICULTURAL SOCIAL SUPPORT GROUPS:** A variety of Social Support Groups for communities from different multicultural backgrounds for seniors over 65 years, at a small fee. Seniors who are under the Commonwealth Home Support Program can join with a referral code from My Aged Care. There are a variety of activities with interests in mind where everyone is most welcome. **Venue: White Eagle House, 46-48 Fellmongers Road, Breakwater. Fridays 10am-2.30pm.**



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

Sept 27.... St Michael's Parish Feast Day
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 SJ

A young priest was sent by his bishop to a parish that had a 'red light district' within its boundaries. On his first day in the parish a nun, who had worked in the area for many years, took him on a tour of her beat, the area where all the women-in-prostitution were plying their trade. As they went along Sister introduced the priest to her friends Bubbles, Ginger and Calamity Jane. 'Sister it's fantastic that you know these women so well', he said. 'Don't worry', replied Sister, 'you'll know them in no time as well, and they'll know you by name too.'

Seized by panic, the young priest had visions of the bishop, the parish priest or, worse still, his mother coming to visit and walking with him down the street as Bubbles, Ginger and Calamity Jane all wave and call out across the road, 'Hello Father'. Who would ever believe he only knew them pastorally?

'Truly I tell you that prostitutes and tax collectors are going ahead of you into the kingdom of God.'

The preaching of Jesus attracted all sorts of people who lived at the fringes of, or were oppressed by, Palestinian society. Jesus' message was especially attractive to them. Tensions among the huge variety of Jesus' disciples, between the rich and the poor, men and women, the Jews and Gentiles, the socially respectable and those with outrageous backgrounds continued after his death throughout the next decades, during which the Gospels were written.

It's hard for us to imagine what a diverse and scandalous group, in many respects, the first fathers and mothers of our faith were seen to be. Imagine, if you will, the fuss that would still be created if the local bishop was seen constantly dining with women in prostitution, drug dealers or known terrorists. People would be outraged, but the bishop would be doing nothing short of following Jesus' example. This situation gives us a little insight into how affronted the Chief Priests and Pharisees were by Jesus and, in turn, by his disciples' behaviour.

For Jesus there was never a lost case, or a person beyond help. He didn't just spend time with the poor and broken of his society, but offered them a new way of life, an opportunity to start again and redemption from their destructive behaviour. He went to where they were, as they were. And we do the same because this is precisely what God has done for us. God didn't wait for us to 'talk the talk' before we could 'walk his walk'. Jesus came to us when we were religiously dumb and immobile and showed us how to speak, what to say and where to walk.

The Christian walk and talk is meant to have a profound impact on our daily lives, our concerns, our priorities and compassion. So much so that if, over a period of time, what we celebrate here each Sunday makes no inroads into our family life and workplace, our professional life, our business practices and our relationships, then we should ask ourselves what we are doing here.

And, what's worse, we could even miss the ongoing revelation of Christ's presence in the poor, weak and vulnerable of our own society. We constantly look for Christ in the spectacular and the wonderful and he comes to us in the least of our brother and sisters.

May this Eucharist give us the strength to not only 'look good', but to 'be good', to start over if we need to, and do our best to live out the faith we profess. May it strengthen us to find the Lord where he is, and not keep looking in the places where we would prefer him to be.

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