



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.stmichaelsbellpark.org.au
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PARISH SECRETARY:

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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:

Mario Fiorillo (Italy)

ANNIVERSARIES:

Lorna Holsinger; Zlatko Lehpamer; Vjekoslav Pogacic; Iolanda Tortoreto;
 Bernie Stocks (1st Anniversary)

BAPTISMS:

Mila & Archie Davis

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Hugo Riedl; Fr Prakash Cutinha; Denise Pollard; Nhan Phan; Stephen Dean; Jacinta Fernando (Sri Lanka);
 Olimpia Louro (Portugal); Davor Sikic



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.

14 June 2026 - (Year A) ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you;
 be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me,
 O God, my Saviour!



RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The kingdom of God is near: repent and believe the Good News.
 Alleluia!

TODAY'S READINGS

1st: Exodus 19:2-6

2nd: Romans 5:6-11

Gospel: Matthew 9:36 – 10:8

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

1st: Jeremiah 20: 10-13

2nd: Romans 5:12-15

Gospel: Matthew 10:26-33

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.



ONE IN CHRIST UNITED IN MISSION

One Hundred Years of World Mission Sunday!

Thank you for your generous support of the Church in Malawi and the communities it serves.

Because of your kindness, children like Yamikani* will have greater access to education, nourishment, and the opportunity to build a hopeful future.

And if you chose to become a Mission Partner with a monthly gift - thank you so much for your ongoing commitment.

To learn more about the work of Catholic Mission in Malawi and around the world, please visit catholicmission.org.au/our-work.

Thank you again for your compassion, and please keep this impactful work in your prayers.

Freecall: 1800 257 296 catholicmission.org.au/united

*Name changed for privacy reasons.



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

M Garrido Lucay
M Drake-Bemelmans
M Drake-Bemelmans
L Fossey
C Hullin



HOLY FAMILY

9.00AM

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

St Michael's Parish at Prayer

WEEKEND MASSES:

HOLY FAMILY, BELL PARK:

English...9.00am Sunday

Croatian 11.30am Sunday

HOLY SPIRIT, MANIFOLD HTS:

11am Sunday

SS PETER & PAUL'S, GEELONG WEST:

Saturday 5.00pm

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.





Youth Fundraising Events:

Our youth are preparing to attend World Youth Day 2027 in South Korea, and will be leading fundraising initiatives in the coming months. We would greatly appreciate your support and kindly ask parishioners to contribute with cash where possible.

Thank you for your generosity!

June 28—Bake sale

July 26—Raffle

August 30—Face painting/balloon animal making

September 27—Live music



St Michael's News:

- ♦ **CHILD SAFEGUARDING MEETING:** Our next child safeguarding meeting is on Friday June 19, 11am at the Parish office.
- ♦ **FREE DIGITAL LITERACY & ONLINE SAFETY TRAINING FOR 55+ YEARS:** Session 3 of our training is on **Friday June 19, 1pm at the Parish Community Centre**. The focus of this training session is on Understanding Social Media and Algorithms. The guest presenter is Nicolas Ketterer - Master of Artificial Intelligence. All most 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 next Sunday June 21. All most welcome!

Community News:

- ♦ **GEELONG POLISH COMMUNITY:** Is celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Migration of Poles to Geelong with a special dinner and captivating photo exhibition showcasing the lives, stories and contributions of Polish migrants in our local community. All are most welcome. Saturday June 20, 6pm at White Eagle House, 46-48 Fellmongers Rd, Breakwater. Tickets can be purchased via trybooking <https://www.trybooking.com/DLYOB> or at White Eagle House, reception@whiteeaglehouse.com.au.
- ♦ **LIFEBOAT GEELONG - CAN YOU HELP VICTIMS OF CHURCH - RELATED ABUSE? - A MESSAGE FROM FR KEVIN DILLON:**
'For fourteen years, generous supporters have donated a number of motor vehicles of varied value (from \$500 to \$20,000), including cars from deceased estates or which are no longer required. Some have been directly gifted to a victim/survivor in need, while others have been sold to generate funds required to assist victims in a multitude of ways (counselling, rent, utilities and other domestic and personal necessities).
You could help this important work simply by bringing it to the attention of people who might consider donating an **unwanted motor vehicle, such as a car from a deceased estate** or which, for whatever reason, is no longer required.
Also, since the "Lifeboat Car Project" began in 2020, one single dedicated volunteer has overseen the process, which includes working with the donor to organise a Roadworthy Certificate and assisting recipients or purchases of the vehicle with the required documentation for Vicroads. He now needs a rest—or at least some help!
Lifeboat also needs a few people who are reasonably familiar with the usual car transfer regulations to assist donors of vehicles (and potential buyers) to negotiate the formal processes. If you or someone you know could help (maximum involvement with four cars per year), please contact Fr. Kevin Dillon (0421 777 360 or frkdillon@outlook.com.au) for more information'.

A TIME FOR EUCHARISTIC RENEWAL

THE YEAR OF PRAYER: 2026 commences our preparation for Eucharist28 as a year dedicated to prayer; deepening our own personal relationship with Jesus in the Eucharist. Christ has already accomplished the salvation of the world. Our task is to lead our communities into deeper communion with him. As Pope St John-Paul II reminded us, 'the programme already exists... It has its centre in Christ himself, who is to be known, loved and imitated.' (Ecclesia de Eucharistia,60)



EUCHARIST28 PRAYER—

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for the gift of your real presence in the sacrament 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 defenceless 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.

Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ:

Damian told me that his life changed when his sister was involved in a car accident that left her with brain injuries. As tragic as this terrible event was for his sister, Damian told me that it was a defining moment for him as well because it enabled him to work out what truly matters, what he took for granted, what he hoped for and whether he could hold on to faith in the face of tragedy.

Damian said that one of the things he learnt in the experience was what not to say to people in grief and shock. He reported that the nicest people said some of the worst things to him and his family. 'It's all God's will and now you just have to accept it.' 'God only gives the biggest crosses to those who can bear it.' 'God was clearly trying to teach you all a lesson and we'll only find out in heaven what she did to deserve this.' He said he wanted to scream. Some of his family have not been back to church since the accident.

The most helpful comment, however, the one that gave Damian and his family the greatest consolation, was, 'I can only imagine what it would be like if it were my sister.' The people who made this comment weren't trying to find an answer for him in his shock and grief; they were trying to struggle with him in his pain and questioning and understand what it might be like.

This response has a name. It's called compassion and it is what today's readings are all about. The Lord claims the Israelites as his treasured possession out of compassion. Saint Paul reminds us that God sent his Son to save us from our own destructiveness because he had compassion on us in our sinfulness. And when Jesus saw the crowds he had compassion for their diseases, sufferings and lack of leadership and he did something about it.

We are called to see the crowds of our own day and be moved with compassion. Compassion asks us to imagine what it's like to be a refugee, homeless, a victim of domestic violence, HIV positive, disabled, substance addicted, a single parent or unemployed.

We may not be able to answer these people's suffering or perhaps for some reason we should not be the ones to respond to their suffering. In either event, what we should do is secondary to how we feel with them.

And often the people we find it hardest to be compassionate toward are the ones to whom we are closest. We often expect so much of our wife or husband, children, friends and parents that we allow the poor to lay a greater claim on our compassion before those we love.

We don't have to be stingy with compassion; there will always be enough to go around. By virtue of our baptism and our coming to this Mass, however, we should be well known for being very compassionate, even foolishly so.

For Jesus doesn't teach us today to solve all the world's problems, just that we have to have the right attitude toward our brothers and sisters, imagining what it's like for them and treating them in the way we would want to be treated.

In the ministry of compassion we are *all* labourers sent out to harvest love in Christ's name; *all* of us are commissioned to confront evil and offer goodness in its place. And *all* of us are called, like the Apostles, to go to every lost sheep, especially the one who may be under our own roof, and offer healing and peace.

No one said following Jesus in this way was easy. Nearly every name read out in today's Gospel died a martyr for our faith. May the way we live be worthy of their example.

So this week when we catch ourselves jumping to an immediate condemnation of someone, let's stop and pray for the gift of compassion. That we might ask, 'What must life be like for you?' At that point, our understanding will be touching the Divine.

© Richard Leonard SJ

Reflection by Greg Sunter:

The portrait of Jesus that is painted by the gospel of Matthew is as the one who has come to fulfil the Jewish tradition. This is sometimes incorrectly interpreted as being anti-Jewish but that is not the case at all. The community for whom Matthew was writing were Jewish Christians and they saw the pathway taught by Jesus as the best way to live out the Jewish tradition. It is in this context that today's gospel passage must be considered. The way the commissioning of the Twelve begins is very significant: 'When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd.' This is the gospel writer describing the people of Israel as a whole – harassed and dejected and without a shepherd. For the Matthew community, Jesus was that shepherd the Jews needed. But Jesus also knew that one person alone could not bring about the change within Judaism that was required. He chose the Twelve and named them as apostles (those who are sent) to continue the work that he had begun.

The gospel writer describes Jesus as giving the apostles 'authority' over unclean spirits. For the Matthew community, authority was a defining question. They had recently been expelled from the Jewish synagogues and the authority of Jesus had been called into doubt. Yet, for this community, real authority lay with Jesus and those whom he sent out to do his work. Throughout this gospel, Jesus is described as exhibiting 'authority' so as to reaffirm to the original community that they were right in choosing to follow the way of Jesus and not bend to the authority of the Jewish leaders who were oppressing them.

Living the Gospel – Apostles, not disciples

There is a lovely distinction in this gospel passage between disciples and apostles. Jesus calls his twelve disciples, commissions them and sends them out to continue his work. From then on, they are referred to as 'apostles'. Disciples are followers, but apostles have been sent out. In our own lives we are called to accept the challenge of being apostles, not disciples. For we are not just followers, we have been sent out by Jesus to continue his work. To be a disciple is just the first step. Disciples follow a path; apostles take the initiative and forge their own path.

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