



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://malbcatholic.org/bellpark

OFFICE HOURS:

Mon-Thurs: 9am-5pm & Fri: 9am-3pm

www.facebook.com/stmichaelparish

Email: bellpark@cam.org.au

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:

Stefica Mikulec; Kathleen Lancaster

ANNIVERSARIES:

Gojko Brkic; Joseph Gillett; Giacinto (Jack) Palmieri; Matt De Grandi

BAPTISMS:

Zhee Biloy; Mia Theodore; Rhett Blythe; Isabelle Katergaris; Grace Neale

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; 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.

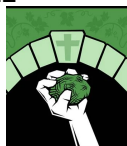
4 OCTOBER 2026 - (Year A)

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will.

For you have made all things, the heaven and earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.

Alleluia!

TODAY'S READINGS

1st: Isaiah 5:1-7

2nd: Phil 4:6-9

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

1st: Isaiah 25:6-10

2nd: Phil 4:12-14, 19-20

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

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

(2nd Sunday of the Month)



Ss PETER & PAUL'S—5.00PM

Commentators M Gifford
Lectors R Perera ; J Lewis
Special Ministers P McGlinchey
Welcomers
Projectionist M Carson
Co-Ordinator M Gifford, 5229 1656

HOLY SPIRIT—11AM

L Strzelecki
M Martin
Holy Angels Sisters
L Fossey
R Martin

HOLY FAMILY—9.00AM

Commentator C. Simpson
Lectors D Lunn; A Negro
Special Ministers J Genova; C Marcantonio; H Verdnik
Welcomers V O'Malley; S Jouana
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.

CAN YOU HELP PEOPLE WHO HAVE SUFFERED CHURCH-RELATED ABUSE?

For fourteen years, the Lifeboat Geelong Foundation has been assisting victims of church-related sexual abuse from all over Australia. In recent 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 e.g. counselling, rent, utilities and other domestic and personal necessities.

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:

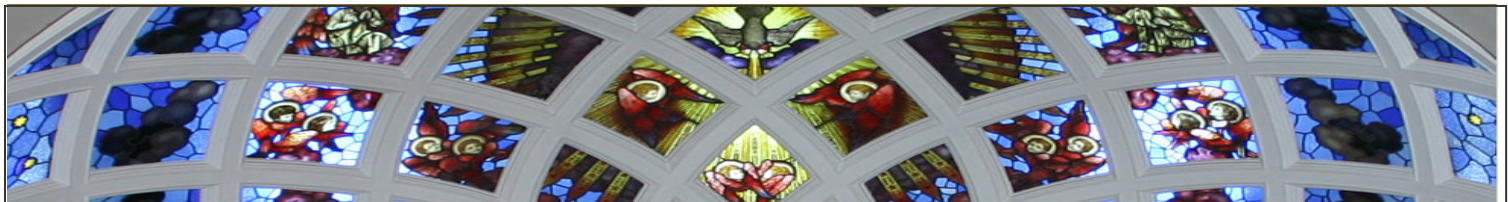
Fr. Kevin Dillon (0421 777 360 or frkdillon@outlook.com.au) or
Damian Coyne (0400 170 374 or dkcoyne@hotmail.com)
for more information.

St Michael's News:

- **PARISH WEBSITE UPDATE:** To access our newly updated parish website please go to: <https://melbcatholic.org/bellpark>
- **MELBOURNE CUP DAY LUNCHEON—CANCELLED:** Unfortunately, due to low number interest, our annual Melbourne Cup Day Luncheon has been cancelled.
- **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'.
- **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.
- **CHILD SAFEGUARDING MEETING:** Friday October 9, 11am at the Parish Community Centre.
- **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 this 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.
- **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:

- **GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS CLUB:** You are warmly invited to join us for a 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. & Shallon 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.
- **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA: 17th Annual Windfire Music Festival, Geelong** There will be 6 concerts featuring **Fri Oct 2, 8.15pm ENCORES Australian Chamber Choir. Sat Oct 3, 3pm LAUGHTER AND TEARS. 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
- **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA:** Free music at 5pm on weekdays. **Mon Oct 5, LUCY RIDDETT. Tues Oct 6, OLIVIER BONNICI. Wed Oct 8, ZEPHY RECRDER CONSORT. Fri Oct 9, LIZ MONUMENT.**
- **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!

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

Canadian theologian Bernard Lonergan had a major impact on philosophy and theology last century. Sometimes his language was so complex we had to buy a companion book to help us read the original work! Surprisingly, however, his most important insights were very simple and expressed in very simple language. One of them was that we regularly have 'ah-ha' moments, where we get an insight into God, the world or ourselves. These moments make sense of things we have previously only seen as problems.

Matthew's Gospel is filled with 'ah-ha' moments. Written for a generally Jewish audience it reflects on Jesus in light of the history of Israel, the Hebrew Scriptures and the expectations of the Messiah. Jesus was for Matthew's community, and is for us, the 'ah-ha' in world

history. By Matthew reflecting on his life, death and resurrection, things he had previously only wondered about now made sense.

The phrase 'the stone rejected by the builders' originally referred to Israel. In Psalm 118 and, more generally, in the Book of Psalms, the trials and defeats of Israel are seen to be tests of strength, love and endurance. Despite everything Israel has gone through, the people continue to sing of God's fidelity to them and what marvels God has done before their eyes, making them into a more faith-filled people.

Matthew, however, reflects on what happened to Jesus at the hands of the Chief Priests, Scribes and Romans. In a great 'ah-ha' moment he sees that it is Jesus, not Israel, who is the stone rejected by the builders which has now become the key building block of a new edifice.

Doing exactly the same as Matthew does with this passage, we can apply it to our own lives as well. There are often facets of our personality or character of which we are ashamed or about which we despair. From gossip to greed, past hurts to anger, sexuality to broken relationships, we can often get discouraged at how un-together our Christian life is.

Even though we have worked hard to overcome our worst traits, we often think nothing good will ever come of them. In such a context we need to hear today's Gospel, 'The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.'

The parts of our character we most despise could be the most marvellous moments of amazing grace. Nothing is irredeemable to God; nothing has gone too far or become too entrenched. In the Christian life there is no room for shame, only for repentance and starting over. Looking at things we have thought of as only being problems provides us with the greatest potential for 'ah-ha' moments, where the healing and love of Christ enables us to turn our lives around, to demolish all the negative and defeatist self-talk in which we can indulge and rebuild ourselves with Christ, the master builder.

Once we get into the habit of doing this, it's amazing how many 'ah-ha' moments we have as our history ceases to be a problem to be overcome but turns into a challenge to be harnessed for the building up of the Kingdom of God on earth.

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