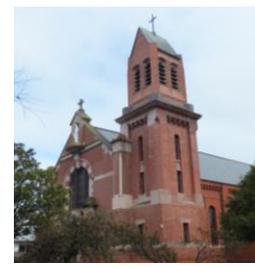


St Michael's Parish, Traralgon
in partnership with
St Mary's Parish, Yarram
and including
St Columbkille's, Glengarry
St Gerard's Woodside



St Michael's Vision Statement : Inspired by Jesus Christ, we are a welcoming Catholic Community seeking to enrich lives. Come and join us!

St Michael's Mission Statement:

To provide opportunities for parishioners –

- to grow in holiness
- to discover and live out their personal and community call to mission to live as Catholics who effectively transform society.

St Mary's Vision Statement: The Council aims to foster and encourage all baptized Catholics to grow in their love of Jesus, their fidelity to the Catholic Church and to reach out to all members of our worldwide community.

St Mary's Mission Statement: To foster and co-ordinate activities that encourage all baptized Catholics to take responsibility for the life and mission of their Church.

Statement of Commitment to the Safety of Children and Vulnerable Adults: Central to the mission of St Michael's and St Mary's Parishes is an unequivocal commitment to fostering the dignity, self-esteem and integrity of children, young people and vulnerable adults and providing them with a safe, supportive and enriching environment to develop spiritually, physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially.

St Michael's Parish Information

Fr Bernard Buckley Parish Priest

Fr Prasanna Costa Assistant Priest

Parish Centre 5174 2060

Priests' Residence: 5174 6765

56 Loch Park Road, Traralgon

Sr Doreen Dagge RSJ 5174 9997

Monsignor John Allman

O'Mara House 5174 9674

St Michael's Parish Office 5174 2060

33 Kay Street, Traralgon Fax 5174 2981

Parish Secretary: Mrs Bev O'Brien

Email: sec@smpt.org.au

Website www.smpt.org.au

Office hours –

Tuesday to Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm

Sacraments Admin: Mrs Jenifer Hanratty

Baptisms: Four weeks notice required

Weddings: Six months notice required

Parish Pastoral Council

Susan Grout Chairperson, Fr Bernard, Fr Prasanna, Sr Doreen, Greg Imhagwe, Rose Pearson, Kevin Taylor, Ray Moretti, Rob Tarraran, Jan Fitzpatrick, Ros Joyner, Doug Doherty and Chris DiCorleto.

Our Schools:

St Gabriel's School 5174 5515

Principal: Mrs Roslyn Joyner

St Michael's School 5174 3295

Acting Principal: Miss Jan Fitzpatrick

Lavalla Catholic College 5174 5272

Principal: Mr John Freeman

Kildare Campus 5174 8111

Director: Mr Doug Doherty

St Paul's Campus 5174 7355

Director: Ms Lee McKenzie

A DAY OF CELEBRATION: November 27th was designated as a day of celebration for the Church to mark the 30th anniversary of Pope John Paul's address to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people at Alice Springs. The speech is a classic and always repays the read. Parishioners might be interested to read some of the excerpts offered to us by NATSICC (the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council) to mark the anniversary. Pope John Paul said:

Your culture, which shows the lasting genius and dignity of your race, must not be allowed to disappear. Do not think that your gifts are worth so little that you should no longer bother to maintain them. Share them with each other and teach them to your children. Your songs, your stories, your paintings, your dances, your languages, must never be lost.

If you stay closely united, you are like a tree standing in the middle of a bush-fire sweeping through the timber. The leaves are scorched and the tough bark is scarred and burned; but inside the tree the sap is still flowing, and under the ground the roots are still strong. Like that tree you have endured the flames, and you still have the power to be reborn. The time for this rebirth is now!

You are part of Australia and Australia is part of you. And the Church herself in Australia will not be fully the Church that Jesus wants her to be until you have made your contribution to her life and until that contribution has been joyfully received by others.

It is wonderful to see how people, as they accept the Gospel of Jesus, find points of agreement between their own traditions and those of Jesus and his people.

For thousands of years this culture of yours was free to grow without interference by people from other places. You lived your lives in spiritual closeness to the land, with its animals, birds, fishes, waterholes, rivers, hills and mountains. Through your closeness to the land you touched the sacredness of man's relationship with God, for the land was the proof of a power in life greater than yourselves.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ speaks all languages. It esteems and embraces all cultures. It supports them in everything human and, when necessary, it purifies them. Always and everywhere the Gospel uplifts and enriches cultures with the revealed message of a loving and merciful God.

You have learned how to survive, whether on your own lands, or scattered among the towns and cities. Though your difficulties are not yet over, you must learn to draw on the endurance which your ancient ceremonies have taught you. Endurance brings with it patience; patience helps you to find the way ahead, and gives you courage for your journey.

Dear Aboriginal people: the hour has come for you to take on new courage and new hope. You are called to remember the past, to be faithful to your worthy traditions, and to adapt your living culture whenever this is required by your own needs and those of your fellowman. Above all you are called to open your hearts ever more to the consoling, purifying and uplifting message of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who died so that we might all have life, and have it to the full.

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Saturday	6.00pm	St Michael's Traralgon
Sunday	9:30am	St Michael's Traralgon
	10:00am	St Mary's Yarram
	10:00am	St Columbkille's Glengarry
	6:00 pm	St Michael's Traralgon

WEEKDAY LITURGY TIMES

5th November to 10th December

Mon 05	9:30am	Community Liturgy of the Word, St Michael's Mass,
Tues 06	11:30am 6.00pm	St Mary's Mass, St Michael's Mass,
Wed 07	10:00am 12:00pm	St Mary's Mass, St Michael's Mass,
Thu 08	9:30am	Mass, St Gabriel's PS
Fri 09	9:30am 10:30am	Mass, St Michael's Mass, Bupa Aged Care
Sat 10	9:30am	Mass, St Michael's

Rosary: Tuesday to Sunday 30 minutes before Mass.

Reconciliation: Saturdays 10:15am & 5:30pm or any time by arrangement with Father.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We remember those who have died recently including Eileen Orr, Margaret Caffry and Ailsa Hall and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Danny, Bridget and Eamonn Hiney, Nell and Alf Hammond, Salvatore Agostino, and Giovanni and Caterina Lombardo, Agostino Damiano, Eulalia Mangura and Henny Van Berkel.

Lord, let your perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

including Pat O'Mara, Robert Hazelman, Alan Douche, Pearce Morgan, Veronica Barter, Tony Tactor, Fr Frank Freeman, Jan Gilmour, Mary O'Brien, Carolyn Gleeson, Barry Felmingham, Gary Donchi, Anna Lapuh, Fergus Darmody, Louis Janssen, Rita Sweeney, Peter Heron, Mia Coulthard, Father Frank Young, Sarah Parker **and all who seek our prayers.**



WEDDING BELLS:

Congratulations and every blessing to Kitty Black and Nathan Allen who are being married at St Michael's this weekend. "May your love be upon us O Lord, as we place our hope in you" Psalm 32.



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA):

Are you interested in becoming a Catholic? Is someone you know interested?



Come and see. The RCIA programme is being held on Wednesday evenings, 7:30-9:00pm in the Parish Centre – all welcome. If you are interested in finding out more, please don't hesitate to contact Susan Grout on 0412 671308.

COMMUNION MINISTERS NEEDED: At each Mass we are always needing new Communion ministers. So, all who would like to take on this important ministry in our community is invited to the second of two formation sessions this Sunday (Dec 4th) at 5:00pm. (i.e. before 6pm Mass).



CALENDAR DATE:

Friday, December 16

7:00pm

Prayers at the Crib.



GOOD NEWS STORIES: Is there any group in the parish with a Good News story to tell, and who would like to tell the rest of us about what their group does, why they do it, who they are, what they offer? We would all be interested. Each group could designate someone from the group to put a few sentences together for the bulletin. You can't help but notice that very few contribute items to the parish bulletin. It would be great to hear some good news! Fr BB

2017 ROSTERS: The new year is fast approaching. Could all our wonderful parishioners who organize rosters please take the time to update their rosters for 2017, and forward them to sec@smpt.org.au as soon as possible? Many thanks. Bev.

BAPTISMS: This week, we welcome for baptism Patrick Benjamin McQuillen, son of Ben and Alisha; Lilly Karen Hughes, daughter of Paul and Brooke; and Edison Michael Weller, son of Bradley and Jodie.



The next meeting for those preparing for Baptism is on **Wednesday 14th December at 7:00pm in the Parish Centre.** Please contact the Parish Office on 5174 2060 for further information.

GIFTING TREE: The Gifting Tree is once again in the corner of the church. Please take a tag and purchase a gift for a needy child this Christmas. Please bring all gifts to the tree by Sunday December 11th. The gifts will then be distributed by St Vincent de Paul members. St Vinnies also have Christmas Giving Envelopes available in the Church foyer for anyone who wishes to make a monetary donation. With grateful thanks.



ST MICHAEL'S PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

The St Michael's PPC meets this Wednesday at 5:30pm. All parishioners are invited to make submissions, requests, suggestions etc to the PPC. The PPC is an increasingly important group in the parishes now, and will become even more so as the number of priests available for active ministry continues to lessen.



POPE FRANCIS ON ADVENT:

The Pope's Sunday Angelus message for the start of Advent focused on the importance of hope during the liturgical season dedicated to preparing for Christmas. "For the great human family, it is necessary to renew always the common horizon toward which we are journeying. The horizon of hope! This is the horizon that makes a good journey," Pope Francis said Dec. 1 to the crowds in St. Peter's Square. "The time of Advent that we begin again today returns us to the horizon of hope, a hope that does not disappoint because it is founded on the Word of God. A hope that does not disappoint, simply because the Lord never disappoints! He is faithful!" the Pope emphasized. From an article by Kerri Lenartowick in the National Catholic Register

CHRISTMAS MUSIC EVENTS:

The Yallourn Madrigal Singers warmly invite all to attend :-

- A Pleasant Sunday Afternoon of Christmas Music at 2:00pm on Sunday 11th December at the Traralgon Uniting Church. Entry by gold coin donation. Afternoon tea provided.

Christ Sound Recital for Organ & Trumpet, Tues December 13th 6:30-7:30pm, in St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne. Featuring Anthony Halliday (organ) and Geoffrey Payne (trumpet). Admission \$20, children under 15 free. Contact paul.taylor@cam.org.au or Ph: 9926 5753 (Wed – Sun).

ST MICHAEL'S MUMS & DADS GROUP:

A great place to meet other parents and have some fun with the kids. Come and enjoy fellowship, friendship and food! We meet every Wednesday during school terms at St Michael's Mary MacKillop Hall, 10:00am to 12:00pm. Any inquiries to Jen Hanratty 5176 1178 or Louise Varsaci 0414 540 296

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP:

The CPG meets every Thursday evening at 7:30pm in the Mary MacKillop Hall. All are welcome to come and join in! Enquiries to Cathy on 5174 3001.



DO IT ANYWAY – A PRAYER:

People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered.

Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives.

Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies.

Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and sincere people may deceive you.

Be honest and sincere anyway.

What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight.

Create anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous.

Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, will often be forgotten.

Do good anyway.

Give the best you have, and it will never be enough.

Give your best anyway.

In the final analysis, it is between you and God.

It was never between you and them anyway.

A version of a prayer said to have been found on a wall in Mother Teresa's home for children in Calcutta.



Next weeks Readings

2nd Sunday of Advent Year A

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12



Christmas Mass Times 2016

Christmas Eve

6:00pm Mass, St Gerard's, Woodside

7:00pm Family Mass, St Michael's
All children of the parish and their families are warmly invited to attend our Christmas Eve Family Mass dressed in shepherd, wise men and angels costumes.

8:00pm Mass, St Columbkille's

8:00pm Family Mass, St Mary's

10:30pm Carols singing, St Michael's

11:00pm Mass, St Michael's

Christmas Day

9:30am Mass, St Michael's

10:00am Mass, St Mary's

FINANCE MATTERS:

"Therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." Matthew 3:10

Do you bear good fruit for Christ? Or, do you spend your time, talent and treasure constantly acquiring more toys, clutter and junk. Our time, our talent and our treasure are gifts that God has given us. What we do with them is our gift back to God. What gifts are you planning to give to the Lord during this upcoming Christmas season?

Weekend November 26 & 27

First Collection \$1250.00

Planned Giving Envelopes \$1850.00

Thank you for your generosity. If you wish to have further information about our Planned Giving program please contact the Parish Office.

Counters:

Dec 04 Armstrong Team

Dec 11 Morris Team

Rosters for December 11 – Third Sunday of Advent Year A

Mass	Lector	Commentator	Eucharistic Ministers	Welcomers	Music	Sacristan
Saturday 6:00pm	A Taylor	S Hill	J Scholtes, C Livesey, R Tactor, Volunteer	G & D Bassett	Jane	D Buckland
Sunday 9:30 am	J Dal Pra/U Imhagwe	H Daly	W Detering, C Payne, J Cahill, C Mesaric, Volunteers x 2	C Payne, M Wilkinson	Jane	M Hanratty
Sunday 6:00pm	Robert Tarraran	Robyn Tarraran	C Marino, Volunteers x 3	M Noone	Jane	L Theissling

- **Altar Cleaning:** December 05 M Tainsh December 12 J Scholtes
- **Church Cleaning:** December Van Berkel Team
- **Children's Liturgy of the Word:** December 11 Team1 S Rickwood, R Pearson
- **Mick's Kitchen:** December 08 Redi Team December 15 Keppitipola Team
- **Touring Statue of Our Lady:** December 11 R Sweeney December 18 Mr & Mrs E Kanara

• Please contact the family before you leave the statue to make sure they are home. Thank you.

For further information regarding roster please contact: Marie Moulton 5174 0938 Email: memou_38@bigpond.com

Lighting the Advent Candle for the Second Sunday of Advent

"Christ our Light brings us to growth and fruitfulness"

As we light our second candle, we are reminded that as baptised people we should be living the Good News so that by our example others will be drawn to the way of the Lord. The candles are now lit.

Penitential Rite

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, yours is the voice that called us back from the wilderness.

Response: Come Lord Jesus

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, you baptized us with water and the Holy Spirit:

Response: Come Lord Jesus

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, you are the bearer of Good News.

Response: Come Lord Jesus

Celebrant: Let us pray, that on hearing the voice of the Lord, we may make straight what is crooked in our lives.

Response: All powerful God, teach us to believe in your love. Lead us in your ways that we may level the mountains of prejudice and fear, and come to know you fully as the Good News in our life. Now and forever. Amen

Entrance Antiphon Cf Is 30:19,30

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
in the joy of your heart.

First Reading Is 11:1-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

He judges the poor with justice.

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.)

He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked.

Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips.

The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them. he cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together.

The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand.

They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea.

That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 71:1-2 7-8 12-13 17 R cf v7

(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

- O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. **(R.)**

- In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to the earth's bounds. **(R.)**
- For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. **(R.)**
- May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name. **(R.)**

Second Reading Rom 15:4-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Christ, the hope of all people.

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

Gospel Acclamation

LK 3:4-6

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!*

Gospel Mt 3:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said:

A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.