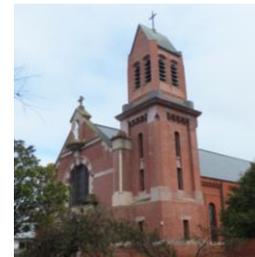




**St Michael's Parish, Traralgon**  
 in partnership with  
**St Mary's Parish, Yarram**  
 and including  
 St Columbkille's, Glengarry  
 St Gerard's Woodside



**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 Francis Otabo** Parish Priest  
**Fr Saji John** 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  
 web: 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 Francis, Fr Saji, Sr Doreen, Greg Imhagwe, Rose Pearson, Kevin Taylor, Ray Moretti, Rob Tarraran, Cathy Blackford, 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  
 Principal: Mrs Cathy Blackford

**Lavalla Catholic College** 5174 5272  
 Principal: Mr John Freeman  
 Kildare Campus 5174 8111  
 St Paul's Campus 5174 7355

**SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY**

by Dianne Bergant CSS

The search for the new king and the choice and anointing of David open a new chapter in the story of Israel. Each step of the way is determined by God, making the history of Israel a history of salvation. David was considered too young or unimportant to be considered. Yet he is the one selected. Once again, God has chosen the weak things of the world to confound the strong. David's anointing was a solemn action that ceremonially sealed God's election. Following the ritual, the spirit of the Lord, the principle of dynamic divine action, rushed upon David. God's saving power would be brought to the community through the agency of this particular individual.

This responsorial psalm is one of the most familiar and best loved psalms of the entire psalter. It paints vivid pictures of a carefree existence, peaceful rest and abundant fruitfulness. Although 'shepherd' suggests a flock rather than merely one sheep, here the focus is on the individual. To characterise the Lord as a shepherd is to trust that God will lead, guard and protect the flock. In addition to this image, God is characterised as a host, who supervises a banquet and within whose house the psalmist ultimately dwells. This banquet is a public witness to God's high regard for the psalmist, who will continue to enjoy God's favour in God's house.

The move from darkness to light is the principal metaphor used by the author to describe the radical change that has taken place in the lives of the Christians as a result of their commitment to Christ.

The three qualities that are produced by the light – goodness, righteousness, truth – are merely symbolic of the complete transformation of character that this light can effect. The passage ends three phrases closely associated with Christian initiation that describe the transition from inertia or restriction to vibrancy. From sleep to wakefulness; from death to new life; from darkness to illumination. Christians have entered into a new state of being, which will require of them a new way of living.

The healing of the blind man is not a restoration, for the man was born blind. By means of the water that washed away his blindness, he is made a new creation. He progresses from knowing the name of the one who cured him, to professing that Jesus is a prophet, to proclaiming that he comes from God. The struggle between darkness and light, between blindness and sight runs throughout this account. Jesus is the light of the world. The man, who is gradually brought from physical blindness to sight, also progressively moves from spiritual blindness to religious insight. The Pharisees were blind to the truth that the newly cured man saw so clearly. The one who was blind sees, and those who can see are blind.



### SUNDAY MASS TIMES

<b>Saturday</b>	6:00pm	St Michael's Traralgon
<b>Sunday</b>	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

27<sup>th</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> April

<b>Mon 27</b>	9:30am	Community Liturgy of the Word, St Michael's
<b>Tues 28</b>	9:30am	Mass, St Michael's
	11:00am	Mass, St Mary's
<b>Wed 29</b>	9:15am	Mass, St Michael's
<b>Thu 30</b>	9:30am	Mass, St Gabriel's PS
<b>Fri 31</b>	9:30am	Mass, St Michael's
	1:00pm	Funeral for Elizabeth Kirwan, St Mary's
<b>Sat 01</b>	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.

**ALTERED MASS TIME:** Mass will be held at 9.15am on Wednesday to enable our Priests to attend a meeting.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** We remember those who have died recently including Hennie Waanders (Holland), Leon Le Grande, Joyce Claffey and Kaye Christensen and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Peter Cunico, Arch Graham, Daniel Fleming, Giovanni Sola, Denis O'Brien, Graham Membrey, Tommy and Kathleen Sweeney and Brian O'Mara.

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

### WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

including John O'Brien, Barry Arbuthnot, Damian Black, Joyce Martin, Jenny Hansch, Ken Vivian, Marie Howard, Adrian Stasinowsky, Pat O'Mara, Robert Hazelman, Alan Douch, Veronica Barter, Fr Frank Freeman, Carolyn Gleeson, Gary Donchi, Anna Lapuh, Louis Janssen, Rita Sweeney, Peter Heron, Father Frank Young, Sarah Parker **and all who seek our prayers.**



**CHANGE OF HART:** Rock musical being held in Marist Sion Auditorium, 165 Burke St, Warragul on Saturday April 8 at 7:30pm and Sunday April 9 at 2:00pm. A contemporary musical addressing current social issues, based on the Prodigal Son. Tickets \$25.00 full and \$20 concession/student. Book tickets through [trybooking.com/227993](http://trybooking.com/227993).

**LENTEN EVENING PRAYERS:** On Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm in the church and on the Wednesdays during Lent, up to and including Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April.

**LENTEN DISCUSSION GROUPS:** will be in held in our Prayer Group Meetings being held on Wednesday mornings (9:30am) and in our Cells Group meetings (1:00pm) in the Parish Centre. All welcome!

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Stations of the Cross will be celebrated each Friday during Lent at 7:00pm. All are welcome.

**SYRO-MALABAR RITE (Indian community):** The Way of the Cross will be celebrated at 6:30pm on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March and Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April.

All parishioners are warmly invited to join in these celebrations.

**SYRO-MALABAR MASS** will be celebrated on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 6.00pm in St Michael's Church.

**PARISH MAINTENANCE DISCUSSION EVENING:** Parishioners who are interested in the maintenance of our Church buildings and surrounds, are invited to attend a gathering on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 7:00pm in the Parish Centre. Please advise interest to the Parish Office on 5174 2060 or email to [sec@smpt.org.au](mailto:sec@smpt.org.au).

**DAYLIGHT SAVING ENDS** at 3:00am on Sunday April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Don't forget to put your clocks back one hour.



**BAPTISMS:** The next meeting for those preparing for Baptism is on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April at 7:00pm in the Parish Centre.** Please contact the Parish Office on 5174 2060 for further information.



**PRAYER SERVICE FOR THE COMMUNITY:** "During the week in which the Hazelwood Power Station will be closing, Bishops Kay Goldsworthy, Anglican Bishop of Gippsland and Patrick O'Regan, Catholic Bishop of Sale, will gather with members of the Latrobe Valley community for prayer at the Gippsland Immigration Park, Princes Way, Morwell on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March, commencing at 12 pm. All are welcome.

This short prayer service, which will go no longer than half-an-hour, is an opportunity to stand in solidarity with the communities which make up the Latrobe Valley and to ask for God's strength and assistance at this difficult and uncertain time. As we approach Easter, it is also a moment to renew our hope and deepen our commitment to serve our sisters and brothers."

### FIRST COMMUNION CELEBRATIONS:



Congratulations to the following children who have made the next step in their faith journeys, and who have now received the Sacrament of Communion for the first time: Robert Aarons, Benjamin Alesi, Beau Backman, Regan Bailey, Clayton Berryman, Lily Buckley, Emily Carney, Jett Chaniotis, Lexi Charles, Ryder Colantuono, Elizabeth Cooper, Cassie Davis, Meg Derham, Ava Devenie, Julian Dore, Kayla Dukes, Darcy Fehlberg, Nicholas Fenech, Ciro Galante, Alexandra Georgiou, Olivia Gilham, Angus Harle, Addison Howe, Etse Imhagwe, Lovely Venice Inot, Emma Lancaster, Tyler Lapenta, Harry Linehan, Joshua Little, Laylah McLachlan, Benjamin Meyer, Luca Paolemilio, Anna Passalaqua, Charlie Riddle, Dylan Rosato, Alanna Ross, Darcy Ruri, Alana Scholtes, Pasquale Scotto Di Perta, Ella Stoddart, Riley Sutton, Lila Switzer, Jarl Tatti, Constance Townsend, Zali Tripodi, Savannah Vickers, Noah Vitale, Madison Vivian, William Wallace, Ashley Zandona and Liam Zomer.

May the children and their families continue to grow in strength and commitment to their faith.

Congratulations and thanks to all the members of the Sacramental Team whose belief and love of their faith has shone as they worked together to prepare the children and their families for this joyous celebration.

### RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA):

Please keep in your prayers Melissa Joske, Kelly Clegg, Kylie Chaniotis and Rebecca O'Connor as they continue their journeys of discovering God in their lives.



Please also keep the RCIA Team members in your prayers, as they all come to this busy time on the road to Easter.



### SUPPER FOR OUR NEWEST PARISHIONERS:

All Parishioners are asked to put on their calendars supper in the Mary MacKillop Hall after the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday (April 15). Please come along, bring a plate of supper to share and get to know Kelly, Kylie, Melissa and Rebecca, who have been journeying towards Easter for quite some time now.

**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.

## St Michael's



### Holy Week

#### Palm Sunday Masses

April 08 6:30pm St Michael's  
 April 09 9:30am St Michael's  
 10:00am St Columbkille's  
 6:00pm St Michael's

#### Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April

6.00pm Syro-Malabar Mass,  
 St Michael's

#### Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April

9:15am Mass, St Michael's  
 7:00pm Tenebrae Service, St Michael's

#### Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April

9:30am Mass, St Michael's

#### Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April (Holy Thursday)

9:30am Reconciliation  
 7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

#### Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April (Good Friday)

10:00am Stations of the Cross  
 11:00am Walk of the Cross  
 3:00pm Service of the Lord's  
 Passion

#### Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April

9:30am RCIA Rites, followed by  
 Reconciliation  
 7:00pm Easter Vigil

#### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April (Easter Sunday)

8:30am Mass, St Michael's  
 10:00am Mass, St Coumbkille's  
 10:30am Mass, St Michael's



Please remember in your prayers all those whose lives are assisted by Project Compassion and all those who work for Caritas Australia to empower our world's most vulnerable neighbours to grow stronger and share their strengths with their communities to build a better future for our common home.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

*In Vietnam, young Nguyet was isolated as a result of her severe disabilities, until a Caritas-Australia supported program offered her education, creative outlets and community interaction.*



**Please donate to Project Compassion 2017 and help people in rural areas of the Philippines build better futures for their families**

**and their neighbours.**

Caritas has advised that as well as supporting Project Compassion, you can donate to the Africa Emergency Appeal via their website at [www.caritas.org.au/learn/emergency-response/africa-aid-apeal](http://www.caritas.org.au/learn/emergency-response/africa-aid-apeal).



**MEN'S WEEKEND:** The menALIVE Weekend is being held on 6 & 7<sup>th</sup> May in St Mary's Parish Hall, Duke Street, Maffra.

A time for men to explore what makes them feel fully alive. Organised by men in our local community and conducted by an experienced team of menALIVE leaders. Suitable for all men over 18 years of age.

For more information contact John Cooney 5148 9220, [jandjcooney@bigpond.com](mailto:jandjcooney@bigpond.com) or Charles Bagguley 0408 032 232 (after 5.30pm on weekdays).

#### **FINANCE MATTERS:**

*"Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance but the Lord looks into the heart." 1 SAMUEL 16:7*

How often do we invest our time, talent and treasure in creating an appearance that does not matter at all to God? We strive to impress with our clothing, home, career, possessions, car and other marks of distinction. But none of these illusions of greatness will impress God. Instead, He will look into our hearts to see how much we loved Him, how much we loved others and how we showed that love by the way we used our time, talents and treasure here on earth.

#### **STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN:**

Statements for those who give by electronic means are in the Church this weekend. Please help reduce our postage bill, and take yours home with you. Thank you.

If you wish to have information about our Planned Giving programme please contact the Parish Office.

#### **Counters:**

**March 26** Morris Team  
**April 02** Mitchell Team

### Rosters for April 02 ~ Fifth Sunday of Lent

Mass	Lector	Commentator	Eucharistic Ministers	Welcomers	Music	Sacristan
Saturday 6:00pm	B O'Brien	D Smith	B Power, C DiCorleto, D Buckland, Volunteer	A O'Hara R Tactor		A Symonds
Sunday 9:30 am	R Diaz C McLure	C McCabe	J&W Waanders, J Cahill, K Jones, E Ryan, Volunteer	T & L Biancon	Filipino choir	P&L Van der Velden
Sunday 6:00pm	C Roga	L Vasarci	Rob Tarraran, J Reid, D Locke, Volunteer	A Ward	Diamante Family	B Kennedy

- **Altar Cleaning:** March 27 F Rycak April 03 A Xuereb
- **Church Cleaning:** April Collis Team
- **Children's Liturgy of the Word:** In recess, school holidays
- **Touring Statue of Our Lady:** March 26 U & G Imhagwe April 2 S & A Reid  
 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](mailto:memou_38@bigpond.com)
- **Mick's Kitchen:** March 30 Hemming Team April 06 Burns Team

**Entrance Antiphon** Cf Is 66:10-11

*Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.  
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;  
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.*

**First Reading** 1 Sm 16:1 6-7 10-13

A reading from the first book of Samuel

*In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.*

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 22 R v1

**(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**
2. He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name.  
If I should walk in the valley of darkness  
no evil would I fear.  
You are there with your crook and your staff;  
with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me  
In the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever. **(R.)**

**Second Reading** Eph 5:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

*Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you*

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of

the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.

**Gospel Acclamation**

see Jn 4:42.15

*Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!  
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;  
whoever follows me will have the light of life.  
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!*

**Gospel**

Jn 4:5-15. 19-26. 39-42

Jn 9:1. 6-9. 13-17. 34-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.*

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

Next weeks readings ~ 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent Year A

First Reading: Ezek 37:12-14

Second Reading: Rom 8:8-11

Gospel: John 11:1-45

