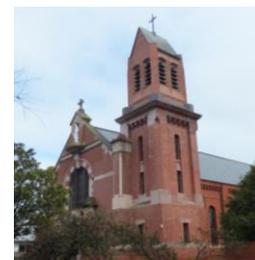


**St Michael's Parish, Traralgon**  
in partnership with  
**St Mary's Parish, Yarram**  
and including  
St Columbkille's, Glengarry  
St Gerard's Woodside



**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 Brendan Byrne, SJ*

The scripture readings set out for the Easter Sunday Mass remain unvaried across the three-year cycle. An alternative, 1 Cor 5:6-8, is given for the second reading, Col 3:1-4, and at evening Masses the account of the risen Lord's appearance to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, Luke 24:13-35, otherwise set down for the Third Sunday, Year A, may be read.

It is perhaps odd that, unless this latter option be taken up at Sunday evening Masses, neither the Easter Vigil Gospel nor that of Easter Sunday recounts an appearance of the risen Lord. We hear simply about the disciples' discovery that the tomb of Jesus was empty.

The account of the Fourth Gospel, John 20:1-9, set out for today, joins the Synoptic tradition in associating Mary Magdalene with this unnerving discovery. Later, of course, she will meet the risen Lord. Now, following her discovery, she comes running to Simon Peter 'and the other disciple' (the significant figure this gospel dubs 'the disciple whom Jesus loved'). Her running and her plaintive cry, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb and we don't know where they have put him,' bespeak the anguish of continuing love and loss. The inference (Johannine irony at its best) is that some human agency (the gardener, the authorities, grave-robbers) have worked this final indignity on the Lord; even in death his body is to have no peace. So we are left with this

tremendous sense of emptiness and loss.

At Mary's report, Peter and the 'other disciple' likewise set out on a 'race' of anxious love. By having the other disciple beat Peter in the race and arrive first, the evangelist sets the scene for a very significant distinction concerning what is to be found in the tomb. Though he arrives first, the disciple does not enter the tomb immediately. Instead he bends down and sees linen cloths on the ground. Peter goes in and, once inside, sees something else besides. From inside one can see not only the linen cloths in which Jesus' body was wrapped but also the cloth (corresponding to what we would call a handkerchief) that covered his face, rolled up neatly in a place by itself. What Peter deduces from this we do not know. But when the 'disciple whom Jesus loved' eventually enters the tomb and sees the complete picture, the neatly rolled-up cloth functions for him as a sign: a crucial indication that the absence of Jesus' body was not due to human agency (grave-robbers do not bother to fold up neatly the clothing they leave behind) but to a majestic, divine resumption of life. The One who had called himself 'the Resurrection and the Life' (11:25), fulfilled his claim to have the power to lay down his life and likewise to take it up again (10:18).

~ continued on page 3 ~

### 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

#### 17<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> April

<b>Mon 17</b>	9:30am	Community Liturgy of the Word, St Michael's
<b>Tues 18</b>	9:30am	Mass, St Michael's
	11:00am	Mass, Yarram Crossley House
<b>Wed 19</b>	10:00am	Mass, St Mary's
	11:00am	Adoration, St Michael's
	12:00pm	Mass, St Michael's
<b>Thu 20</b>	9:30am	Mass, St Gabriel's PS
<b>Fri 21</b>	9:30am	Mass, St Michael's
<b>Sat 22</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.

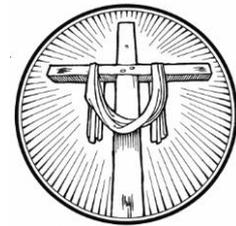


*Congratulations to Melissa Joske, Kelly Clegg, Kylie Chaniotis and Rebecca O'Connor who join our ranks as our 'newest parishioners' at the Easter Vigil this Saturday.*

May God's blessings be with you always as you begin your life as members of St Michael's Parish.

Welcome to the family!!!

Parishioners are warmly invited to share a cuppa and some supper with our newest parishioners following the Vigil Mass in the Mary MacKillop Hall. With thanks to the members of the RCIA Team, who so willingly give of their time, their faith for nine months of the year, each year. May you all enjoy a month or two of rest, before the process begins again.



*Wishing all our parishioners and all those you love a happy, holy and safe Easter. May we all carry the joy and light of Easter in our lives for all to see.*  
Fr Francis, Fr Saji, Sr Doreen



**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (April 23):** This feast will be celebrated in our Parish at 2:00pm with Adoration and Reconciliation. There will be Benediction and the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00pm.

## MEETINGS

**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.

### 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.

**LITURGY TEAM MEETING:** The next meeting of the Liturgy Team will be held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April at 5:30pm.

**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.

**CELLS PRAYER GROUPS:** Wednesdays Cells Prayer Groups will recommence on Wednesday April 26.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** We remember those who have died recently including Helen Henning, Patrick Donnelly, Elizabeth Kirwan and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Dorothy McLean and Gloria O'Neill.

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

### WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

including John Besselink, 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.**



### Happy Easter

**from all at Caritas Australia!**

Thank you for supporting us this year as we demonstrate how love for our neighbours can transform lives. You are helping to empower our most vulnerable neighbours worldwide to build a better future for their families and communities.

**Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2017 Lenten appeal.**

### PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES / ENVELOPES:

Parishioners are reminded that Easter Sunday (April 16<sup>th</sup>) is the traditional time for return of Project Compassion boxes.

*Please bring your donatin to Project Compassion to Mass, or drop it in to the Parish Office, as soon as possible. Thank you*



**SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY -**

*continued from Page 1*

As the gospel comments, the beloved disciple 'saw and he believed'. He did not see the risen Jesus, as later Mary Magdalene, Peter and the other apostles and eventually Thomas would, but he saw enough to remember now the scriptural prophecy that the Messiah would rise from the dead. In this way, before all the others, he came to faith in the resurrection.

My sense is that the unnamed 'disciple whom Jesus loved' (the identification of him with John the son of Zebedee is a later interpretation) stands in there for all of us (believers of subsequent generations). Unlike Mary Magdalene, Peter and the insistent Thomas, we do not actually see (or feel or touch) the risen Lord and yet we believe. We can see emptiness and absence not as failure and loss but, in the light of scripture, as mysterious evidence of the divine power to bring life out of death, to call back into being 'things that are not' (Rom 4:17 [faith of Abraham]).

The first reading, from Acts 10, gives an account of the sermon Peter preached in the house of the pious Roman centurion Cornelius. It provides a neat summary of the essential gospel, which the four canonical gospels expand. The gospel reaches out to embrace the Gentile world, previously considered 'unclean'; its inherent power to reconcile overcomes the alienation of that world from God.

In the second reading, from Colossians 3:1-4, Paul reminds his audience of the way in which even now they have a share in the risen life of their Lord, even though this is now 'hidden'. Keeping constantly in mind the thought of his triumph over sin and death should light their present path with hope and joy.

*B Byrne, SJ*

**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 or Charles Bagguley 0408 032 232 (after 5.30pm on weekdays).

**FUNNY CHURCH SIGNS:**

- For God so loved the world, that He didn't send a committee.
- Don't give up! Moses was once a basket-case too!

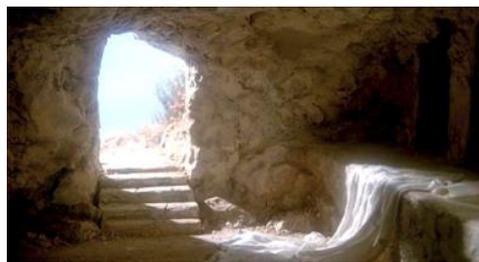
**From Pope Francis:**

"What has the Cross left in each one of us? You see, it gives us a treasure that no one else can give: the certainty of the faithful love which Christ has for us.

A love so great that it enters into our sin and forgives it, enters into our suffering and gives us the strength to bear it.

It is a love which enters into death to conquer it and to save us."

*- Pope Francis, World Youth Day, 2013*



**NEW IN OUR PARISHES? CHANGED ADDRESSES? NEED PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES OR TO UPDATE THE PARISH RECORDS?**

Please let us know. You could fill in this form and return it at your convenience – on the plate at Mass, at church or to the parish office. We'll look forward to catching up with you.

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

**FINANCE MATTERS:** "Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth." COLOSSIANS 3:2

Do you put God first in all things? Possessions, money, power, ego can easily become gods to many of us. Do a quick check of what is important to you. Is God at the very top of the list? If not, your priorities need to be re-adjusted. Don't let earthly things become a god before God.

**STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN:**

**March donations**

Envelopes	\$ 8,219.90
Direct Debit	\$ 5,950.00
Credit Card	<u>\$ 3,975.00</u>
March Total	<u>\$18,144.90</u>
Monthly pledge amount	\$18,328.00

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

**Counters: April 16** Arend Team  
**April 23** Armstrong Team

**Rosters for April 23<sup>rd</sup> ~ Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)**

Mass	Lector	Commentator	Eucharistic Ministers	Welcomers	Music	Sacristan
<b>Saturday 6:00pm</b>	C DiCorleto	D Smith	J Scholtes, C Livesey, R Tactor, Volunteer	S Frankland L Kennedy	Jane	A & M Giddens
<b>Sunday 9:30am</b>	J Dal Pra/ U Imhagwe	L Van der Velden	W Detering, C Payne, J Cahill, C Mesaric, J Hanratty	C Collis	Jane	G Imhagwe
<b>Sunday 6:00pm</b>	K Matters	C Livesey	Volunteers (x 4)	G Edgar J Sykes	Jane	C Fernando

- **Altar Cleaning:** April 17 M Giddens & C Tognella April 23 M Tainsh
  - **Church Cleaning:** April Collis Team May Sambell Group
  - **Children's Liturgy of the Word:** Marianne and Theresa
  - **Touring Statue of Our Lady:** April 16 A & G Symonds April 23 E & D Hiney
- 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
- **Mick's Kitchen:** April 27 Van Berkel Team May 04 Mitchell Team

**Entrance Antiphon** Lk 24: 34 cf Apoc 1:6

*The Lord is truly risen, alleluia.  
To him be glory and power  
For all the ages of eternity.  
Alleluia, Alleluia!*

**First Reading** Acts 10:34-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.*

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23. R. v.24

**(R.) This is the day the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad.**

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
for his love has no end.  
Let the sons of Israel say:  
'His love has no end.' **(R.)**
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed;  
his right hand raised me up.  
I shall not die, I shall live  
and recount his deeds. **(R.)**
3. The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes. **(R.)**

**Second Reading** Col 3:1-4

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians  
*Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.*

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

**Gospel Acclamation** 1 Cor 5:7-8

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;  
let us feast with joy in the Lord.  
Alleluia!*

**Gospel** Jn 20:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John  
*The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.*

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.



Next weeks readings – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 2:42-47

Second Reading: 1 Pet 1:3-9

Gospel: John 20:19-31