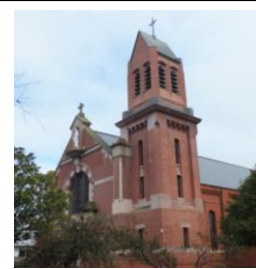




St Michael's Parish, Traralgon
in partnership with
St Mary's Parish, Yarram
and including
St Columbkille's, Glengarry
St Gerard's Woodside



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 Otobo 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
 After office hours - in case of emergency,
 please call 5174 2060 and leave your details on
 the message service.

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
 Acting Principal: Miss Jan Fitzpatrick

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

GOSPEL REFLECTION

by Mary Coloe PBVM

In today's Gospel it is quite clear that Jesus has moved beyond the territory of the Jewish people, into the northern region of Tyre and Sidon. Here he encounters a Gentile woman – again very clearly identified as a Canaanite from that region. In Matthew this is the first explicit encounter with a non-Jew. From the evidence of the Gospels it seems that Jesus worked primarily within the land of Palestine and saw himself involved in a mission to the people of Israel. He rarely ventured beyond Israel to Gentiles.

When the Canaanite woman asks Jesus to heal her daughter Jesus states his understanding of his mission, 'only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel'. He then continues, 'It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs.' This harsh reprimand makes use of an idiomatic way that Jews used when speaking of Gentiles, as 'Gentile dogs'. The woman responds, 'Yes Lord, but even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the master's table.' Keep in mind the larger context. The children of Israel have been fed (Matt 14:13-21) and there were twelve baskets of scraps left over. In response to the woman's witty and faith-filled response Jesus accedes to her request and heals her daughter. In effect, Jesus changes his understanding of his mission to include Gentiles. Immediately following this episode Jesus returns to the Lakeside but now goes to the Gentile side and on this side of the Lake the

number of loaves and the number of left-over baskets is seven. Within Jewish symbolism seven signifies completion or fulfilment. When considering all of these episodes and their sequence Matthew is presenting a view that Jesus' mission is complete only when it includes the Gentiles. It is also worth noting that on this side of the Lake Jesus takes the bread and 'gives thanks' which in Greek is the word 'eucharistein'. Now, when both Jew and Gentile can be fed at the table, there can be Eucharist.

At the time when the Gospels are being written this story would have been very important, for some disciples were taking the Gospel to the Gentiles, while others still thought of a mission primarily within Judaism. This episode would have helped the community to reach out beyond the narrow confines of Judaism as Jesus did on this occasion. We know from the Acts of the Apostles, that when Gentiles joined with Jewish disciples they had problems about eating together. Matthew's Gospel in these episodes addresses this pastoral situation by indicating that real Eucharist is only possible when all are welcome to the Lord's Table.

This Gentile woman, an outsider, is a strong character prepared to argue with Jesus as Abraham, Moses and Job once argued with God. She provides me with a good model of vigorous prayer.



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

21stth to 27th August

Mon 21	9:30am	Community Liturgy of the Word St Michael's
Tues 22	9.30am	Mass, St Michael's
	11:00am	Mass, St Mary's
Wed 23	10.00am	Mass, St Mary's
	11.00am	(Exposition)
	12.00pm	(Mass, St Michael's)
Thur 24	9.30am	Mass, St Gabriel's PS
Fri 18	9:30am	St Michael's, Mass
Sat 19	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 Rita Sweeney, Joan Clarke, Ron Gerard, Noel Honan, Mary Wycisk, Mary Lasaga, Colin Ison, Ronald Fry and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Kathleen Hodgson, Elizabeth Lestin, Doreen Bickerton, Pauline England, Jim Ayres, Alice Ayres, Jessie Pereira, Maria Melenhorst, John Robinson, Jim Gilmour, Eva Lang, Roger King, Vena Brady, Bishop Patrick Lyons, Maria Calabrese, Noreen Martin. ***Lord, let your perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.***

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

including, Wilhelmina Nijenhuis, Michelle Kay, Maria Alessandrini, Vincent O'Neill, John Besselink, Damian Black, Joyce Martin, Jenny Hansch, Ken Vivian, Marie Howard, Pat O'Mara, Robert Hazelman, Alan Douch, Veronica Barter, Fr Frank Freeman, Carolyn Gleeson, Gary Donchi, Anna Lapuh, Peter Heron, Father Frank Young, Sarah Parker ***and all who seek our prayers.***

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Thursday 24th August
5pm – 6pm – Youth Mass training session in Mary McKillop Hall
7.30pm – RCIA

BAPTISMS: This week we welcome for Baptism, Joel David King, son of Justin and Lisa. Congratulations from all of us.



ALTERED OFFICE HOURS: for the next two weeks (Aug 21 to Sept 01), the Parish Office will be open:

Mon Aug 21	Closed
Tues Aug 22	9:30am to 2pm
Wed Aug 23	9.30am to 2pm
Thu Aug 24	9:30am to 2pm
Fri Aug 25	9:30am to 2pm
Mon Aug 28	Closed
Tue Aug 29	9:30am to 2pm
Wed Aug 30	9.30am to 2pm
Thu Aug 31	9:30am to 2pm
Fri Sept 01	9:30am to 2pm.

With huge thanks to Jenifer Hanratty and Cath Hill who will man the phones and keep things going in Bev's absence.

AFTER HOURS CONTACT: Anyone in urgent need of a priest outside of office hours needs to call the Parish Office number. The call will be diverted to a message bank. Please leave your name, contact number and a brief message.

PARISH PASTORAL VISITORS:

A reminder to Parishioners that if you wish a visit from anyone from the Parish whilst you are in a local hospital, you must have indicated this at the time of Admission to the Hospital.

People who are at home and in need of a visit from the Parish need to let the Parish Office know on 5174 2060. Contact needs to be made by a family member. More information about this in coming Bulletins.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

- On Sunday 24th September, Bishop Pat will be in our Parish and will celebrate Mass at St Columbkille's at 10:30am, followed by a community 'cuppa'. Mass on that Sunday at St Michael's will be at 9:00am.



- To celebrate 100 years of Fatima Rosary will be said on Saturday 14th October at the statue of 'Our Lady of the Way' in the church gardens on Kay St at 10:00am, following morning Mass.

SR DOREEN: Please keep Sr Doreen in your prayers. We hope that her recovery goes according to plan.

R.C.I.A.: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. St Michael's Parish warmly invites anyone interested in discovering more about the Catholic faith to contact Susan Grout on 0412 671 308 for further information.



"CURRENT OF GRACE" CCR Conference: Friday 18th to Sunday 20th August
A big welcome to Fr Ken Barker, Moderator of Missionaries of God's Love Order, and all those who are visiting our Parish this weekend for the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Conference.

POSTAL PLEBISCITE ON "SAME-SEX MARRIAGE" ANNOUNCED

The Australian Government has announced there will be a postal plebiscite on whether the definition of marriage in the Marriage Act 1961 should be changed to include "same-sex marriage". Ballot papers will be sent out to households on Tuesday, 12 September and all votes must be received back by Tuesday, 7 November. If you are not enrolled to vote, or if you need to update your postal address, go to www.aec.gov.au/enrol/ before the cut-off date of Thursday, 24 August. Vote No, to keep marriage as a unique relationship between a woman and a man.

AN EVENING OF GOOD NEWS: Those who turned out in the cold on Thursday evening to spend time with RoseMarie Prosser enjoyed an evening of learning more about the why and wherefore of the Gospel writings. For some of us, presenting a new and enlightened way of hearing these familiar readings, making them challenging perhaps, but as always bringing God's wisdom to us. Our sincere thanks to RoseMarie for sharing her knowledge, her enthusiasm and her faith with us. We are richer for your presence among us. Thanks to the Liturgy Team for providing our Parish with this opportunity.

CARITAS THANK YOU

Caritas Australia extends our most heartfelt thanks to each and every person, school and parish who supported Project Compassion 2017. With your generosity and creativity, together we raised over 11million for the most vulnerable communities around the world. THANK YOU for making a difference.

YOUTH MASS: Planning is underway for a Youth Mass to be celebrated on *Sunday 27th August at 9:30am.*



All young people are warmly invited to participate in this special Mass which will feature youth in many ministry roles. It was great to have so many youngsters turning up for training on Thursday evening.

Further training sessions for readers, musicians, offertory procession, prayer of the faithful, reading, collectors will be held at **5:00pm on August 24.**

Please contact Jen Hanratty on 0437 492 349 or the Parish Office on 5147 2060 if you or any of your young people are interested to learn more.

YOUTH MASS MORNING TEA

To celebrate our first Youth Mass we are having a morning tea in the Hall after Mass. All parishioners are invited to attend and asked to bring a plate of morning tea to share.

SMY@L – St. Michael’s Parish Youth Group

St. Michael’s Youth group is for all young people from **Year 5, 6 & lower secondary levels (from any school).** SMY@L meet in the Mary MacKillop Hall a few times each school term, and run a variety of activities in a safe, friendly environment with leaders from our Parish Community who all have current Working With Children Checks. We meet on a Friday night.

Participants are signed in and out at the end of each session. Our leaders all have experience in working with young people.

FRIDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER

OPERATION SHOE BOX & FOOTY PIE NIGHT

Dress up in footy colours (prizes for best dresses), and have some fun as we sort & pack the shoeboxes & have pies/snacks for supper! A great night to come and help those in need!

At St Michael’s Mackillop Hall. 6.30–8.30pm. Parent/family help required from 7.45pm please. Cost: Items/Donations/money/ for the showboxes.

Phone Lou on 51750877 for info.

SEASONS FOR GROWTH ADULTS PROGRAMME:

‘Seasons for Growth’ is an innovative education programme which explores the effects of change, loss and grief.

Training for facilitators for Seasons for Growth will take place on August 24 & 25, 9:00am to 4:00pm in the Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne. Cost \$550.00 per person (includes companion manual, journal and seminar workbook). Further details please contact Bev at the Parish Office on 5174 2060.

ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE: Two of our seminarians, Avinash George and Hiep van Nguyen, will be ordained Deacons for the Diocese of Sale on **Saturday 2nd September at 11.00 am** at St Mary’s Cathedral, Sale.

If parishioners are wishing to attend this marvellous occasion, could you please let Bev know at the Parish Office to assist with catering.

Those who will be singing in the choir are asked to attend one of two rehearsals offered:

1. Saturday 19th August 2pm, Sacred Heart Church, Commercial Rd, Morwell
2. Sunday 20th August 1pm, St Michael’s Church, High St, Berwick



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for some new volunteers from our Parish to go on the Reading/Commentating roster. We love seeing new people being involved in our Parish. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested.

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:

“For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable.” - ROMANS 11:29

God has a special mission in mind for each of us. He has given us the gifts we need to accomplish that mission. We are called to be good stewards by using those gifts to do the work that He has planned for each of us. If we deny our gifts or fail to use them as God calls us to use them, then some part of His work will be left undone.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN:

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

Counters: August 20 Mitchell Team
August 27 Burns Team

ASSUMPTION COLLEGE KILMORE: will celebrate its 125th anniversary in 2018. If you are a former student of the College, please let Maria Cleve (Alumni Development Officer) know. Many celebratory events are being planned.

Please contact her on 5783 5343 Or email her at maria.cleve@assumption.vic.edu.au.

Rosters for August 27 ~ 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time

Mass	Lector	Commentator	Eucharistic Ministers	Welcomers	Music	Sacristan
Saturday 6:00pm	C DiCorleto	M Noone	J Scholtes, R Tactor, Volunteer x2	S Frankland L Kennedy	Jane	A & M Giddens
Sunday 9:30am	Youth	Youth	W Detering, C Payne, J Cahill, C Mesaric, J Hanratty, Volunteer	Youth	Jane / Youth	G Imhagwe
Sunday 6:00pm	R Tarraran	R Tarraran	R & J Hayes Volunteers x2	G Edgar J Sykes	Jane	C Fernando

- **Altar Cleaning:** August 27 J Scholtes September 3 M Tainsh
- **Church Cleaning:** August St Gabriel’s Team September McLaughlin Team
- **Children’s Liturgy of the Word:** Marianne & Therese
- **Touring Statue of Our Lady:** August 27 V & J Besselink September 3rd B Wilksch
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:** August 24 Mitchell Team August 31 May Team

Entrance Antiphon Ps 83:10-11

*Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;
and look on the face of your anointed one;
one day within your courts
is better than a thousand elsewhere.*

First Reading I Isah 56: 1 6-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 66:2-3 5-6 8 Rv4**(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!**

1. O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. **(R.)**
2. Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. **(R.)**
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. **(R.)**

**Second Reading** Rom 11:13-15 29-32

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom

And healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 15:21-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Woman, you have great faith.

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

Next week's Readings: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 22:19-23

Second Reading: Romans 11:33-36

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20