

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

Sunday April 22, 2018

## St Michael's Parish, Traralgon

St Michael's Church, Traralgon

St Columbkille's Church, Glengarry

www.smpt.org.au  
email:  
traralgon@cdsale.org.au

**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.

**Statement of Commitment to the safety of children and vulnerable adults:** Central to the mission of St Michael's Parish 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  
Parish Centre 5174 2060  
Priests' Residence: 5174 6765

**Sr Doreen Dagge** RSJ 5174 9997

**Monsignor John Allman**  
O'Mara House 5174 9674

**St Michael's Parish Office** 5174 2060  
35 Kay Street, Traralgon  
PO Box 103, Traralgon 3844

Office hours –  
Tuesday to Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm  
Parish Secretary: Mrs Bev O'Brien  
Email: sec@smpt.org.au  
Sacraments Admin: Mrs Jenifer Hanratty  
Email: sacraments@smpt.org.au

**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:** Greg Imhagwe Chairperson, Fr Francis, Sr Doreen, Kevin Taylor, Ray Moretti, Amanda Reid, Jenifer Hanratty, Steve Kimani, Marita Kennedy, Rob Tarraran, Jodie Ware, Ros Joyner, Doug Doherty and Bev O'Brien.

**Our Schools:**

**St Gabriel's School** 5174 5515  
Principal: Mrs Roslyn Joyner

**St Michael's School** 5174 3295  
Principal: Mrs Jodie Ware

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

**PARISH OPEN MEETING WITH BISHOP PAT O'REGAN:** Please keep **Thursday April 26 at 7:30pm to 9:00pm** free to come and attend an Open Meeting with Bishop Pat regarding preparation for the 2020 Plenary Council Meeting. The meeting will be held in the St Mary MacKillop Hall, and will be followed by supper. Parishioners are asked to bring a plate of supper to share.

*The format of the evening is roughly as follows:*

7:30pm Welcome

7:35pm Prayer

7:45pm History and nature of a Plenary Council: about the 2020 Plenary Council: what the Bishops are doing: what the Sale Diocese is doing: introduction to the Gaudium et Spes group: what each Parish is asked to do.

8:10pm Snapshot of each Parish and the Diocese of Sale.

8:20pm Open session

9:00pm Close and cuppa.

The first session of the Plenary Council Meeting will take place in Australia in October 2020, and so now we are in the preparation stages of this journey.

There will be a second meeting of the Council in May, 2021.

May each of us keep all our Church leaders and our parishes in our prayers throughout this process.

Thursday April 26

7:30 - 9:00pm  
Take plate of supper to  
Parish Open Meeting  
With Bishop Pat  
Topic:  
the future of our  
parish, diocese and  
Church.

## SUNDAY MASS TIMES

<b>Saturday</b>	6.00pm	St Michael's Traralgon
<b>Sunday</b>	9:30am	St Michael's Traralgon
	10:00am	St Columbkille's Glengarry
	6:00 pm	St Michael's Traralgon

## WEEKDAY LITURGY TIMES

### **April 23 to 28**

**Mon 23** 9:30am Liturgy of the Word

**Tues 24** 9:30am Liturgy of the Word

### **Weds 25**

**Thurs 26** 9:30am Mass

**Fri 27** 9:30am Mass

**Sat 28** 9.30am Mass, Reconciliation

6:00pm Mass

**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 Reg Morga and Nell Bakker and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Melissa Gualtier, Gloria O'Neill, Giustina Mosele, Ted Clarke, Sean Pedley and Shirley Membrey.

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

## WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

including Joe Agostino, Fr Bernard Buckley, Joan Lamont, May O'Reilly, Brian Vivian, Dorothy Buckland, Lee Allman, Joy Cahill, Dot Mulquiney, Ivy May, Celie Smith, Maria Alessandrini, Joyce Martin, Marie Howard, Robert Hazelman, Fr Frank Freeman, Carolyn Gleeson, Gary Donchi, Ann Lapuh and Fr Frank Young.



**CATHOLIC LIFE:** The latest Edition of Catholic Life has arrived. Please take a copy home with you and find out what's happening in our Diocese. Please feel free to take a copy to anyone you know who is housebound.

## LADIES WORSHIP IN SONG:

Saturday May 5 2:00-4:00pm at the Traralgon District Baptist Church, 58-62 Kay Street. Entry by donation, please bring a plate to share.

All ladies are warmly invited to enjoy singing psalms, hymns and songs of praise.

Enquiries to : 0431 936 653

## WELCOME TO FR HERMAN AND TO FR

**EDWIN:** Fr Herman Hengel will be with us this weekend for Mass on Saturday night and Sunday morning, and Fr Edwin from the Morwell Parishes will again help us out and celebrate Mass this Sunday evening. Fr Francis will return to the Parish on Thursday April 26. Our huge thanks to both Fr Herman and Fr Edwin for being with us. We hope you enjoy your time here at St Michael's.

## BAPTISMS:

This weekend, we welcome for Baptism – Sabella Juliet McGirr, daughter of Wade and Lisa. Congratulations and welcome to the family from us all!



The next meeting for those preparing for Baptism is on **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 7:00pm in the Parish Centre.** Please contact the Parish Office on 5174 2060 for further information.

## CONFIRMATION 2018 DATES:

### Parent & Child Workshop 1 —

St Mary MacKillop Hall

Date: **Wednesday 2nd May**

Times: **4pm or 5.30pm**

### Parent & Child Workshop 2 —

St Mary MacKillop Hall

Date: **Wednesday 9th May**

Times: **4pm or 5.30pm**

### Celebration of Confirmation

The celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation will be held on:

**Friday 11th May - 6pm Mass**

**Saturday 12th May - 6pm Mass**

## 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.

## CCR DAY OF THANKSGIVING:

Saturday 28th April 9:30am – 2:00pm in the Mary MacKillop Hall.

Fr Peter Bickley is the outgoing chaplain for the Charismatic Renewal group; we will also welcome Fr Francis O'tobo as the new chaplain.

All are warmly invited to attend.

I am  
the Good Shepherd  
John 10:11



## NEW TESTAMENT COMMENTARY:

*I lay down my life.*

**Acts 4:8-12; John 10:11-18**

*'The good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.'*

The image of the good shepherd expresses Jesus' utterly free gift of himself for us. Later in Gethsemane, there will be armed soldiers and he will be arrested, and from then on it could appear that Jesus is a victim of Jewish and Roman law. Today's Gospel makes it clear that Jesus' death is an act of loving self-surrender. He is the shepherd who places his own life at risk to defend his flock. He is the shepherd who will even die if that will enable his flock to live. This is a difficult image to transpose to our Australian culture. Perhaps we need to look at life-savers or firemen/women, who go into danger for others. Jesus is a volunteer.

This then raises two questions – what does Jesus save us from? What does Jesus save us for?

In this brief space, I can only say that Jesus saves us from the evil of ignorance of God, as Jesus knows God. The God Jesus reveals is one who loves this world and calls us to be beloved sons and daughters. In making this God known, Jesus drew down the wrath of those whose god was too small and restrictive. Faced with their opposition Jesus could have withdrawn and saved his life, but instead he chose to continue teaching and revealing his God, knowing that his choice would lead to death. So that we would know the depths of God's love, Jesus laid down his life. He is the shepherd who dies that we may be truly alive.

The passage from John 10 occurs in the context of the Feast of Tabernacles, which starts in John 7 and then continues until 10:21. An aspect of this Feast was a heightened expectation of the Messiah, understood by many in terms of a leader like Moses or David. Prior to this passage Jesus had restored sight to a man born blind and this had led him into conflict with the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem, as this cure had taken place on the Sabbath (9:14), and as part of the cure Jesus had 'made clay' (9:6,14,15). Jesus enacts the love of God that is not restricted by religious rules and expectations. In Chapter 5, Jesus had been in a similar conflict with the Jerusalem authorities about his healing of a crippled man on the Sabbath, and now that Jesus is back in Jerusalem this conflict continues. Because the feast is associated with the hope of a future saviour figure, some in the crowd are wondering if Jesus could be the Messiah: 'Can it be that the authorities really know that this is the Christ (in Hebrew – Messiah)' (7:26).

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**New testament commentary, continued**

When Jesus confronts the Jerusalem leaders, he draws upon an Old Testament image of leadership, that of the good shepherd. This image recalls that David, Israel's great king, was once a shepherd. The Prophet Ezekiel, at the time of the Exile in Babylon (587 BCE), criticised the leaders of Judah and called them false shepherds. Because these leaders had not cared for the people, Ezekiel declares that God will be the true shepherd of Israel. 'Thus says the Lord God, "I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep. I will seek the lost, I will bring back the strayed, I will bind up the crippled and I will strengthen the weak."' (Ezek 34:15-16) In his dispute with the leaders of Jerusalem, Jesus draws on this image to speak of himself: 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep.' (10:11) Where the one who is hired has no real care and flees when threatened, the Good Shepherd knows his sheep and is prepared to give his life for them.

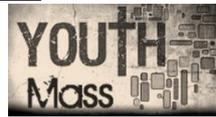
Throughout the Gospel, some of the people have looked to Jesus as the long awaited Jewish Messiah, the one expected at the end of time to bring about the reign of God in peace and justice. Frequently the people want a political Messiah like David, a warrior who will liberate them from Rome. Jesus refuses to accept these messianic images. The one image he will accept is that of the messianic good shepherd, prepared to lay down his life.

During the Easter ceremonies, this image of the good shepherd willing to lay down his life was symbolised in the Washing of the Feet where these same words are used to describe Jesus 'laying aside' his outer garments, and then 'taking them up'. What was expressed in symbol and imagery has now been accomplished in Jesus giving over of his life on the Cross and taking it up again in the Resurrection.

By Mary Coloe PBVM

**MONTHLY YOUTH MASS:**

Our next Youth Mass will be celebrated on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 6:00pm Mass.



Come and join with this energized group of youngsters.

Youth Mass Training session will be on Thursday May 10, from 4:30 to 5:30.

If interested contact Jen Hanratty at the Parish office (5174 2060).

**The Senior Youth Committee** will meet on 17<sup>th</sup> May at 4:30pm in the Parish Centre. Any secondary school aged children are invited to take part.

**SMY@L – St.Michael's Parish Youth Group**

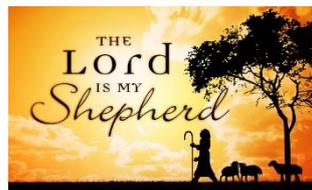
St.Michael's Youth group is for all young people from Year 5, 6 & lower secondary levels (from any school). SMY@L meet in the Mary MacKillop Hall a few times each school term, and run a variety of activities in a safe, friendly environment with leaders from our Parish Community who all have current Working 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 April 27  
Escape Room!**

*A night of adventure games where you need to work together to solve a series of puzzles and riddles using clues, hints and strategy to escape the themed room.*

Meet at St Michael's Mary MacKillop Hall. 6:30-8:30pm Cost \$3.00. Contact Leah 0438 811 709 for info.



***Mick's Kitchen***

We are currently feeding around 60-70 people each Thursday evening in the St Vincent de Paul Centre. The need for this service in the community is unquestionably obvious.

Our Teams are currently desperately in need of fresh members to help out. It's not difficult and it is very rewarding. Volunteers must have a current WWCC linked to the Parish (this is easy to do online, assistance available at the Parish Office if needed).

We are grateful to all our volunteers, and especially to the students from Lavalla College whose help is invaluable. Please contact Judi Scholtes on 0439 555 994 if you are able to help us out. All assistance very gratefully received.

*Matthew 25:34*

*'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.*

**FINANCE MATTERS:**

*"I am the good shepherd...and I lay down my life for the sheep...and they will heed my voice."* – JOHN 10:14-16

When you pray, do you only ask Jesus for the things that you want? Do you ever ask Him what He wants from you? How do you listen for His response? Usually, the answer is in "quiet whispers", so take time every day, in silence, to actively listen for His response.

**STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN:**

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

**Counters:**

- April 22** Mitchell Team
- April 29** Waanders Team

**Rosters for April 28 and 29 ~ Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Mass	Lector	Commentator	Eucharistic Ministers	Welcomers	Music	Sacristan
6:00pm	Sr Doreen	M Noone	J & M McLaughlin, C DiCorleto, T De Koke	Volunteers required on roster	Jane	A Symonds
9:30am	J Dal Pra/ T Denny	L Van der Velden	B McKenna, D Bau, L Panozzo-Tilè, Volunteers x 3	Volunteers required on roster	Jane	P& L Van der Velden
6:00pm	J Panozzo-Tilè	S Luscombe	J Reid, R Tarraran, Volunteers x 2	Volunteers required on roster	Jane	L Theissing

- **Altar Cleaning:** April 22 L Kennedy April 29 M Giddens
- **Church Cleaning:** April Collis Team May Tognella Team
- **Children's Liturgy of the Word:** Marianne and Therese
- **Touring Statue of Our Lady:** April 29 E Krieger May 06 M Dick  
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 26 Kitchen Closed (Parish Meeting) May 03 Scholtes Team

**Entrance Antiphon** Cf. Ps 32:5-6

*The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia*

**First Reading** Acts 4:8-12

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*This is the only name by which we can be saved.*

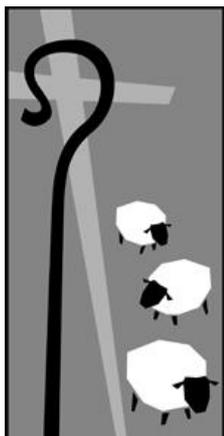
Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence, today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 117:1. 8-9. 21-23. 26. 28-29. R. v.22

**(R.) The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone**

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.  
It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in men:  
it is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes. **(R.)**
2. I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour.  
The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. **(R.)**
3. Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes.  
We bless you from the house of the Lord;  
I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour.  
Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his love has no end. **(R.)**

**Second Reading** 1 Jn 3:1-2

A reading from the first letter of St John

*We shall see God as he is.*

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are.

Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

**Gospel Acclamation** Jn 10:14

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;*

*I know my sheep, and mine know me.*

*Alleluia!*

**Gospel** Jn 10:11-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep.*

Jesus said:

'I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep.

And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, and these I have to lead as well. They too will listen to my voice, and there will be only one flock and one shepherd. The Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.

No one takes it from me; I lay it down of my own free will, and as it is in my power to lay it down, so it is in my power to take it up again; and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'

Next weeks Readings 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 9:26-31

Second Reading: 1 Jn 3:18-24

Gospel: Jn 15:1-8-