



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

Deacon Tony Aspinall
Phone 5174 8167
Em: deacontony@gmail.com

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

NEW TESTAMENT COMMENTARY by Mary Coloe PBVM

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; John 15: 9-17

'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you.'

Last week gave us the image of a vine to express the intimacy between Jesus and his disciples, this week Jesus draws on the image of a family to speak of his relationship with God as a father. Because this is such familiar language, we can forget that it is in fact an image. God is not a father, or a vine-keeper or a shepherd. These are images drawn from life experience to try to speak about God in ways familiar to our human experience.

The close love between a parent and child is the love Jesus says exists between himself and his disciples. Later he speaks of them as friends. There is in this passage a progression of relationships: God loves Jesus who loves disciples who are to love one another. The measuring stick for our relationship with God is our relationship with each other. Christians cannot withdraw into a pious cosy 'me and God' duet. Being at home with God requires that we open ourselves to be at home with others. Not an easy task!

There is a saying, 'absence makes the heart grow fonder,' and this can be true for God. It's easier to love the 'absent' God in a distant heaven than to love God present in our families or workplaces or living in our streets. 'Love one another, as I have loved you.' Jesus loved to the point of giving his life. What are we asked to give to another – a listening ear, an hour of our time, a card or letter, a visit? 'What I command you is to love one another.'

The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles marks a watershed in the self-identity and mission of the early church. The first believers were all Jews. Jesus' own ministry had not extended further than the homeland of the Jewish people. It naturally followed that the first disciples considered their task in terms of the restoration of Judaism. But their experience challenged them to think differently. In their preaching to the crowds and even in the Synagogues some non-Jews were present and were drawn to their message. This raised great questions – could non-Jews be part of the Jesus movement, or was the Gospel to be restricted to the children of Israel?

Just prior to this episode in the house of Cornelius, Peter had experienced a dream where he was shown all kinds of food being offered to him to eat. But, according to the laws of Judaism, he could not eat this food since it was unclean. In this dream he heard a voice saying, 'What God has cleansed, you must not call common.' (10:15) We are not told how Peter interpreted this dream but he then travelled to the house of a non-Jew, Cornelius. We are told that Cornelius was a 'God-fearing' man. This describes a person who was attracted to Judaism, even attending the synagogue but who had not been fully converted.

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SUNDAY MASS TIMES

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

WEEKDAY LITURGY TIMES

May 07 to 12

Mon 07	9:30am	Liturgy of the Word
Tues 08	9:30am	Mass
Weds 09	11:00am	Exposition
	12:00pm	Mass
Thurs 10	9:30am	Mass St Gabriel's
	7:30pm	Healing Mass
Fri 11	10:30am	Mass, Bupa Care
	6:00pm	Mass, Confirmation Celebration #1
Sat 12	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 Eugene McCrohan, Robert Cunico, Betty Hayler and Marie Murphy and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Paul Denny, Alice Peck, Kevin Lythgo, and member of the Benc and Zidar families.

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

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

including Dorothy Smith, 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.



CELEBRATE OUR LADY OF FATIMA on Saturday May 12 at St Brigid's Church, Cowwarr beginning at 9:00am – 4:00pm. The program includes Adoration & confession: benediction: morning tea: Fr Edwin Ogbuka, speaker: Procession and crowning our Lady's statue: Mass, Lunch. Fr Ken Clark, speaker: Divine Mercy Chaplet. Enquiries to Pat Crozier 04000 218 417.

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



HEALING MASS: There will be a healing Mass held this Thursday evening at 7:30pm. All are warmly invited to attend.

PENTECOST SUNDAY: Pentecost Sunday falls on May 20 this year. It is fifty days since Easter, and the time we welcome God's Spirit among us, bringing us inspiration, energy, consolation, comfort and peace. *In our parish this Pentecost, we will celebrate with a special Mass at 9:30am to be followed by a shared morning tea in the Mary MacKillop Hall.* Parishioners are invited to come to Mass and morning tea wearing something red (shirt, tie, hair ribbon, lipstick, shoes, skirt) as a symbol of Pentecost and are asked to bring a plate of delicious food to share. It would be marvellous if people were able to bring finger food from their country of origin. 6:30pm Mass will not be celebrated on May 20. . All are warmly invited to attend.

CONFIRMATION 2018 DATES:

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

WEDNESDAY MAY 30, 7:30pm

All parishioners are warmly invited to come and spend an evening ***celebrating Mary Our Mother.*** An evening with prayer, reflection, insight, songs. Please bring a plate of supper to share.



THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Tues May 08

1:00pm Knights of the Southern Cross, Mary MacKillop Room

Weds May 09

4:00-5:00pm and 5:30-6:30pm Confirmation Workshop 2, Mary MacKillop Hall.

Thurs May 10

4:30-5:30pm Youth Mass

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP:

BE MOVED

BY THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

Our Charismatic Prayer Group will be running this seminar over six Thursday evenings. 7:30-9:00pm in the Mary MacKillop Hall. Everyone is welcome to come along.

May 17 *God's Promise and God's Love*
Fr Francis O'tobo

May 24 *Jesus is Lord - Patrick Kelly.*

May 31 *Gift of God's Spirit – Wendy Power*

June 07 *Forgiveness, Healing and Reconciliation – Cathy McLure*

June 14 *Baptism in the Holy Spirit – Adrian Commadeur*

June 21 *Growth and Community – John Duiker*

For enquiries, please contact Cathy McLure on 0432 588 195.

OUR WEBSITE:

It's interesting

www.smpt.org

to see how much our Website is used. We usually have between 300 and 400 views each month, and 50% of those are new users. We have had 32,000 hits to date since the website was launched on September 01, 2016.

Steve Kimani, Greg Imhagwe and Kevin Taylor have been meeting to discuss what we need in our website, and so it will be taken down from this weekend, and re-launched on Friday June 1st.

Our Bulletin will still be accessible on the website during that time.

Our sincere thanks to Steve, Greg and Kevin who spend many hours keeping us up to date.

NO MASS AT 6:00PM ON SUNDAY MAY 20!

MONTHLY YOUTH MASS:

Due to our Parish celebration taking place on Pentecost Sunday, May 20, the planned Youth Mass for that evening has been cancelled. There will not be any 6:00pm Mass that day..



The Youth Mass Training session planned for Thursday May 10 has also been cancelled.

NO MASS AT 6:00PM ON SUNDAY MAY 20!

The Senior Youth Committee will meet on 17th 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 May 18 ~ Trivia Night

Make up your own team or join a team on the night. Lots of games, trivia and prizes to be won!

Meet at St Michael’s Mary MacKillop Hall. 6:30-8:30pm Cost \$3.00. Contact Sally 0403 282 630 for info.

New Testament Commentary ~

(Continued from page one)

Peter comes to realise the laws of Judaism, about who can belong and who cannot, no longer apply: ‘God does not have favourites’. Then, as if to take the matter out of Peter’s hands, the Spirit comes upon Cornelius and his household. This was not expected. These people were pagans, outside the ancient covenant made between God and Israel, and yet they see the same Spirit of God now coming onto these people.

The incident appears to happen quite quickly. I suspect that behind this episode lies a length of time trying to discern what God wants. Is the Jesus story to be opened up to non-Jews or not? How can God now be inviting non-Jews into the ancient covenant with Israel? These were not easy questions at that time.

The great blessing of this episode is the gift of discernment to recognise that God is able to do something new, something that stretched the boundaries of the disciples’ experience and thinking. I see this as an on-going struggle in our church. As humans, part of an organisation, we clarify who is a member of the group and set up rules or markers to distinguish who is ‘in’ and who is ‘out’. The episode with Cornelius challenges us again and again to look at the rules we make and see if perhaps we might be trying to restrict the action of God’s Spirit.



DATES FOR OUR CALENDARS:

June 17 2:00-4:00pm our first Parish Forum - our time to speak about our Church, our Diocese and what we hope for in the future. Hopefully, all parishioners will come and let us know how they’re feeling about the Church.

FINANCE MATTERS:

“This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends” – JOHN 15:12-13

Do you love Jesus? Do you consider Him your friend? Jesus says that if we love Him we would be willing to offer whatever we have to Him, not because we want praise and glory, but simply because we love Him. Does your giving seem mechanical out of obligation or do you share freely out of love?

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN:

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

Counters:

- May 06** Arend Team
- May 13** Armstrong Team

The month of May. Within the cycle of a year, the Church unfolds the whole of the mystery of Christ, from his incarnation and birth until his ascension, the day of Pentecost, and the expectation of blessed hope and of the Lord’s return . . .

In celebrating this annual cycle of Christ’s mysteries, the Church honours with special love **Mary, the Mother of God**, who is joined by an inseparable bond to the saving work of her Son. In her the Church holds up and admires the most excellent effect of the redemption and joyfully contemplates, as in a flawless image, that which the Church itself desires and hopes wholly to be. SC 102,103 *(from the 2018 Ordo)*

Rosters for May 12 and 13 - the Ascension of the Lord

Mass	Lector	Commentator	Eucharistic Ministers	Welcomers	Music	Sacristan
6:00pm	A Taylor	D Smith	J Scholtes, Volunteers x 3	G & D Bassett	Jane	D Buckland
9:30am	T Denny S Reid	C McCabe	W Detering, D Prestipino, B & S Edgar, G Imhagwe, A Reid	C Payne M Wilkinson	Jane	M Hanratty
6:00pm	E Joseph		J Fleming, S Luscombe, volunteers x2	M Noone	Jane	L Theissling

- **Altar Cleaning:** May 06 M Tainsh May 13 J Scholtes
- **Church Cleaning:** May Tognella Team
- **Children's Liturgy of the Word:** Alison, Tamille and Josephine
- **Touring Statue of Our Lady:** May 06 M Dick May 13 N & C Watts
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
- **Flick's Kitchen:** May 10 Hemming Team May 17 Burns Team

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Is 48:20

*Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;
proclaim to the ends of the earth:
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.*

First Reading Acts 10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the gentiles also.

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said, 'I am only a man after all!'

Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said, 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 97:1-4. R. see v.2

(R.) *The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.*

1. Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. **(R.)**
2. The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. **(R.)**
3. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. **(R.)**

**Second Reading** 1 Jn 4:7-10

A reading from the first letter of St John

God is love.

My dear people,
let us love one another
since love comes from God
and everyone who loves is begotten by God and
knows God.
Anyone who fails to love can never have known God,
because God is love.
God's love for us was revealed
when God sent into the world his only Son
so that we could have life through him;
this is the love I mean:
not our love for God,
but God's love for us when he sent his Son
to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 15:4-5

*Alleluia, alleluia!
All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and
we will come to them.
Alleluia!*

Gospel Jn 15:9-17

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

No one can have greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete.

This is my commandment:

love one another, as I have loved you.

A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you, I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.

You did not choose me, no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name.

What I command you is to love one another.'

Next weeks Readings

The Ascension of the Lord

First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:1-13

Gospel: Mark 16:15-20