



## St Michael's Parish, Traralgon

St Michael's Church, Traralgon

St Columbkille's Church, Glengarry

**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.

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

**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 Otabo** Parish Priest  
Parish Centre 5174 2060  
Priests' Residence: 5174 6765

**Deacon Tony Aspinall**  
Phone 5174 8167  
Em: deacontony8@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: Bev O'Brien  
Email: sec@smpt.org.au

Sacraments Admin Jenifer Hanratty  
Email: sacraments@smpt.org.au  
Youth Coordinator Jenifer Hanratty  
Email: youth@smpt.org.au

**After office hours** - in case of an emergency please call 0448 529 712 and leave a message. All non-urgent calls should be made during office hours.

**Baptisms:** Six 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, 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

### **COMMENTARY** by Richard Leonard, SJ.

The word *love* has to be the most misused word in our language. We often say we love our house, our car, our holiday or even ice cream. Then we use exactly the same word to describe our feelings for our spouse, family, friends or children. If language is a window into meaning, then we are in strife at the loose way we transfer the same word for vastly different feelings and realities. At least I hope we feel differently about people over possessions. The way some people go on about their car, pets or money we begin to wonder.

The love Jesus encourages us to have in today's Gospel is a very particular love. He tells us not just to love one another, but to 'love as I have loved you'. The core of Jesus' love for us is sacrificial love, where he laid down his life that we might live. While love is a popular word, and even more popular notion, in our music, film, art and literature, sacrificial love is not something we hear much about these days or that we embrace very easily. Loving someone in the popular imagination has come to mean hanging in there until someone better comes along, or we grow bored of each other sexually or personally. Often it entails keeping the exit door on commitment nice and handy for the quick get away. But this hardly describes a love that involves sacrifice.

Sacrificial love is demonstrated in deeds not words. It states that there is no point in saying we love anyone unless our actions follow the profession we make. Sacrificial love is not just about warm and fuzzy feelings; it is an intensely practical affair where our love is judged by our gentleness, kindness and patience with each other. Christian love is not arrogant or rude, it does not drag other people down, but rejoices and weeps when others are successful or downhearted. Loving as Jesus has loved means telling the truth with compassion, forgiving, working at trust and holding on to faith in the face of difficult times. Jesus does not promise us that this commandment is easy, just necessary if we are to love as he loves us.

While sacrificial love demands of us that we die unto self, Jesus never asked us to 'kill' ourselves. The distinction matters. All too often the Church has been guilty of giving out this teaching in a way that people thought they should put up with violent, undignified and soul-destroying behaviour from their spouse, children, parents, family or friends. Sacrificial love is never destructive. It is a free gift where we sometimes forego other options, opportunities and even good things for a love and life that is even better. The Lord laid down his life for us and in turn the Father raised him up to a glorified life. What's true for him is true for us. We lay down our lives for each other so we can take up a new and richer life. We are never meant to destroy ourselves or stay in relationships that rip our dignity from us. Sometimes the most Christian thing we can do is to set up boundaries or make decisions that protect ourselves from behaviour which is neither loving nor Christian.

May this Eucharist then grant us the wisdom to love people and not things. May it help us embrace sacrifice in a way that leads to life and may it give courage to sort out the relationships that affirm our dignity and help us grow in faith, hope and love.

## SUNDAY MASS TIMES

<b>Saturday</b>	5:30pm	St Michael's Traralgon
<b>Sunday</b>	9:30am	St Michael's Traralgon
	10:00am	St Columbkille's Glengarry
	5:30pm	St Michael's Traralgon

## WEEKDAY LITURGY TIMES

### May 20 to 25

<b>Mon 20</b>	9:30am	Liturgy of the Word
<b>Tues 21</b>	10:45am	Mass, Margery Cole
<b>Weds 22</b>	9:30am	Mass
<b>Thurs 23</b>	9:30am	Mass
<b>Fri 24</b>	9:30am	Mass
<b>Sat 25</b>	9:30am	Mass

**Rosary:** Tuesday to Sunday 30 minutes before Mass.

**Reconciliation:** Saturdays 10:15am & 5:00pm or any other time by arrangement with Father.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** We remember those who have died recently including Winnie Kelly (Ireland), Sr Anna Maria Dal Pra, Shannon Landsown and Sr Lauraine Bryce and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Tommy Higgins, Rosanne Higgins, Thomas Edward Higgins, Amanda O'Brien, Simon O'Brien, Peg Keary, Ted & Sheila Caldwell, Mons. James O'Mara, Tess Conlon, Joyce Limbom and Giuseppe Stipani.

**Lord, Let your perpetual light shine upon them. May the rest in peace. Amen.**

## WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK

including Maria Alessandrini, Lee Allman, Lulu Aragon, John Besselink, Fr Bernard Buckley, Julie Dal Pra, Ann-Maree Daly, Gary Donchi, Jennifer Fitzgerald, Fr Frank Freeman, Marj Gilbert, Carolyn Gleeson, Ron Grinter, Robert Hazelman, Imogen Hillier, Marie Howard, Joan Lamont, Ann Lapuh, Peter Lont, Joyce Martin, Ivy May, Deborah Mc Kerchar, Joan Quigley, Joan Riggall, Malcolm Selzer, Ray Smith, Jerry Templer, Brian Vivian, Celie Smith, Margaret West and Fr Frank Young.

**OUR PARISH 'APP':** This is definitely the best way to keep up with what is going on in our Parish, and it's so easy to enjoy! Parish information right there, on your phone. Easily download-able from either the App Store or Google Play. If you need any assistance, please ask any PPC member or any teenager you know.



**THANK YOU:** to Deacon Tony for 'minding the shop' while Fr Francis attended the Clergy Retreat. We are so grateful for all you do for us. **Welcome back Fr Francis,** we hope you enjoyed the Retreat.

**BAPTISMS:** This weekend, we welcome for baptism:

- \* **Xavier Ian Conway,** son of Luke and Katie;
- \* **Lucy Lina Gatt,** daughter of Jayke and Tayla; and
- \* **Mikayla Maree Fenech,** daughter of Jason and Casey.



*Congratulations to the families, from us all.* Our next meeting for those preparing for Baptism is on **Wednesday June 12 at 7:00pm in the Parish Centre.** Please contact the Office on 5174 2060 for further information.

**MONTHLY PRAYER EXPERIENCES:** in response to our Parish Plenary discussions, the Parish will offer evenings of prayer once a month. The first will be on **May 28<sup>th</sup> in the Mary MacKillop Room at 7:30pm.** **Shane Reid** will present an evening of Meditation on Rembrandt's Painting, 'The Forgiving Father'. A light supper will conclude the evening.

Our second Prayer Experience will be held on **Tuesday June 25** and will be a Lectio Divina session run by Chris Roga. *Put these dates in your diaries!*

**PENTECOST SUNDAY** On Sunday June 09, we will celebrate Pentecost with a multi-cultural Mass, which will be followed by a multi-cultural celebration in the hall, where our various nationalities will promote their cultural foods, music and costumes.

We are currently seeking leaders from our various ethnic groups. If you are able to help assist the organization of this wonderful celebration, please contact  
Greg Imhagwe 0415 682 574,  
Amanda Reid 0417 134 532,  
Steve Kimani 0405 430 957or  
Ray Moretti 0418 510 847.

*Be sure to mark this parish celebration on your calendars now, and begin planning 'your' ethnic contribution.*

## NEXT WEEKS MEETINGS:

### Tuesday 21

- 11:45am-12:30pm** Alpha Team, Parish Centre
- 7:00pm** Mick's Kitchen Team Leaders  
St Vincent de Paul Centre

### Wednesday 22

- 9:00am- 1:00pm** Icon School  
Parish Centre
- 12:30pm** Weds pm Cells Group,  
Parish Centre

**TRINITY FAMILIES COLLECTION** Trinity Families is the Sale Diocese's charitable fund which does magnificent work providing support for programs which aid families in need of welfare services.

Over the past 15 years it has provided a staggering \$1.5 million to assist other charities to run programs for families in need in our region.

Programs funded include family counselling services, parenting programs, suicide prevention, respite care, drug and alcohol programs and emergency accommodation.

Trinity Families could do much more if it had more financial resources and that is why we need you to respond positively to the annual appeal in our parishes.

The theme this year is "Be the reason someone smiles today." Your generosity in supporting this annual appeal will be greatly appreciated.

On the tables are envelopes which can be used for donations. Cheque and credit card donations can be posted back to the diocese but we ask that cash donations are placed in the envelope and returned in one of the Sunday collections. Tax deductible receipts will be provided if you give your email or postal address.

The Trinity Families website [www.trinityfamilies.org.au](http://www.trinityfamilies.org.au) has details if you wish to donate by direct debit. Again, please give generously to this once a year appeal and hopefully we see smiles on the faces of many more struggling families within our diocese.

In our parish, Trinity Family envelopes will be in the Church entrances, **and a leaving collection will be taken up at our Masses this weekend.**

## RECEIVE THE SPIRIT:

Come and encounter the Holy Spirit in a deeper way in your life.

### Thursday evenings

**May 09 to 30 7:30 – 9:00pm**  
**Mary MacKillop Hall**

For enquiries, phone Cathy McLure on 0432 588 195.

## YOUTH GROUP 20 YEARS CELEBRATION

Dear Parishioners,

*We have appreciated your ongoing support of our Youth group over the last 20 years. You have prayed with and for us, have assisted us in fundraising and supported our efforts to help kids overseas with gifts/money for the shoeboxes (Operation Christmaschild) each September. You are warmly invited to help us celebrate our 20<sup>th</sup> birthday! Our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration reunion will be on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May, from 7pm – 9pm. All welcome! More details on flyers in the Church foyers. Please RSVP to Louise 0414 540 296 for catering purposes.*



**VOLUNTEERS**

**REQUIRED:**

Thanks to those who have come forward to help out on our church cleaning roster. We are still in need of perhaps another four or five people. Please let the Parish Office know if you could help out. Thank you.

**VISITING NURSING HOME RESIDENTS:**

We are in need of volunteers who will visit parishioners who are living in nursing homes. There will be a meeting on **May 30 at 2:00pm in the Parish Centre** for all those who have an hour or two to spare each week, and would like to make a difference in their lives. Volunteers must have a current Working With Childrens Check. Please leave your details at the Parish Office if you can help.

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION:**

*"I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." (John 13:34)*

It is easy to love someone when they love you back. But it takes strength and courage to love someone when we feel unappreciated, used or feel our opinion doesn't matter. It takes courage to "love my neighbour" when he may be someone I don't like, someone I don't know or someone that doesn't look like me.

**PARISH FINANCE MATTERS:**

Should you wish to have information about our Planned Giving program please contact the Parish Office.

Counters -  
**May 19** Waanders Team  
**May 26** Arend Team



**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** All kindergarten and primary-school aged children are welcome to participate in the Children's Liturgy of the Word which occurs during 9:30am Masses during term time. Contact Marianne Saunders on 0490 628 833 for further details.

**ST MICHAEL'S YOUTH GROUP IS TURNING 20!** SMY@L

Youth would like to invite past members, leaders, families and parishioners to St Michael's Youth Group 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion. **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 7:00-9:00pm, St Mary MacKillop Hall.** Invitation flyers are available in the church foyers, please take one and spread the word! Inquiries and RSVP to Louise on 0414 540 296

**FORMATION SESSION:** The next Formation Session for our Yr 6 to Yr 12 young people will be held on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June, 7:00-8:30pm** in the Parish Centre. The Guest Speaker at this gathering will be **Susan Luscombe** who will present a session on 'The Images of God'. Anyone interested in bringing food for our youngsters to eat, your generosity would be gratefully and eagerly accepted. Please contact Jen on 5174 7703 to let her know. Huge thanks to **Terry Phelan** for feeding our Youth this week!

**YOUTH MASS:** Our next Youth Mass will be celebrated at the 9:30am Mass on Sunday June 9<sup>th</sup>, our Multi-cultural celebration Sunday, Pentecost Sunday. Contact Uwa Imhagwe on 0406 212 504 if you wish to participate in this celebration.

**JUNIOR CHOIR:** will also be joining in our Pentecost Sunday Mass celebrations. They will have a rehearsal on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May at 4:00-4:45pm in the Church. Contact Jane Mitchell on 0419 107 366 for further details.

**LAMP YOUTH EVENT:** For ages 12-25, 125 High Street, Berwick, May 24, 5:30-9:30pm. Games, friendship, music, workshops and more. Dinner provided. Free Registrations, please bring items such as toiletries, beanies, scarves, blankets and non-perishable foods to donate to C.O.T.S., Young Vinnies, Soup Van and others in need in our community. Register at [www.thelampyouth.com](http://www.thelampyouth.com).

**CONFIRMATION NEWS . . . And the 2019 Saints names are :-**



**Sebastian (x4); Bernadette (x3); Mary MacKillop (x3); Elizabeth (x2); Christopher (x2); Gabriel (x2); John (x2); Mary (x2); Mother Theresa (x2); Abigail, Thomas Aquinas; Catherine, Catherine of Alexandria, Clare, Clare of Assisi, Elizabeth Ann Seton, Francis, Francis of Assisi, Gregory, James, Jeremy, Joan of Ark, Katherine Drexel, Michael, Paul, Theresa and Valentine.**

*Congratulations to the children, their families and all involved in the preparation and the celebrations of these wonderful liturgies.*

**Rosters for May 25 and 26 ~ Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Mass	Lector	Commentator	Eucharistic Ministers	Welcomers	Music	Sacristan
5:30pm	R Foote	C DiCorleto	J Scholtes, R Tactor, J Ware, Volunteer	S Frankland L Kennedy	Jane	A & M Giddens
9:30am	S Reid T Denny	M Moulton	W Detering, C Payne, M Hanratty, Volunteers x3 (or Deacon Tony and two Volunteers)	C Collis E Freeman	Jane	G Imhagwe
5:30pm	L Pendergast	M Pendergast	Volunteers x 4 needed	G Edgar J Sykes	Jane	Volunteer required

- **Altar Cleaning:** May 19 S MacManus May 26 M Giddens
- **Church Cleaning:** May volunteers required please
- **Children's Liturgy of the Word:** Marianne and Therese
- **Touring Statue of Our Lady:** May 19 P Ayres May 26 P & J Dal Pra  
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:** May 23 Adroit Team May 30 Mitchell Team



**Entrance Antiphon** Cf. Ps 97:1-2

*O sing a new song to the Lord,  
for he has worked wonders;  
in the sight of the nations  
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.*

**First Reading** Acts 14:21-27

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*They assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them.*

Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. 'We all have to experience many hardships' they said 'before we enter the kingdom of God.' In each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe.

They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed.

On their arrival they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans.

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 99:1-3 5 Rv3

**(R.)** *I will praise your name for ever,  
my king and my God.*

1. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. **(R.)**
2. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God, to make known to men your mighty deeds and the glorious splendour of your reign. **(R.)**
3. Yours is an everlasting kingdom; your rule lasts from age to age. **(R.)**

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

1<sup>st</sup> Reading Acts 15:1-2 22-29

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Apoc 21:10-14

Gospel John 14:23-29

**Second Reading** Rv 21:1-5

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

*He will wipe away all the tears from their eyes.*

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, 'You see this city? Here God lives among men. He will make his home among them; they shall be his people, and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone.' Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: 'Now I am making the whole of creation new.'

**Gospel Acclamation**

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*I give you a new commandment:  
love one another as I have loved you.  
Alleluia!*

**Gospel** Jn 13:31-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John  
*I give you a new commandment: love one another.*

When Judas had gone Jesus said:

'Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified.

If God has been glorified in him, God will in turn glorify him in himself, and will glorify him very soon. My little children, I shall not be with you much longer.

I give you a new commandment: love one another; just as I have loved you, you also must love one another.

By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples.'

