**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, Thomas Mathew, 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

NEW TESTAMENT COMMENTARY by Mary Coloe PBVM***Do you have what it takes to follow Jesus?*****Philemon 9-10, 12-17; Luke 14:25-33**

The letter to Philemon is one of the most personal of Paul's letters – just one chapter, perhaps a single page written quickly when a messenger was on his way from Paul's prison, towards the end of his life. It is addressed to Philemon and others who are part of a small house-church, possibly in Colossae (vv. 1-2). Paul has befriended a slave whom he calls Onesimus – which may not be a real name since it means 'useful' in Greek, so may just be a general title. Paul draws upon his friendship with Philemon and also his status as a prisoner to intercede for Onesimus who appears to be a runaway slave of Philemon. Paul has brought Onesimus into Christianity and so speaks of him as his child. Although Paul would like to keep him to assist him during his time in prison, he cannot do this without the approval of Philemon. Paul urges Philemon to receive Onesimus back, not as a slave, nor as one deserving punishment, but as 'a beloved brother'. Because of Christ, Paul understands that the old world, its values and polarities no longer operate; as he wrote to the Galatians, 'There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus' (Galatians 3:28) – now all are one in Christ.

Paul's letter, and his letter to the Galatians, expresses the ideal of Christian relationships. It would be helpful to know how Paul's letter and Onesimus were received. Is it possible for master and slave to truly become 'one in Christ'? Could Philemon defy the social and cultural conventions of his neighbours and welcome Onesimus back as a 'brother'. What could be the consequences for Philemon if he did that – remember that slavery was an important part of the social infrastructure of the Roman Empire – nothing would make the Christian community stand out more than if they liberated their slaves. This week marks the anniversary of Martin Luther King's 'I have a dream' speech in Washington. King, like others who sought human rights for Afro-Americans, paid with his life. This might be a parallel context to consider Philemon's choice.

Jesus' teaching and miracles have been attracting crowds of would-be followers. Today's Gospel challenges these followers to realise that discipleship has a cost. It's all very well to go with the crowd when the miracle-worker is in town and gaining popularity, but have these followers considered the consequences? Jesus speaks of the utter commitment needed to be a disciple. In Semitic fashion, he sets out the options in a clear 'black or white' extreme position. To 'love' Jesus means 'hating' all else.

In a world which spends millions on advertising and promoting products and causes, Jesus' words sound very strange. Far from advertising discipleship, his words sound discouraging. 'Take up your Cross' is hardly a caption that would sell Christianity. But this is just the point. Jesus isn't after half-hearted followers. He wants 'all or nothing' Christians, people who know what they are taking on and give a whole-hearted commitment.

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Saturday	5:30pm	St Michael's Traralgon
Sunday	9:30am	St Michael's Traralgon
	5:30pm	St Michael's Traralgon

WEEKDAY LITURGY TIMES

September 09 to 14

Mon 09	9:30am	Liturgy of the Word
Tues 10	9:30am	Mass
Weds 11	11:00am	Exposition
	12:00pm	Mass
Thurs 12	9:30am	Mass, St Gabriel's PS (Yr 3/4)
Fri 13	10:30am	Mass, Bupa Care
Sat 14	No Mass	

Rosary: Tuesday to Sunday 30 minutes before Mass.

Reconciliation: Saturdays 5:00pm, Wednesdays at 11:30am or any other time by arrangement with Father.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We remember those who have died recently including Brian Cross, Marion Minogue, Carmela Woodhouse and Cyril Carberry and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Tom King, Richard Moulton, Maria Di Sisto, Giuseppe Agostino, Charlotte Maat, Antony Fitzpatrick, Dorothy & John McKee, Luciano & Elina Spano, Brianna Lowden and Joseph, Janina & Greg Kurowski.
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, Fr Bernard Buckley, Dot Buckland, Conceicao Carvalho, Julie Dal Pra, Ann-Maree Daly, Gary Donchi, Bernadette Formaran, 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, Ray Smith, Jerry Templer, Brian Vivian, Celie Smith, Margaret West and Fr Frank Young.



WELCOME, FR JOSEPH: we warmly welcome Fr Joseph Itodo to our Parish this weekend. Fr Joseph is from Nigeria for a holiday (a working holiday)! We hope you enjoy your time at St Michael's, and in Australia, Father.

BAPTISMS: This weekend we welcome for Baptism:-

- * **Hudson Parker Adamo**
son of Adam & Aimee:
- * **Austin Andrew Harmer**
son of Cristopher & Anna:
- * **William Francis Krekelberg**
son of John & Jessie:
- * **Vincent Cole Scammell**
son of Nicholas & Aurelia:
- * **Opal Jean Veneman**
daughter of Sean & Brigitte.



Congratulations to you all, from all of us in St Michael's, welcome to the family!

Our next meeting for those preparing for Baptism is on **Wednesday September 11 at 7:00pm in the Parish Centre.** Please contact the Office on 5174 2060 for further information

OUR PRAYER EXPERIENCE:

IGNATIAN PRAYER EVENING: Our thanks to **Theresa Denny** who lead us in an imaginative, prayerful consideration of God's Word. What an exciting, deep way to use all our senses to respond to God's Word.

We learned a little of the life of St Ignatius, and of the benefits to all of his teachings and beliefs. Ignatian spirituality is a spirituality for everyday life - that 'we can find God in all things.' It insists that God is present in our world and active in our busy lives.

OUR ROSTERS: if you have a look at our Rosters (pg 3), you'll notice that the person most frequently mentioned is 'Volunteer'. Thanks to all those who are already on the rosters, your response to your baptismal calling certainly is appreciated, and helps make our Masses meaningful celebrations. Without your support our Masses would be very stark indeed.

We are currently seeking volunteers to help make our Masses well run, vibrant celebrations, and are in need of :-

- ***Commentators** ***Eucharistic Ministers,**
- ***Welcomers** ***Sacristans**
- ***Musicians** ***Money Collectors.**
- ***Church cleaning**

Please help enrich your Parish life by becoming a volunteer, training is available. These ministries are a very rewarding way of living our faith, and enhancing our Parish life. Please contact the Parish Office on 5174 2060 if you would like to help out or require any further information.

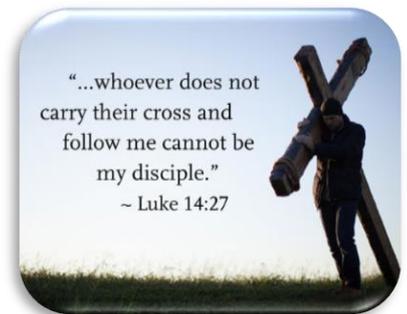
NEXT WEEKS MEETINGS:

Tuesday 10

- 1:30pm** Knights of the Southern Cross,
Mary MacKillop Room
- 7:00pm** Mick's Kitchen Team
Leaders, SVdP Centre
- 7:30pm** Alpha Training Meeting
Parish Centre

Wednesday 11

- 9:00am-1:00pm**
Icon School, Parish Centre
- 7:30pm** Parish Pastoral Council,
Parish Centre



ALPHA 2020:

The pilot Alpha course has begun, with evenings of good food, good company and conversation. If you would like to attend, please contact Cathy McLure on 0432 588 195 for more information.

Alpha Prayer

Heavenly Father,
thank you that you made your love for the world known by sending your Son to die for us all. I pray that through the Alpha program that many people will come to a deeper knowledge of your love as it has been revealed in Jesus Christ, and as a result, follow Him.
Amen

EMMAUS SPIRITUALITY:

Emmaus Spirituality Ministry is facilitating their next prayer session on **12th September from 1:00-3:00pm** at 48-50 Monash Road, Newborough. All are warmly invited to come and join us. Please contact 0477 474 848 or email salespirituality1@gmail.com to enquire and/or give indication of attendance.

Charismatic Healing Mass
Sacred Heart Church, Morwell
25th September 2019 – 7:00pm
Fr Edgar Boglosa
All welcome!



PARISH FINANCE MATTERS:

August 2019

Loose collections

August 04	\$ 950.00
August 11	\$ 980.00
August 18	\$1,284.00
August 25	\$1,100.00
	<u>\$4,314.00</u>

Planned Giving

Envelopes	\$ 5,348.55
Direct Debit	\$ 6,083.00
Credit Card	\$ 2,860.00
Unplanned giving	\$ 521.35
July total	<u>\$14,813.20</u>

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION:

*"Everyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple."
(Luke 14:33)*

When we first hear this statement, it seems that Jesus is making an unrealistic demand upon us. How can we renounce all of our possessions? We need them to live. However, what we must renounce is the belief that they belong to us. Everything that we have belongs to God alone. All of our resources are entrusted to us not only for our own use, but also so that we can help others. Once we renounce the idea that we possess or are entitled to anything, it is much easier to share the many gifts that God has given us. Then we truly are His Disciples.

PARISH FINANCE MATTERS:

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

Counters - **Sept 08** Arend Team

Sept 15 Armstrong Team

PRIESTS' WELFARE FOUNDATION

COLLECTION: The amount raised for the Priests' Welfare Foundation was \$1,439.00. Thank you to all who contributed.

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 school Term time. during term time. Contact Marianne Saunders on 0490 628 833 for further details.



SM@YL next meet on **Friday 13th September** for their Operation ShoeBox night. The evening will be spent packing the Operation Shoeboxes in preparation for mailing out.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES 2019 . . . SMY@L Youth Group would like to invite you to help us help children living in poverty, with a small gesture, a special gift. Operation Christmas Child is an initiative of the Christian organisation 'Samaritan's Purse'. They help children and families from all over the world, in the poorest of countries. We help by making up shoeboxes filled with goods, which are then delivered to children in third world countries for Christmas. There are 3 ways to help us out - Donate items for the boxes, donate money and /or help to pack the boxes.

Last year we filled 80 boxes & this is the 9th year we are taking part. Our boxes are sent to places such as Fiji or Indonesia. If you are interested, please pick up a flyer from the Church foyer with more details about how you can help.

Thank you in advance for your support and generosity.

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020 DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY:

Thanks to those Parishioners who will represent our Parish at the Diocesan Assembly on Friday 13th and Saturday 14th September in Warragul.

Please keep our fourteen volunteers in your prayers. May God's voice be felt and listened to at the Assembly.

PLENARY 2020 TRAINING SESSIONS FOR ANIMATORS, PARISH, SCHOOL & AGENCY PLENARY TEAMS

How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church?



After the Diocesan Assembly, our Diocese will enter the next phase of our Journey to the 2020 Plenary Council. The *Listening and Discernment* stage commences with training and formation of all Animators, clergy, parish, school and agency Plenary teams and for any interested persons.

All Animators are expected to attend training. It is highly desirable that Parish Plenary Teams, Pastoral Councils and School Leadership Teams participate.

If any of our Parishioners would like to know more about the commencement of the *Listening and Discernment* sessions, please don't hesitate to contact the Parish Office. There is more information about the Regional Training Sessions for the *Listening and Discernment* phase on flyers in the Church Entrances.

Rosters for September 14 & 15 ~ 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass	Lector	Commentator	Eucharistic Ministers	Welcomers	Music	Sacristan
5:30pm	R Foote B Purcell	M Noone	C DiCorleto, B Power, M Giddens, D Buckland	H Luque	Diamente Family	L Theissling
9:30am	M Hansen N Georgeson	C McCabe	T Denny, J & W Waanders, A Symonds, Volunteers x3 (or Deacon Tony and 2 Volunteers)	R Benbow M Blanchard	Charismatic Choir	P & L Van der Velden
5:30pm	E Harte E Joseph	S Luscombe	J Reid, D Locke, Volunteers x2	Volunteer Required		Volunteer Required

- **Altar Cleaning:** Sept 08 F Rycak Sept 15 L Kennedy
 - **Church Cleaning:** Sept McLaughlin Team
 - **Children's Liturgy of the Word:** Sept 08 Carolyn and Josephine Sept 15 Jane and Grace
 - **Touring Statue of Our Lady:** Sept 08 H Theissling Sept 15 J McCormack
- 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:** Sept 12 Adroit Team Sept 19 Mitchell Team

Entrance Antiphon Ps 118:137,124

*You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.*

First Reading Wis 9:13-18

A reading from the book of Wisdom
Who can comprehend the will of God?

What man can know the intentions of God? Who can divine the will of the Lord?

The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable; for a perishable body presses down the soul, and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind. It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth, laborious to know what lies within our reach; who, then, can discover what is in the heavens?

As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom and sent your holy spirit from above?

Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened and men been taught what pleases you, and saved, by Wisdom.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 89:3-6 12-14 Rv1

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

1. You turn men back into dust
and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'
To your eyes a thousand years
are like yesterday, come and gone,
no more than a watch in the night. **(R.)**
2. You sweep men away like a dream,
like grass which springs up in the morning.
In the morning it springs up and flowers:
by evening it withers and fades. **(R.)**
3. Make us know the shortness of our life
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?
Show pity to your servants. **(R.)**
4. In the morning, fill us with your love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:
give success to the work of our hands. **(R.)**

**Second Reading** Phlm 9-10, 12-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Philemon

Receive him, not as a slave anymore, but as a very dear brother.

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him – I could say – a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Let your face shine on your servant,
and teach me your laws.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 14:25-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

All who do not renounce their possessions cannot be my disciples.

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

Next weeks Readings

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14

2nd Reading 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Gospel Luke 15:1-32