



St Michael's Parish, Traralgon

St Michael's Church, Traralgon

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 Otobo Parish Priest

Fr Ajin Albarnas IVD Assistant Priest

Deacon Confidence Masvosva

Parish Centre 5174 2060

Priests' Residence: 5174 6765

Deacon Tony Aspinall

Phone 5174 8167

Em: deacontony8@gmail.com

Sr Doreen Dage 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 –

Tues, Weds, Fri 9:00am to 4:00pm

Parish Secretary: Bev O'Brien

Email: sec@smpt.org.au

Sacraments / Youth Jenifer Hanratty

Email: sacraments@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, Lia Di Corleto, Watson Gomez, Jenifer Hanratty, Steve Kimani, Judi McLaughlin, Thomas Mathew, Amanda Reid, Kevin Taylor, 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

WELCOME: It is with great joy that this weekend we welcome **Fr Ajin Albarnas** to our Parish. Fr Ajin arrived here on Thursday afternoon and is settling in to life in Traralgon, Victoria, Australia. A huge change from his home life in Kerela, India.

I know I can rely on you all to welcome Fr Ajin (as warmly as you welcomed me) and do your best to make St Michael's Parish his 'second home'. Please come and share a cuppa with him in the Hall following 9:30am Mass this Sunday.

FR ELIO . . . second instalment . . .

A great crowd gathered in the Lecture Theatre at the St Paul's Campus of Lavalla Catholic College to listen to and be entertained by Fr Elio Capra last Monday evening, as he continued his evenings of looking at how the Gospels can help us to prepare for Lent; how to deepen our commitment and our desire to be more Christ-like not only in our everyday lives, but also in our prayer lives.

He spoke about how the various Gospels address this time of preparation for Easter, and encouraged each of us to look closely at our relationship with Jesus and figure out how we can best allow Jesus' love to shine in our lives regularly.

Next Monday, Fr Elio's topic is '**Lent as the journey to Easter**'. I strongly recommend this evening to you all.

Come along and enjoy a chat and supper afterwards, our thanks to the ladies of our CWL group for providing supper.

OPERATION STUDY YOUR BIBLE: The month of February is quickly going by, so hopefully you will all be up to reading Chapter 16 this Sunday. One chapter a day, allowing time to read prayerfully and meditatively. Keep up the good work!!!

If you have any concerns or questions as you read, feel free to contact me to have a chat, or drop a written note into the office. I will advise the theme for our discussion and the date in next week's bulletin.

FIRST COMMUNION: On the weekend of **April 18th & 19th** we will celebrate the sacrament of First Communion at our Parish Masses.

The preparation process has begun, and the meeting dates are as follows:-

Parent Information Evening **Wednesday 4th March 6:45pm**
in the St Mary MacKillop Hall

Parent & Child Workshops 1&2 **Wednesdays March 11 & 18**
4:00-5:00pm or 5:30-6:30pm
in the St Mary MacKillop Hall.

I am sure I can rely on you all to keep these children and their families in your prayers throughout this time of preparation for this important Sacrament.

'The Eucharist . . . is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.'

[Evangelii Gaudium (2013) 47]

Fr Francis

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

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

WEEKDAY LITURGY TIMES

February 17 to 21

Mon 17	9:30am	Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Tues 18	10:45am	Mass, Margery Cole
Weds 19	11:00am	Requiem Mass for Monica Jordan
Thurs 20	9:30am	Mass, SGPS
Fri 21	9:30am	Liturgy of the Word with Communion

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, remembering especially Monica Jordan, Kevin Kearns and Stefano Angelucci and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Graeme Membrey, Kathleen & George Hodgson, Antonio Panozzo-Tilè, Domenico Carrioli, Jack Heyfron, Bishop Fox, Fr Spiteri, Mary McNulty, Elizabeth Russell, Joseph Lapu, and Doris & Joe Hourigan

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

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK

including, including Megan Agostino, Maria Alessandrini, Lee Allman, Lulu Aragon, Cath Boers, Fr Bernard Buckley, Conceicao Carvalho, Julie Dal Pra, Peter Dal Pra, Ann-Maree Daly, Anthony Derham, Gary Donchi, Bernadette Formaran, Fr Frank Freeman, Marj Gilbert, Carolyn Gleeson, Robert Hazelman, Imogen Hillier, Marie Howard, Joan Lamont, Peter Lont, Joyce Martin, Ivy May, Deborah Mckerchar, Ben Melenhorst, Joan Quigley, Joan Riggall, Kath Ryan, Ray Smith, Jerry Templer, Julie Vaz, Brian Vivian, Celie Smith, George Walkan, and Fr Frank Young.

2020 SACRAMENTS:

Enrolment forms for the Sacramental Programs for this year are now available from the Office.

BAPTISMS: Our next meeting for those preparing for Baptism is on **Tuesday March 17th at 7:00pm in the Parish Centre.** Please contact the Parish Office on 5174 2060 for further information.



MEN'S BREAKFAST: The Men's Breakfast held last Saturday had a good turn out.



Breakfast was shared by about 35 people, who listened to Mike Hansen share his experiences of walking the Camino de Compestela.

The next Men's Breakfast will be held on **Saturday June 13**, mark the date! More information closer to the date.

CHILD SAFETY . . For those parishioners who missed the Child Safe Training Day held here on November 09, 2019, there are a number of Child Safe Training Days being held throughout the Diocese in coming weeks. This may be a good way for all our parishioners to catch up with our role as Parish in creating, providing and maintaining a safe environment for children and vulnerable adults in our midst.

St Agatha's Parish Hall, 129 Sladen Street, Cranbourne – Saturday 22nd February 10:00am-12:30pm

Sacred Heart Primary Hall, Morwell – Saturday 18th April 10:00am-12:30pm

NEXT WEEKS MEETINGS:

Monday 17th February

7:30pm Fr Elio, Lavalla College, Lecture Theatre, St Paul's campus.

Tuesday 18th February

7:30pm Finance Team meeting

Wednesday 19th February

5:30pm Risk Management Team

1:00pm Weds pm Cells Group, Parish Centre

Thursday 20th February

7:30pm Youth Ministry Team Meeting

ALPHA 2020:

Alpha will run from **April 15 to June 24.** Evenings begin with a

meal at 6:30pm, followed by a DVD presentation and discussion time. Being held in the St Vincent de Paul Help Centre in Kay Street. This is for everyone! Contact Cathy 0432 588 195 for further information.



GOSPEL READING, (continued)

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'



NEW PARISH OFFICE HOURS: *The Parish Office will be open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:00am to 4:00pm.*

If any-one has an urgent need of Father or the staff on a Thursday, please ring the office on 5174 2060 and leave a clear and concise message.

FINANCE MATTERS:

"For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:20)

The scribes and Pharisees lived according to the letter of the law, and they used this to elevate themselves above the other people. Jesus is clear – it's the love that you have in your heart that will get you to heaven. Simply following church rules out of obligation, not love, does not put you on the path to heaven. Attending Mass on Sunday and then gossiping about a fellow parishioner on the parking lot is an example of a modern day Pharisee.

PARISH FINANCE MATTERS:

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

Counters Feb 16 Mitchell Team
Feb 23 Waanders Team

Rite of Election 2020 The Rite of Election will be celebrated by Bishop Patrick at St Mary's Cathedral on Sunday 1st March at 3.00 pm.

A Diocesan Choir will be formed to lead the singing for this beautiful ceremony. Most of the music will be familiar to parishes. Interested singers are asked to register their interest by contacting Sophy Morley at the Diocesan Pastoral Office 03 5622 6677 (leave a message) or email smorley@sale.catholic.org.au Music packs will be emailed out to you or given to you on the day.

Fr Elio Capra

Dates: February 03, 10 & 17

Time: 7:30pm

St Paul's Lecture Theatre,

Lavalla Catholic College

Grey Street Traralgon

(entry next to Traralgon College)

Feb 03 A New Look at Lent ~

From giving up to choosing

Feb 10 The Gospels of Lent Year A ~

A challenge to conversion and spiritual growth

Feb 17 Lent as the journey towards Easter

Enjoy a cuppa and supper afterwards.

Entry by gold coin (or larger) donation.



Fr Elio Capra SDB is a lecturer at Catholic Theological College and is a member of the Departments of Systematic Theology and the Department of Pastoral and General Studies.

He lectures in Liturgy and Sacramental Theology. He is a priest of the Salesians of Don Bosco.

Fr Elio's main academic interests are the Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults, and resources for the period of Mystagogia in the RCIA.

Come and enjoy his fresh, enlightening and entertaining approach to Lent.

CHILDREN'S

LITURGY:

all Primary School aged children are invited to attend Children's Liturgy which takes place during the 9:30am Mass.



YOUTH MASS/CHURCH CHOIR:

Our Next Youth Mass will be on **Sunday February 23rd at 5:30pm Mass.** The Youth Choir will sing at this Mass, with rehearsal at 4:30pm (one hour before the Mass).

YOUTH TEAM MEETING; Thursday

21st February at 7:30pm in the Parish Centre.

SM@YL: Yr 5 to Lower Secondary students.

Friday 28th February 2020

Wet'n'Wild Games Night

Wear old clothes or bring spares and a towel!

Warning! You WILL GET WET and have lots of fun.

St Michael's Mary MacKillop Hall, 6:30-98:30pm, Cost \$3.00 + items for the Shoeboxes. Contact Rach on 0499 077 735 for info.

LAMP DIOCESAN YOUTH

GATHERING: Saturday 22nd February at Narre Warren

'RISE!' MELBOURNE ANNUAL YOUTH EVENT on Saturday March 21.

Please contact Jen on 5174 7703 for details of both these events.

Please advise your attendance to St Michael's Parish Office 5174 2060 or email to sec@smpt.org.au

February 22 & 23 ~ 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Special Ministers of the Eucharist – 4 ministers are required for 5:30pm Masses, and 6 ministers at 9:30am.

Deacon Tony and Deacon Confidence will assist when present.

Mass	Lector	Commentator	Eucharistic Ministers	Welcomers	Music	Sacristan
5:30pm	H Theissling B O'Brien	S Grout	J Scholtes, R Tactor, J Ware, volunteer as required	S Frankland L Kennedy	Jane	A & M Giddens
9:30am	S Reid U Imhagwe	M Tainsh	W Detering, C Payne, M Hanratty, S Reid, Volunteers as required	C Collis E Freeman	Jane	G Imhagwe
5:30pm	C Roga, J Panozzo- Tilè	Volunteer required	C Hill, E Hill, volunteers as required	G Edgar J Sykes	Youth Choir Jane	Volunteer required

- **Altar Cleaning:** Feb 16 S MacManus Feb 23 M Giddens
 - **Church Cleaning:** Feb St Michael's PS Team
 - **Children's Liturgy of the Word:** Feb 16 Carolyn and Josephine Feb 23 Youth Mass
 - **Touring Statue of Our Lady:** Feb 16 C & C Medhurst Feb 23 G & S Dorling
- 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:** Feb 20 Mitchell Team Feb 27 McLaughlin Team

Entrance Antiphon Cf Ps 30:3-4

*Be my protector, O God,
a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.*

First Reading Sirach 15:15-20

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

He never commanded anyone to be godless.

If you wish, you can keep the commandments,
to behave faithfully is within your power.
He has set fire and water before you;
put out your hand to whichever you prefer.
Man has life and death before him;
whichever a man likes better will be given him.
For vast is the wisdom of the Lord;
he is almighty and all-seeing.
His eyes are on those who fear him,
he notes every action of man.
He never commanded anyone to be godless,
he has given no one permission to sin.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 118:1-2 4-5 17-18 33-34 Rv1

(R.) Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord.

1. They are happy whose life is blameless,
who follow God's law!
They are happy those who do his will,
seeking him with all their hearts. **(R.)**
2. You have laid down your precepts
to be obeyed with care.
May my footsteps be firm
to obey your statutes. **(R.)**
3. Bless your servant and I shall live
and obey your word.
Open my eyes that I may consider
the wonders of your law. **(R.)**
4. Teach me the demands of your statutes
and I will keep them to the end.
Train me to observe your law,
to keep it with my heart. **(R.)**

Second Reading 1 Cor 2:6-10

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

God in his wisdom predestined our glory before the ages began.

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 2:32

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 5:17-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Such was said to your ancestors, but I am speaking to you.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.

'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

'It has also been said: Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

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