

**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

FR ELIO . . . Again we gathered to listen to this gifted man speaking about Lent as the preparation for Easter. Fr Elio has a wonderful way of presenting which gives each of us plenty of food for thought, and a great chance to deepen our faith at whatever level suits us.

He spoke about the different readings that we experience throughout our liturgical years (Yr's A, B & C); the reasons these readings have been selected for us and some history to each of the readings, and the audience each Gospel was written for and by whom.

Fr Elio uses art to help illustrate his message to us, along with a very healthy sense of humour. Each of us who attended any and all of these evenings has been greatly enriched by the experience.

Our thanks to our Liturgy Team for answering the needs expressed for Adult Formation, Fr Elio certainly has plenty to offer us.

Our thanks also to the wonderful ladies of the Traralgon CWL who so generously catered for the suppers for each of these evenings. The chance to share a cuppa, a lovely supper and quality time together was appreciated and enjoyed by all.

OPERATION STUDY YOUR BIBLE: The month of February is quickly going by, so hopefully you will all be up to reading Chapter 23 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.

As discussed earlier, the theme for our "Matthew Gathering" will be 'The Labourers in the Vineyard' (Matthew 20:1-16). We are all labourer's in the Lord's vineyard.

We will gather together on Monday 2nd March at 7:30pm in the Parish Centre to share whatever particularly appealed to us whilst we've been reading Matthew, and then consider more closely the 'labourers in the vineyard'.

LENT: Lent begins next Wednesday. Lent is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and helping others. Lent can be more than a time of fasting; it can be a season of feasting. We can use Lent to fast from certain things and feast on others.

We can ~

Fast from judging others; feast on Christ dwelling in them.

Fast from emphasis on differences; feast on the unity of life.

Fast from apparent darkness; feast on the reality of light.

Fast from thoughts of illness; feast on the healing power of God.

Fast from words that pollute; feast on phrases that purify.

Fast from discontent; feast on gratitude. (with thanks to Fr Elio)

May we all be blessed with the grace to listen closely to God in prayer during this time of Lent.

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 24 to 28

Mon 24	9:30am	Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Tues 25	9:30am	Mass

Feb 26 ~ Ash Wednesday

9:30am	Mass	(St Gabriel's PS in attendance)
12:00pm	Mass	(St Michael's PS in attendance)
6:00pm	Mass	
Thurs 27	9:30am	Mass
Fri 28	9:30am	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, remembering especially Val Smith, Linda Brady and Monica Jordan and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Jan Gilmour, Francesco Sbaglia, Maria Concetta Raso, Agostino Spano, Ken Vivian, Graeme Membrey, Kathleen & George Hodgson, Antonio Panozzo-Tilè, Domenico Carrioli, Jack Heyfron, Bishop Arthur Fox and Fr Spiteri.

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 Mc Kerchar, Ben Melenhorst, Joan Quigley, Joan Riggall, Kath Ryan, Ray Smith, Jerry Templer, Julie Vaz, Brian Vivian, Celie Smith, George Walkan, and Fr Frank Young.



BAPTISMS: This weekend, we welcome for baptism:-

- * **Bayleigh Kathleen Dick**, daughter of Daniel and Kerry:
- * **Kai William Clarke**, son of Brendan & Alyssa:
- * **Lenny Joseph Hollingsworth** son of Bertram and Tabbatha:
- * **Sienna Jozefa Alway**, daughter of Jarryd and Amy.
- * **Elora Anne Panozzo-Tile**, daughter of John and Miranda.



Congratulation to the families, from us all.

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.

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.

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

NEXT WEEKS MEETINGS:

Wednesday 26th February

9:00am	Weds AM Cells Group Mary MacKillop Room
9:00am-12:30pm	Icon School, Parish Centre
1:00pm	Weds PM Cells Group Parish Centre

Thursday 27th February

7:30pm	Glengarry Meeting Parish Centre
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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.



SUNDAY MARCH 01: We have been advised that *we will not have power on Sunday March 01 between 8:30am and 3:30pm.* Parishioners are asked to sit as close to the front as possible at the 9:30am Mass (and indeed, at our 5:30pm Masses, also).

GLENGARRY CHURCH: a meeting will be held in the Parish Centre on **Thursday 27th February at 7:30 pm** to discuss our way forward with the St Columbkille Church and the contents of the building. All parishioners are warmly invited to attend.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be celebrated at 7:30pm on the Fridays of Lent. All welcome.

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

If anyone 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.

MONDAY 16TH MARCH:

How is God calling us to be a **Christ-Centred Church this is Prayerful and Eucharistic?**

Presented by Fr Paul Turner STD (USA) All are welcome to attend this workshop at 7:30pm at St Patrick's Parish Centre, Princes Highway, Pakenham. Supper following the workshop. Fr Paul's books will be available for purchase. Bookings \$10 per person, please book online go to <https://www.trybooking.com/BIMRS>.

PARISH STRATEGIC PLAN: Remember our Parish Forums, our Plenary Council meetings? Well, all the information collected at those gatherings has now been collated, prayed over, sorted, prayed over, and the PPC have now come up with a Strategic Plan for our Parish for the next three years. Please take the time to have a close look at the 'mind map' versions of our updated, renewed Strategic Plan. Congratulations to Greg Imhagwe and all the members of the Parish Pastoral Council for their hours of enthusiasm and work.

EMMAUS WALKING RETREAT - Sunday March 22 to Sunday March 29, 2020

Cost, \$1,500.00. A 7 day walking Retreat in South Gippsland, from San Remo to Welshpool; the walk takes participants along the George Bass Coastal walk, Bass Coast Rail Trail and the Great Southern Rail Trail. For Registration, please ring 0477 474 848.

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



SMY@L: 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, 6:30-9:30pm, Cost \$3.00 + items for the
Shoebboxes. Contact Rach on 0499 077 735 for info.

YOUTH MASS: will be celebrated on the fourth Sunday of
every month at the 5:30pm Mass. Rehearsals will be
held one hour prior to Mass (at 4:30pm). It would be
lovely for our parishioners to strongly support our youth,
to show them our appreciation.



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

Please contact Jen on 5174 7703 for further details of this event.

YOUTH FORMATION EVENING: Friday March 13th at 7:00-9:00pm. Supper
Provided. Our young folk will join in the Stations of the Cross.

2020 SACRAMENTS: Enrolment forms for the Sacramental Programs for this
year are now available from the Office.

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.

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

FINANCE MATTERS:

*"But I say to you, love your enemies and
pray for those who persecute you..."*
(Matthew 5:44)

Love your enemies, easier said than
done, no doubt. But, remember, the
foundation of stewardship is prayer.
When we are in close communication
with God, it opens our heart and it
turns our attention away from "me"
and moves it towards God and others.
It allows us to have a little more
empathy for "our enemy." When we
pray for others, even "our enemies,"
maybe it softens their hearts as well.

PARISH FINANCE MATTERS:

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

Counters Feb 23 Waanders Team
Mar 01 Arend Team

LIFEWORKS4U

POETRY

COMPETITION:

Lifeworks4U

Publishing are running an Easter Poetry
Competition. Poems about Easter to be
up to 400 words. Please check the flyer
in the porch for further information.

For an application form, please go to
[https://lifeworks4umentoring
services.com.au](https://lifeworks4umentoring
services.com.au).



February 29 & March 01 ~ First Sunday in Lent

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	B O'Brien	M Noone	B Power, C DiCorleto, T Wisby, L Clarke	A O'Hara R Tactor	Jane	A Symonds
9:30am	C McLure R Diaz	L Van der Velden	J&W Waander, K Jones, E Ryan, J Hanratty, B Jacobs	M Munari M Rigg	Filipino Choir	P & L Van der Velden
5:30pm	C Hill, S Hill, E Hill		J Reid, D Locke, volunteers as required	A Ward	Diamente Family	B Kennedy

- **Altar Cleaning:** Feb 23 M Giddens Mar 01 M Tainsh
- **Church Cleaning:** Feb St Michael's PS Team Mar Hanratty Team
- **Children's Liturgy of the Word:** Feb 23
- **Touring Statue of Our Lady:** Feb 23 G & S Dorling Mar 02 M Van Berkel
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 27 McLaughlin Team Mar 05 Van Berkel Team

Entrance Antiphon Ps 12:6

*O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful to me.*

First Reading Leviticus 19:1-2 17-18

A reading from the book of Leviticus

You must love your neighbour, as yourself.

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said:

‘Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: “Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.”

“You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord.”

Responsorial Psalm Ps 102:1-4 8 10 12-13 Rv8**(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.**

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. **(R.)**
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. **(R.)**
4. As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **(R.)**



Next weeks Readings

Sunday 1st March - First Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

2nd Reading: Romans 5:12-19

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

Second Reading 1 Cor 3:16-23

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

All things are yours, but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are, or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Gospel Acclamation 1 John 2:5

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Whoever keeps the word of Christ,
grows perfect in the love of God.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 5:38-48

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Love your enemies.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'