



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

SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY by Dianne Bergant CSA

The first reading features three episodes: the creation of the first man; his placement in the garden; and the sin. The man is formed of the ground, as are the animals and the trees of the garden. This establishes from the beginning a physical bond between humans and other creatures of the earth. The story is filled with allusions to wisdom. Eden is in the East, the place of enlightenment because the sun rises there. The tree of temptation is the tree of knowledge. The sin was disobedience, but the inclination that gave rise to it was a form of hubris – the desire to know like the gods know.

The psalm response is a familiar penitential psalm. It includes a plea for mercy, a confession of sin, a prayer for transformation, and a request for the opportunity of praising God. The psalmist appeals to God's covenant dispositions: goodness and compassion or womb-love, the kind of attachment that a mother has to the child she has carried within herself. A thorough transformation is required and so the psalmist prays for a clean heart and a right or true spirit. The response ends with a prayer to be empowered to praise God. This request shows that the covenant relationship, forgiveness of sin, transformation of heart, and the ability to praise God are all gifts of grace from God.

Paul sets up a comparison between the universal effects of sin and death and the all-encompassing power of forgiveness and life. He contrasts the actions of Adam the first man and Christ his unrivalled counterpart. While it may appear that the contrast is between Adam and Christ, it is really between the epochs that each inaugurated. Adam inaugurated the era of sin and death; Christ established the eschatological era of acquittal and life. At each stage of Paul's comparison, we see the surpassing power of the salvation won by Christ. In his conclusion, Paul argues that as condemnation came through one sin, acquittal comes through one righteous act; disobedience brought death, obedience brought life.

The Gospel passage is an account of the temptation of Jesus. Jesus' responses to the temptations posed by the devil all come from Deuteronomy's version of Israel's testing in the wilderness. This suggests that Jesus is here being compared with that ancient community. This account is replete with messianic meaning. It shows that the Son of God has chosen not to use divine power to establish his reign on earth. He will be open to the word of God, allowing it to direct his actions; he will rely on God's providence and not put God's promises to the test; he will not compromise his fidelity to God regardless of the price that he might have to pay. Unlike the wilderness community, Jesus is steadfast in the face of temptation.



SUNDAY MASS TIMES

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

WEEKDAY LITURGY TIMES

March 02 to 06

Mon 02	9:30am	Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Tues 03	9:30am	Mass
Weds 04	11:00am	Requiem Mass for Val Smith
Thurs 05	10:30am	Mass, Dalkeith
Fri 06	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 Sheila Edgar, Val Smith and Linda Brady and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Gemma Rossl, Frank Valencic, John Zahra, Jan Gilmour, Francesco Sbaglia, Maria Concetta Raso, Agostino Spano and Ken Vivian.

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.



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.



SHEILA EDGAR: Our Parish community is deeply saddened by the death of Sheila Edgar, who passed away in Sale last Sunday morning.

Sheila has been hugely involved in our Parish for many, many years, and in many, many roles. We are missing her stewardship in a large number of ways. Requiem mass for the celebration of Sheila's life will be offered in St Mary's Cathedral, Sale, on Monday March 02 at 12:30pm.

May she rest in peace

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be celebrated at 7:00pm each Friday during Lent. The St Vincent de Paul members will lead us on March 06.

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:

Monday 2nd March

7:30pm Operation Study Your Bible 'Reading Matthew', Parish Centre

Wednesday 4th March

6:45pm 1st Communion Parent Information Meeting, Mary MacKillop Hall

9:00am Weds AM Cells Group Mary MacKillop Room

1:00pm Weds PM Cells Group Parish Centre

Thursday 5th March

7:30pm Finance Meeting, Parish Centre

60th Anniversary of the Level Crossing School Bus Accident

On 22 March 1960, the school bus taking the country students from the Catholic Schools and Grey Street PS to the High School to transfer to their home buses, was involved in an accident with the Maffra Rail Motor at the Liddiard Road crossing. Consequently, 6 students and the bus driver lost their lives. Many more students were injured and spent various times in hospital. The 6 students who died were Margaret Hayes, John Leslie, Richard Flewin, John Warburton, Joan Warburton and Marie Windridge. The accident brought the whole town together including shutting down the businesses for a day out of respect. Soon after the accident, their combined funeral service was presided over by Bishop Lyons at St Michael's. After the mass the students of St Michael's and Kildare formed a guard of honour outside the Church and the St Paul's boys lined Grey Street as the 400 car procession made its way to the cemetery. The service and burial for the sixth student, Marie Windridge (a Kildare student) was held at Cowwarr, where she lived.

The five students are buried in a communal grave near one of the Catholic Sections at Traralgon Cemetery. The bus driver was William Todd, aged 35 of Traralgon, and his grave is nearby. His Requiem Mass and funeral was held later the same day.

The communal grave at the cemetery was refurbished in 2002 but is in need of doing again. Consequently it has been refurbished by the Cemetery Trust and some community members and a new memorial attached, which will be unveiled and blessed on the 60th Anniversary of the accident.

A plaque is to be placed on the Memorial Wall at St Michael's School after it is presented at assembly during the week prior to the Commemorations at the Cemetery.

Traralgon Cemetery Trust are hoping families and community members will be able to join them on

Sunday 22 March 2020 at 2pm

at Gippsland Memorial Park

at the refurbished grave which will be blessed by Fr Francis followed by a gathering in the Oak Room for afternoon tea.

ALL WELCOME.

Please contact the Cemetery office on 5174 9071 for catering purposes

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP: The CPG meets each Thursday in school term time at 7:30pm in the Mary MacKillop Hall. All are welcome to come and join in! Enquiries to Cathy on 5174 3001

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

SCHOOL LED PARISH MASSES: We're excited that our Parish Primary Schools will lead our 9:30am Mass on four occasions throughout the year. We will hold a fundraising Sausage Sizzle after each Mass. Please put these important dates in your calendar now . . .

March 15 and August 09 St Michael's Primary School
June 14 and November 08 St Gabriel's Primary School

YOUTH MASS: will be celebrated on the fourth Sunday of the 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 and bring along a plate of supper to share afterwards.



'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 6:45pm-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: Dates for First Communion Preparation 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.

ALPHA 2020: Do you know someone who may be looking to connect or re-connect with their Faith? Why not bring them along to the Introductory Evening of Alpha on **Wednesday 15th April**. The evening will consist of a meal, a DVD presentation and some discussion time – a non threatening way to find out more.



Contact Cathy 0432 588 195 for further information.

Abuse and Faith Has your faith been affected by the revelations of historical sexual abuse within the church? Are you affected by current or recent events related to this?

If so you may wish to attend an open conversation around this, with Arda Tymensen, an experienced family counsellor, as facilitator.

Where? The Marian Room at St Joseph's Church, Warragul.

When? Thursday 26th March at 7.30 pm.

The evening is being sponsored and offered by the Cyrenian Group of Warragul and Drouin, which offers listening and support to people suffering because of abuse.

For further information contact the Parish Office on 5623 1642 or Warragul@cdsale.org.au and ask for Joan or Fr Peter.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: Everyone is warmly invited to attend an inter-faith gathering to join in the World Day of Prayer on **Friday 6th March at 10:00am** at the Traralgon Baptist Church, Kay Street, Traralgon. Please contact Nanette Phelan on 0427 763 603 for further details.

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>.

FINANCE MATTERS:

"It is written: The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve." (Matthew 4:10)

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from worldly power and riches and put God at the centre of our lives. Lent is our time to prune ourselves of earthly things. Ask God how he is calling you to serve.

PARISH FINANCE MATTERS:

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

Counters **Mar 01** Arend Team
Mar 08 Armstrong Team

March 07 & 08 ~ Second 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	W Gomez	D Smith	J Scholtes, R Tactor, B Purcell, A Membrey	G & D Bassett	Jane	Volunteer required
9:30am	T Denny J Dal Pra	C McCabe	W Detering, G Imhagwe, A Reid, A Phillips,	C Payne M Wilkinson	Jane	M Hanratty
5:30pm	J Panozzo Tile,	J Hanrahan	J Fleming, S Luscombe,	M Noone	Diamente Family	Volunteer required

- **Altar Cleaning:** 01 M Tainsh 08 J Scholtes
 - **Church Cleaning:** Feb St Michael's PS Team Mar Hanratty Team
 - **Children's Liturgy of the Word:** Mar 01 Jane and Grace Mar 08 Marianne and Therese
 - **Touring Statue of Our Lady:** Mar 02 M Van Berkel Mar 09 P & W Gomez
- 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:** Mar 05 Van Berkel Team Mar 12 Adroit Team

Entrance Antiphon Cf Ps 24:15-16

*When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.*

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

A reading from the book of Genesis
Creation of our first parents, and sin.

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 50:2-6 12-14 R seeV3

(R.) Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin. **(R.)**
2. My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done. **(R.)**
3. A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **(R.)**
4. Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise. **(R.)**

Next weeks Readings

8th March - Second Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Genesis 12:1-4

2nd Reading: 2 Tim 1:8-10

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

Second Reading Rom 5:12-19

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 4:4

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!*

Gospel Matthew 4:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says:

Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says:

He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.'

Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.