



## St Michael's Catholic Parish 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](http://www.smpt.org.au)

email: [traralgon@cdsale.org.au](mailto: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. Please contact our Safeguarding Officers, Chris DiCorleto and Shane Reid on 0417 572 546 if you have any concerns.

### St Michael's Parish Information

**Fr Francis Otobo** Parish Priest

**Fr Ajin Albarnas IVD** Assistant Priest

Parish Centre 5174 2060

Priests' Residence: 5174 6765

**Deacon Tony Aspinall**

Phone 5174 8167

Em: [deacontony8@gmail.com](mailto: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 –

Tues & Weds 9:00am to 4:00pm

Parish Secretary: Bev O'Brien

Email: [sec@smpt.org.au](mailto:sec@smpt.org.au)

Sacraments / Youth Jenifer Hanratty

Email: [sacraments@smpt.org.au](mailto: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:** currently in abeyance

**Weddings:** currently in abeyance

**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

Today we hear how Philip, one of the seven men appointed to attend to the needs of the widows of the Hellenists, travels north to Samaria. The animosity between the Jews and the Samaritans can be traced back to the period after the death of Solomon when the northern Israelite tribes withdrew their allegiance from the southern Judean monarchy. This breach was re-enforced when those who returned from exile in Babylon rejected the Samaritans' offer to help in the rebuilding of the temple in Jerusalem. Still, the Samaritans shared Jewish messianic hopes. This explains their openness to Philip's preaching. The wonders that he performed convinced them of the trustworthiness of his words. Today's psalm response begins with a summons to praise God. It is universal in scope, all the earth is called to praise the God of Israel. Second, the name of God is the object of the praise. Third, the praise given to God is glorious, not to be dismissed casually. The works of God to which the psalmist refers are the wonders that God has accomplished in the history of Israel. Since subduing chaotic waters was at the basis of all activity in the ancient Near Eastern creation tradition, historical water crossings always contained a dimension of creation in them. In the creation story, after the forces of evil are vanquished, the victorious warrior is acclaimed king over all creation.

Christian suffering is the subject of the teaching from 1 Peter. Believers are told to use their suffering to enhance the spread of the gospel. The sufferings of

Christ are offered as an example to follow and in which they can place their trust. The sufferings of Christians is then placed within the context of the holiness of Christ, a holiness that gives Christians both strength to endure patiently and courage to give witness to their faith. The Christians are also told to keep their consciences clear, to give no one justification for finding fault with them that they might then be regarded as innocent sufferers. Christ is the example of one who suffers innocently. This gospel emphasises the link between love and obedience. Jesus calls for a love that is as self-sacrificing as his own. Obedience is not a requirement for love, it is the consequence of it. Jesus knows that his departure will leave the disciples feeling abandoned and so he assures them of his return. This passage also argues that this world seems open only to what is tangible. It cannot see the Spirit. The disciples, on the other hand, are motivated by love and so they respond to Jesus in obedience. 'On that day' refers to the time of eschatological fulfilment. Used here it implies that the day of Jesus' return will in fact be the dawning of the eschatological age.

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| <b>Sunday Mass Times</b>                                 |        |         |
|--|--------|---------|
| <b>Saturday</b>  | 4:00pm | 5:30pm  |
| <b>Sunday</b>  | 9:00am | 10:30am |
|  | 4:00pm | 5:30pm  |
| <b>Weekday Mass Times</b>                                |        |         |
| <b>Tuesday to Friday</b>                                 | 9:30am | 5:30pm  |
| <b>Attendance at Mass is limited to 10 parishioners.</b> |        |         |
| <b>ATTENDANCE MUST BE BOOKED AT THE PARISH OFFICE.</b>   |        |         |

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** We remember those who have died recently, including Dot Lang and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Monsignor Jim O'Mara, Amanda O'Brien, Simon O'Brien and Emil Swiety. **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, Peter Dal Pra, Ann-Maree Daly, Anthony Derham, Gary Donchi, Bill Edgar, 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, and all those we hold dear in our hearts.



**An Act of Spiritual Communion**

The simple and loving act of Spiritual Communion (written by St. Alphonsus Liguori) can be made when we are unable to attend Mass and receive the Eucharist.

Pray these words:

*My Jesus,*

*I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.*

*I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul.*

*Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.*

*As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You.*

*Amen.*



**EASING OF MASS RESTRICTIONS:** As our State Government has eased slightly the restrictions on celebrating Mass, we are now able to offer Mass, with no more than ten parishioners present.

The Mass times are as in Column 1 on this page. Attendance is restricted to those who have booked to attend Mass.

Please phone the Parish Office 5174 2060 between 1:30-4:00pm Tuesday to Wednesdays to make a booking.

Social distancing is required at Mass, and those in attendance need to attend to cleaning and disinfecting before they leave the Church.

Please do not come to Mass if you are unwell.

Fr Francis, Fr Ajin and Deacon Tony are all delighted to see some smiling faces in our pews again.

**ARCHBISHOP-ELECT PATRICK O'REGAN:**

As Archbishop-elect Pat O'Regan is in social isolation, we are asked to say this prayer for him.

**Prayer for Archbishop-elect Patrick O'Regan**

O God, the giver of all good things,

We bless and thank you for Archbishop-elect Patrick, for the five years of his ministry and servant leadership among us as our Bishop in the Diocese of Sale.

We thank you for the example of goodness that he has been to us and by which we have been encouraged and inspired

in our journey of discipleship of your son, Jesus.

May your Holy Spirit continue to grace him with the gifts of wisdom and strength, gentleness and compassion.

May he be welcomed joyfully into the Archdiocese of Adelaide,

now entrusted to his care and leadership.

May you continue to guide him and bless him all the days of his life.

We ask this through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

One God, for ever and ever.

Amen,

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

pray for us

pray for us



### **SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER AND OUR PARISH:**

As we figure out how to 'be parish' in this time without Sunday and weekday Masses in our Church, we need to consider :-

- \* our prayer and spiritual life
- \* our commitment to and support for our Parish
- \* our community.

In this time of uncertainty, please remember our priests and religious in your prayers. Our priests are financially supported by our weekly 'first collections', and these expenses will still need to be met. Parishioners are asked to make donations by electronic transfer to St Michael's Parish Traralgon Presbytery Account, BSB 083 879 Account Number 48906 6098.

Our Parish will still need to pay our utility bills, our wages bills, rates and insurances. We meet these costs through the Planned Giving Program. Parishioners who currently give via the weekly envelopes are asked to consider altering their giving to Direct Debit giving to enable our Parish to continue. Direct Debit Giving forms are available at the office, please phone or email and we can get one to you.

Anyone wishing to make a general donation to our parish can do so by electronic transfer to St Michael's Parish Traralgon Church Account, BSB 083 879, Account Number 48885 1289. Please let me know by email ([traralgon@cdsale.org.au](mailto:traralgon@cdsale.org.au)) if you decide to do this. Thank you.

If you are wanting to request a Mass Offering, then please place your donation in an envelope, and clearly mark:-

1. The name of the person(s) for whom you wish to offer the Mass.
2. Whether it's a death anniversary, or recent death.
3. Your name, contact number and email.

The envelopes can be 'posted' through the mail slot beside the front door of the Parish Office.

Please look out for those in our community who are the most vulnerable and could be in need of our support. Let the Office know if you know of anyone in need.

*Sincere thanks to those parishioners who have dropped in their Giving Envelopes, made payments via electronic means, and are keeping all our parish community firmly in their prayers.*

### **PARISH FINANCE MATTERS:**

Please don't hesitate to contact the Parish Office on 5174 2060 or by email to [sec@smpt.org.au](mailto:sec@smpt.org.au) if you want assistance or information regarding your Planned Giving.

### **FINANCE MATTERS:**

*"For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that be God's will, than for doing evil." 1 PETER 3:17*

The old line says "if you want to make God laugh, tell him your plans." Many of us are diligent in our planning and making sure things are progressing smoothly. Then disaster strikes, we don't get the result that was intended or an unforeseen problem arises. Many times we may respond negatively and ask, "Why me? I did everything right!" Here's the thing – adversity humbles us and reminds us of our dependence on God and not on our own self-reliance. Rest assured, God has a better plan in store for you.

### **Isolation Prayer Life, Access to Masses online/TV/:**

Keep up to date with the latest prayer resources for your communities <https://www.cdsale.org.au/news/prayer-resources-in-time-of-need>

Linestreamed Masses <https://www.cdsale.org.au/coronavirus>

Berwick :Saturday 6pm. (Facebook)

Cranbourne :Saturday 6pm and Sunday 9am. Plus Daily at 9.30am. (YouTube and Facebook)

Clyde North : Daily 9am. (Facebook)

Drouin and Warragul: Saturday 6pm loaded to Facebook post Mass.

Iona-Maryknoll and Koo Wee Rup: 9.30am Sunday. (YouTube)

Narre Warren: 9.30am Sunday. Daily Wed-Sunday 9.30am. (YouTube)

Sale Cathedral: 9.30am Sunday (YouTube)

Pakenham: 10am Sunday (YouTube)

Check these links for other live streams such as additional daily Masses, Stations of the Cross or Adoration.

### **Music and Prayer for 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

You are invited to pray at home with the Sunday readings with free access to the following online music and video resources

- **Psalms and chants from Marist Music**  
<http://www.maristmusic.org.au/easter-yr-a> - select Easter 5A for the psalm and gospel chant available.
- **Sunday Readings and Family Prayer** – download and pray the Scriptures of the Sunday Mass and/or use the Family Prayer sheets with children. From Liturgy Brisbane <https://www.liturgybrisbane.net.au/>
- **Sunday Liturgy of the Word at Home (for families with kids)**  
<http://melbournecatholic.org.au/easter>
- **Weekly Easter Reflections**  
<http://melbournecatholic.org.au/easter>
- **CathFamily – CathKids is weekly interactive experience with a short animated video on the Sunday reading, questions to stimulate discussion, a simple activity and prayer. It's perfect for use in the classroom, in children's liturgy and at home. Can be facilitated by an adult or in self-directed exploration by children aged 7-12. Free access to CathKids until 30 June 2020** <https://cathfamily.org/>

### **Spirituality offerings**

- **Prayer of Pope Francis for this time of need** from the Vatican prayer and spirituality resource *Strong in the Face of Tribulation* <https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2020/04/25/200425b.html>
- **Novena for Peace and Healing**  
<https://tinyurl.com/Novena-for-Peace-and-Healing>

### **Weekly readings**

Weekly readings and family orientated prayers can be found at: <https://www.liturgybrisbane.net.au/prepare/sunday-readings-and-family-prayer/>



**Entrance Antiphon** Cf Is 48:20

*Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;  
proclaim to the ends of the earth:  
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.*

**First Reading** Acts 8:5-8 14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.*

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 65:1-7 16 R see v1

*(R.) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.*

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth,  
O sing to the glory of his name.  
O render him glorious praise.  
Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! *(R.)*
2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow;  
shall sing to you, sing to your name!  
Come and see the works of God,  
tremendous his deeds among men. *(R.)*
3. He turned the sea into dry land,  
they passed through the river dry-shod.  
Let our joy then be in him;  
he rules for ever by his might. *(R.)*
4. Come and hear, all who fear God.  
I will tell what he did for my soul:  
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer  
nor withhold his love from me. *(R.)*

**Second Reading**

1 Pt 3:15-18

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

*In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.*

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

**Gospel Acclamation** Jn 14:23

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them  
and we will come to them.*

*Alleluia!*

**Gospel**

Jn 14:15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.

I shall ask the Father,  
and he will give you another Advocate  
to be with you for ever,  
that Spirit of truth

whom the world can never receive  
since it neither sees nor knows him;  
but you know him,  
because he is with you, he is in you.

I will not leave you orphans;  
I will come back to you.

In a short time the world will no longer see me;  
but you will see me,  
because I live and you will live.

On that day

you will understand that I am in my Father  
and you in me and I in you.

Anybody who receives my commandments and  
keeps them

will be one who loves me;

and anybody who loves me will be loved by my  
Father,

and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

|                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Next weeks Readings | the Ascension of the Lord |
| First Reading:      | Acts 1:1-11               |
| Second Reading:     | Ephesians 1:17-23         |
| Gospel:             | Matthew 28:16-20          |