

## 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

email: sec@smpt.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

**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 to Friday 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:** 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

### As our 'normal' changes again:

Parish life is very different now, and changing all the time.

At the moment –

\* **From June 22, Attendance at Masses has again been reduced to 20 parishioners at Mass. Attendance at weekend and mid-week Masses must still be booked through the Office.**

**Please call between 2:00 and 4:00pm to book to attend Mass.**

Only Parishioners who have booked to attend Masses may attend. Please do not 'just turn up' as you may be offended if you have to be turned away.

\* At all Masses, one parishioner is required to act as an "Usher". The role of the Usher is to check those in attendance with the booking sheet, to remind people to use the hand sanitizer, to sit in every second pew, to maintain social distancing at all times, and to remind parishioners that the church and the toilet area must be disinfected and cleaned at the end of every Mass celebration. The Usher will have a 'check list' to sign off at the end of Mass. *And so, we are now in need of volunteers to take on the role of 'Usher' at every Mass. Please let the Parish Office know on 5174 2060 that you are happy to help out in this small way.*

We are only able to offer Mass provided we fully meet the regulations set out by the Government and the Diocese. Failure to faithfully meet these requirements can result in fines of over \$2,000 and possibly the closing of our Church.

Fr Francis and Fr Ajin are both available and both still working in the Parish. Contact can be made during office hours on 5174 2060, and after office hours on 0448 529 712.

The Parish Office remains closed. Bev is in the office Tuesday to Friday, as she is unable to work from home. The Office door must remain closed. All contact with the Office must be made by phone (5174 2060) or by email (sec@smpt.org.au).

We are looking at ways to achieve Baptism preparation in the near future, and we are looking towards a time when our Youth Ministry, including Sacramental preparation may again be part of Parish life.

May we all be blessed with patience, courage, determination in our faith, hope in our community, and may we all focus on fostering of all aspects of our faith life.

*Fr Francis*

| <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              |
| <b>Attendance at Mass is limited to 50 parishioners.<br/>ATTENDANCE AT WEEKEND MASSES MUST<br/>BE BOOKED AT THE PARISH OFFICE.</b> |                     |

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** We remember those who have died recently including Maureen Van Berkel, Maria Albanese, Liz Hourigan, Fr Noel Connolly and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Aleykutty Varkey, Anthony Ryan, Aleyamma Varghese, Princy Xavier, Dora & Sam Vella, Mary Mathew, Charles Glaubitz, Jane McLoughlin, Patrick Mayne, Antonella Fuoco, Justin O'Brien, Heather Hammond, Rocco Michael Bruzzese, Helen Bermingham, Fr William McLoughlin and Bishop Richard Ryan.

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

**WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK**

including, including 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 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, 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.*

**PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD:** Please deliver a bulletin to anyone you know who might like one. It would be lovely if we could reach as many of our parishioners as possible, so they too may be aware of the changes happening in our Parish life.

**BAPTISM:** This week, we welcome for Baptism **Rose Taylor Au** daughter of Ashlee and Patrick.



Congratulations to Ash and Pat and to proud grandparents Anne and Kevin Taylor, from us all!

The Parish Baptism Team are currently researching options to enable preparation for Baptism. Watch this space for further details in the coming weeks.

**RECORDING OUR LIFE IN THESE TIMES OF ISOLATION:**

As you'll remember from previous Bulletins, we are seeking 100-200 word 'pictures' of what life during this pandemic has meant to parishioners.

*One week before we went into "lockdown", my husband and I joined some old (literally!) school friends on a cruise, to mark a special birthday. Knowing how diligent the crew were in keeping our ship safe from gastro – enteritis, in some very confined spaces, imagine our dismay and empathy with the people on other cruises, from just one week later, who did not fare so well. We have given many prayers of thanks since, and actually in a sense welcomed "Iso".*

*The major upheaval in my life has been not being able to see grandchildren: two used to come every Thursday night for dinner, and three just live around the corner. It has been a great source of joy to actually see them again in the past couple of weeks: they all seem to have grown a metre in the interim, and are well and happy. Same with the littlest one in Melbourne: his parents Facetimed nearly every night; we need to give thanks at this time, at least, for the blessing of "Modern Technology"!*

*"MT" has also been a Godsend in keeping us in touch with our Parish: we are so blessed to have Fathers Francis and Ajin, and Deacon Tony, who can actually use it quite well - for our great benefit! Not to forget Steve Kimani, who is also a great blessing in our Parish, with his great generosity and knowledge in this area!*

*I feel that in these times it is not fair to attend Mass every weekend: we need to leave room for others in our Parish family. That will hopefully change within the next couple of weeks. But, that means that Prayer time can be ramped up in so many ways: the Readings for the following weekend can be read, meditated upon, and prayed; some of the scripture can be looked up for its context; our Bulletin has a constant supply of other prayer avenues to explore; and we can even pray the whole Rosary every day, especially for those who don't have the luxury of living in the rarefied world of a warm, safe home. That's the many homeless and poor in our own society, and the many countries overseas with nothing like the medical facilities we have at our disposal here. Our Aid and Development Agencies (Caritas, Catholic Mission, St Vincent's) are in the thick of it in many places. We can, at least, pray for them – or donate money to help with the burden.*

*And so, in thanksgiving to Our Loving Father for my blessed life in this terrible pandemic, I might just go and walk past St Michael's now, to listen to the children praying so well: "singing, dancing and meditating" to quote their Deputy Principal from last week!*

Thanks to this week's wonderful parishioner. Please keep the stories coming.

### Prayer for a new Bishop for our Diocese

Loving God,  
in your faithfulness,  
grant to the Diocese of Sale  
a shepherd whose watchful care and kindly zeal  
will continue the good work of his predecessors.  
In your love for us, give us a shepherd who will  
lead us in being Christ's heart of mercy,  
voice of hope, and hands of justice.  
Help him to fill our minds and hearts  
with the truth of the Gospel,  
the power of the sacraments,  
and the desire to build up your holy Church.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son and our  
Lord,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever  
and ever. Amen.

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

### Music and Prayer for 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 for this Sunday** [www.maristmusic.org.au/](http://www.maristmusic.org.au/) available as sheet music and audio.
- **Be Not Afraid** – this Sunday, Jesus tells us not to be afraid. This beloved hymn from our Catholic repertoire has been recently recorded by prominent USA Catholic artists. Listen and sing at home with this heartfelt rendition <https://tinyurl.com/Dufford-Hymn>
- **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/>
- **CathFamily** – Free access to CathKids until 30 June 2020 <https://cathfamily.org/>

### Spirituality offerings

*MelbournePrays* is an online community that brings young people together for daily prayer opportunities via YouTube and Facebook. Each day, people are invited to join in prayer with others for their own needs and the needs of the world at this time. <https://www.facebook.com/MelbournePrays>



### THANK YOU:

A big "Thank You" to those who have quietly gone about looking after our Church and the gardens during our time of isolation.

A huge thank you to Allen Meredith for all his tireless work in keeping our lawns so well mown, our garden by the Parish Centre is now looking very neat and trim, and the area inside the Parish Centre fence has also received a most fantastic tidy up, all thanks to Allen!

Thanks too, to Bill Jacobs and Michael Hansen who have turned up and cleaned and disinfected the Church and the toilet following the Requiem Masses we have held in the past two weeks.

To our Maintenance Team, who have also been busy keeping our Church and buildings in good repair.

Thanks also to Jane Mitchell, Bev O'Brien and Michael Hansen for volunteering to vacuum the church when it was noticed a good vacuum was needed.

And also, a huge thanks to those parishioners and PPC members who have taken on the role of "Usher" at our Masses. Without you, we wouldn't be able to hold Mass.

*On behalf of us all. Thanks!*

### FINANCE MATTERS:

*"Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father." MATTHEW 10:32*

Would others know that you are Catholic by the way you act and speak? Do you share your Catholic faith with others? Do you defend your Catholic faith when the situation arises or do you remain silent? Do you pray in public before meals? Pray for the strength and courage to be a joyful witness of our Catholic faith when the opportunity presents itself. Let us become the radiant light and bold witness that we are called to be!

### 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.

### May 2020

#### Loose collections (Presbytery Account)

|                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Giving at Mass      | \$ 844.00         |
| Direct Debit giving | \$ 405.00         |
|                     | <u>\$1,249.00</u> |

Easter Offerings \$ 275.00

#### Planned Giving (Church Account)

|                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Envelopes        | \$ 4,955.00        |
| Direct Debit     | \$ 5,808.00        |
| Credit Card      | \$ 3,290.00        |
| <u>May total</u> | <u>\$14,053.00</u> |

With many thanks to those parishioners who have recently brought their envelope giving up to date.

**Entrance Antiphon** Cf Ps 27:8-9

*The Lord is the strength of his people,  
a saving refuge for the one he has anointed.  
Save your people, Lord, and bless your heritage,  
and govern them for ever.*

**First Reading** Jer 20:10-13

A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah

*He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of those who are evil.*

Jeremiah said:

'I hear so many disparaging me,  
"Terror from every side!  
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"  
All those who used to be my friends  
watched for my downfall,  
"Perhaps he will be seduced into error.  
Then we will master him  
and take our revenge!"  
But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero;  
my opponents will stumble, mastered,  
confounded by their failure;  
everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs.  
But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with  
justice,  
who scrutinise the loins and heart,  
let me see the vengeance you will take on them,  
for I have committed my cause to you.  
Sing to the Lord,  
praise the Lord,  
for he has delivered the soul of the needy  
from the hands of evil men.'

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 68:8-10 14 17 33-35 Rv14

*(R.) Lord, in your great love, answer me.*

1. It is for you that I suffer taunts,  
that shame covers my face,  
that I have become a stranger to my brothers,  
an alien to my own mother's sons.  
I burn with zeal for your house  
and taunts against you fall on me. *(R.)*
2. This is my prayer to you,  
my prayer for your favour.  
In your great love, answer me, O God,  
with your help that never fails:  
Lord, answer, for your love is kind;  
in your compassion, turn towards me. *(R.)*
3. The poor when they see it will be glad  
and God-seeking hearts will revive;  
for the Lord listens to the needy  
and does not spurn his servants in their chains.  
Let the heavens and the earth give him praise,  
the sea and all its living creatures. *(R.)*

**Second Reading** 1 Rom 5:12-15

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*God's gift to us is nothing like our sin against him.*

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.

**Gospel Acclamation** Jn 15:26

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord,*

*and you also will be my witnesses.*

*Alleluia!*

**Gospel** Mt 10:26-33

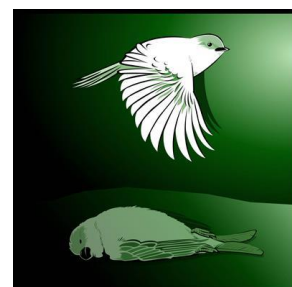
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Do not fear those who can kill the body.*

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'



## Next weeks Readings

13<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A  
1<sup>st</sup> Reading 2 Kings 4:8-11 14-16  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Romans 6:3-4 8-11  
Gospel Matthew 10:37-42