



Third Sunday of Advent Year B

December 13, 2020

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 5174 2060 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 and your contact details.

All non-urgent calls should be made during office hours.

Baptisms: Six weeks notice required

Weddings: Six months notice required

Parish Pastoral Council: Greg Imhagve 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



Prayers at the Crib

Wednesday December 16th

7:30pm

St Michael's Church

Come and enjoy listening to the Nativity narrative through scripture and to favourite Christmas Carols.

All parishioners are warmly invited to attend.

Please arrive 10 to 15 minutes before 7:00pm to allow time to register

Prayers

at the

Crib

Prepare for
Christmas

Take time

prepare the way
of the lord



PRAYERS AT THE CRIB

will be held at the Church on

Wednesday December 16 at 7:30pm

This is a lovely service of the Christmas story and carols. Please come along, and enjoy listening to the Nativity narrative through scripture, and to favourite Christmas Carols. Parishioners are warmly invited to attend, please come 10 minutes early to register your name and contact number.

Sunday Mass Times (as of December 10, 2020)	
Saturday	5:00pm
Sunday	9:00am 10:30am 5:00pm
Attendance at weekend Masses and Christmas Masses is now limited to 180 people. Attendance must be booked at Trybooking.com or at the Parish Office.	
Weekday Mass Times	
Tuesday Dec 15	9:30am Mass
Wednesday Dec 16	11:00am Adoration 12:00pm Mass
Thursday Dec 17	9:30am Mass
Friday Dec 18	9:30am Mass
Parishioners attending weekday Masses are asked to arrive 10 minutes before Mass to have their name and contact number recorded by the usher.	

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We remember those who have died recently including Fr Frank Young and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Joe Thompson and Mary Kelly.

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

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK including Maria Alessandrini, Lee Allman, 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, Jerry Templer, Joan Turner, Julie Vaz, Brian Vivian, Celie Smith, Wil Waanders, George Walkan and Roy Ward 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.

RECONCILIATION: will be celebrated after Mass on Wednesday 16th December, Thursday 17th December and Friday 18th December. Reconciliation will also be offered on Tuesday 22nd December, from 5:30pm to 6:30pm.

BAPTISMS: There will be a Baptism Preparation meeting held in the Church on **Monday 14th December at 7:00pm.** Please contact the Parish office to attend.



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED: The office remains closed due to the pandemic restrictions. All contact needs to be made by phone (5174 2060) or email (sec@smpt.org.au). Thank you. Please ring between 2:00pm and 3:30pm to book a place at Mass.

In case of an after hours emergency please call 0448 529 712 and leave a clear and concise message and your contact details for Father.

ATTENDING MASS:

Booking to attend Masses:-

To book through [Trybooking.com](http://trybooking.com) for Masses on the weekends of **Dec 20, 27 and Jan 03, 10 & 17** please go to <https://www.trybooking.com/BNIAG>.

Bookings for Masses on Dec 27 and Jan 03 close at 11:00am on Wednesday 24th December.

To attend a Christmas Mass, please go to

<https://www.trybooking.com/BNNUV>

Bookings for Christmas Masses will open at 2:00pm on Tuesday 15th December.

If you are unable to use internet to book to attend Mass, you are welcome to phone the Parish Office, Bev and Jen are happy to make your booking, however the office will be closed from 12:00pm on Wednesday 23rd December until 9:00am on Tuesday 5th January.

When attending Mass, please remember that we must follow Covid safe practices at all times.

- * Please arrive 10-15 minutes prior to Mass starting.
- * Social distancing must be maintained.

Holy Communion

Communion may only be received on the hand.

The communicant is required –

To use hand sanitiser before receiving the host.

To maintain the proper distancing in communion queue.

To return to their seat via a different pathway.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2020

Christmas Eve Thursday Dec 24

7:00 pm Mass at St Michael's

11:00pm Mass at St Michael's

Christmas Day Friday December 25

8:00am Mass at St Michael's

10:00am Mass at St Michael's



It is necessary to book to attend the Christmas Masses. (see above for booking information)

CONGRATULATIONS to our Deacons who have been ordained as Priests of our Diocese this weekend. We will now have Fr Paul Zaher, Fr Confidence Masvosva and Fr Jithin Anto as our newest priests.

Fr Confidence is hopeful of being able to celebrate Mass with 'his Traralgon family' in the near future.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES: Our very own Sister Doreen will celebrate her 60th anniversary of her religious profession. . . 60 years a Josephite Nun.

We will help her celebrate with a commemoration Mass at 10.30am on Sunday January 10th. Following Mass, we will share a lunch with her. Numbers for the lunch will be limited, so please book at the Parish Office as soon as possible.

Our Advent prayer

In cities and towns
In apartments and terraces,

All: Christ is waiting to be born

In palaces and paddocks
In high streets and back streets,

All: Christ is waiting to be born

In the vastness of the universe
In the intimacy of our hearts,

All: Christ is waiting to be born.

**All: Come, Lord Jesus
Come into our homes
Come into our lives
Come and stay**



SACRAMENTS DATES FOR 2021

Now that we seem to be back on the road to 'normal', the Parish is excited to be able to have decided on dates for First Communion and Reconciliation in Term 1.

First Communion for 2021's Year 5 students who were prepared to receive this sacrament in 2020 will be celebrated on **Friday 5th February at 6:00pm, Saturday 6th February at 5:00pm Mass and Sunday 7th February at 10:30am Mass.**

Reconciliation for students in Years 3 &4 in 2021 will be celebrated on **Tuesday 16th March, Wednesday 17th March, Thursday 18th March and Friday 19th March.**

Further details will be available in the new year.

Covid restrictions, allowing, of course.

STARTING OUR PARISH UP AGAIN:

As we gratefully return to Masses in our Church, we are again in need of volunteers to help our Parish function and our Masses to be well run and meaningful:-

- We are looking for volunteers in the following areas :-
- Readers, Commentators
 - Ushers Eucharistic Ministers
 - Youth Ministry Leaders Church cleaning
 - Money Counters Banking Team

All these roles are essential to our Masses and to our Parish, and as the old saying goes, 'many hands make light work'.

So please contact the Office on 5174 2060 or by email to sec@smp.org.au and advise that you are able to assist in one of these ministries.

This is our parish' and the responsibility lies with each one of us.

SMY@L YOUTH GROUPS NEWS: Our thanks to Serenta Donchi, Scott Donchi, Rachel Dodd, Sally Kirstine, Leah Arbon and Louise Varsaci who have been enthusiastic leaders of the SMY@L group. May God bless them. On November 26, 2020 they made the decision that it is now time for others to take up the reins as leaders of this energetic group.

We ask all parishioners to spend time in prayer as we seek new leaders to join in this area of our Youth Ministry in 2021.

STEWARDSHIP MATTERS:

"Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." – 1 Thessalonians 5:16 - 18

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. "Rejoice always" means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. "Pray constantly" means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. "Give thanks in all circumstances" means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God.

Please remember to book to attend Mass at Christmas and remind your family and friends to do the same!
Trybooking.com
<https://www.trybooking.com/BNNUV>

Rosters for Saturday December 19 and Sunday December 20, 2020

Mass	Lector	Commentator
Sat 5:00pm	Watson Gomez	Dorothy Smith
Sun 9:00am	Mike Hansen	Carolyn McCabe
Sun 10:30am	Susan Grout	Volunteer required
Sun 5:00pm	Cath Hill, Sienna Hill, Ella Hill	

Entrance Antiphon Phil 4:4-5

*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.*

First Reading Is 61:1-2 10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I exult for joy in the Lord.

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.

'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels.

'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.'

Responsorial Psalm Lk 1:46-50. 53-54. R. Is 61:10

(R.) My soul rejoices in my God.

1. My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;
Henceforth all ages will call me blessed. *(R.)*
2. The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him. *(R.)*
3. He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy. *(R.)*

Second Reading 1 Thes 5:16-24

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

May you all be kept blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 3:4 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!*

Gospel Jn 1:6-8. 19-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

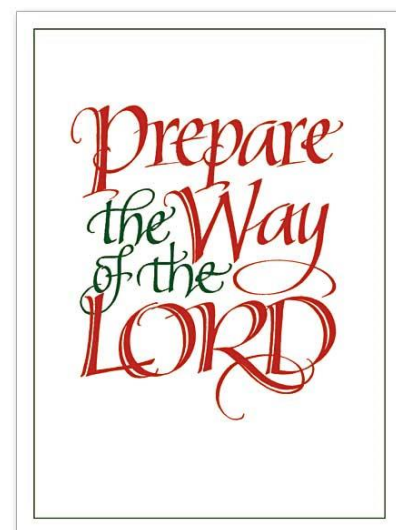
There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked, 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not,' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied: a voice that cries in the wilderness:

Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.



Readings for the 4th Sunday in Advent Year B

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14 16

Second Reading: 1 Romans 16:25-27

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38