



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 adults at risk 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

MASS TIMES - A RETHINK:

After discussing the matter of Mass attendances and the record keeping required, the previously announced changes to Mass times have been altered. Our current covid Mass times will remain in place until such time as numbers in the Church are no longer restricted, or any time the Government again advises altered restrictions. And so, our Mass times for the being are -

Saturday	5:00pm		
Sunday	9:00am	10:30am	5:00pm.

Covid restrictions currently mean –

- Our numbers in the church are capped at 180 people.
- Hand sanitising on entering the Church is required.
- Cleaning of the pews and kneelers is required before leaving the Church.
- *Attendance must be recorded*, either by registering using the Parish QR code, or by manually recording your name and number on the lists provided.
- Until further notice, Holy Communion may only be received into the hand, and Communion from the cup is suspended.
- Parishioners need to plan to arrive to Mass at least 15 minutes early to allow sufficient time to record your details and allow Mass to commence on time.

This means that parishioners will no longer have to book to come to Mass, unless there is a special celebration, when we will again use Trybooking.com, and the booking link will then be advertised in our bulletin, on our web page, our facebook page and our Parish App.

The QR code is available for parishioner use this weekend. If you have a smart phone you use your phones camera to scan the code and then record your personal details. If not, please record your name on the lists provided, using either your own pen, or one of the clean pens provided; after using one of the 'clean' pens, please put it in the tub with the 'used' pens.

First Communion will be celebrated at Masses on Friday February 05 at 6:00pm, Saturday February 06 at 5:00pm and Sunday February 07 at 10:30am. Attendance at these Masses must be booked through the Parish Office. Thank you.

Fr Francis

Sunday Mass Times	
Saturday	5:00pm
Sunday	9:00am 10:30am 5:00pm
Attendance numbers at our Masses are limited to 180 people. Covid safety practices apply	
Weekday Mass Times	
Tues Feb 02	9:30am Mass
Weds Feb 03	11:00am Adoration
	12:00pm Mass
Thurs Feb 04	9:15am Mass 10:30am Mass @ Dalkeith, <i>residents only</i>
Fri 05	9:30am Mass
Parishioners attending weekday Masses are asked to arrive 15 minutes before Mass to ensure their attendance is recorded.	

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We remember those who have died recently including Bill Weller and John Ehigie, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Pat Harrup, Terry Dixon and Elizabeth Russell (née Jones). *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, 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, Jerry Templar, Julie Vaz, Brian Vivian, Celie Smith, Wil Waanders, George Walkan and Roy Ward and all those we hold dear in our hearts.

BAPTISMS: This weekend we welcome for baptism **Michael Albanese** son of Frank and Adele. Congratulations **Frank and Adele**, it is with great delight we welcome Michael to our Parish family. The next Baptism Preparation meeting will be held in the Church on **Tuesday February 09 at 7:00pm**. Please contact the Parish office if you are wishing to attend.



PARISH OFFICE NEWS: Our office staff are again at work in the office. We ask parishioners to kindly keep communication to phone calls and emails wherever possible. Thank you.

PIETY STALL The Piety Stall will be open for one hour before the First Communion Masses and for a short time afterwards too. Huge thanks to Lyn Kennedy for her constant support of our parish.

Start of the School Year Mass with Bishop Greg

Last Wednesday, 27th January, we had Bishop Greg with us when he presided over the start of the school year Mass with the staff of our schools across the Valley Region. Due to the current Covid restrictions, we were only able to accommodate 180 staff from the schools. The Mass was also concelebrated by the clergy of the Valley Region. We bless for that opportunity. During the homily, the bishop challenged the teachers and everyone present to become witnesses for the faith. Now that the first term for 2021 has begun, we especially pray for all of our school communities, staff, parents and students. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God our father, and the eternal presence of the Holy Spirit empower and guide them through this academic year. We pray particularly for those students who are making their sacraments this year, and for their families. May they come to know and love Jesus personally and follow in his way.

First Communion Candidates At the start of last year, we had some of our students prepared for the reception of their first Communion. Unfortunately just before the sacrament was administered, the strict lockdown due to Covid-19 came into effect. We haven't been able to celebrate this sacrament with these students and their families. Praise God, next week, these students who are now in Grade 5, will be receiving their first Communion. We praise God for them and celebrate with them and their families. More details in the bulletin.

Year of St Joseph The Holy Father, Pope Francis has declared the period between December 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021, as the Year of St Joseph. Thus, the Church all over the world celebrates 2021 as the Year of St Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church. In his Apostolic Letter entitled *Patris corde* ("With a Father's Heart"), Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows. As a Parish, we shall organise some events to celebrate this great personality in the life of the church and what that means for us. Should you want to share some idea on how to celebrate this Year of St Joseph, please advise us via the parish office.

Word of God Sunday While the rest of the world celebrates the newly instituted Word of God Sunday on the third Sunday of ordinary time (which was Sunday), in Australia, the celebration is shifted to the first Sunday in February. Thus, next weekend, 6th and 7th February, we shall be marking the celebration for the Word of God Sunday. As Pope Francis admonishes, "let us not ignore God's word. It is a love letter, written to us by the One who knows us best. In reading it, we again hear his voice, see his face and receive his Spirit."

Last year, we started a beautiful exercise of studying the scriptures (one chapter a day), before the Covid restrictions came into effect. So it may be good for us to once again resume our **Operation Study Your Bible**. Let us know what you think.

God bless us all and keep in his loving care. Amen! Alleluia!!

Fr Francis

OUR LAWNS ARE LOOKING GOOD AGAIN: Our sincere thanks to Allen Meredith, who arrived back in Traralgon late on Australia Day. Our lawns are again looking very smart again; huge thanks to you Allen for your one-man gardening efforts.

We hope you enjoyed your time away from our Parish, we are so glad to have your cheerful presence back with us again.

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Thursday 4th February

10:00am Charismatic Prayer Group,
Mary MacKillop Room.

The Liturgy Team meeting scheduled for Wednesday February 03 has been moved to February 10.

The Maintenance Team meeting scheduled for Thursday February 04 has been moved to Tuesday February 23.

The PPC meeting scheduled for February 10 has been moved to February 17.

STEWARDSHIP MATTERS

"Brothers and sisters: I should like you to be free of anxieties."- 1 Corinthians 7:32

How much anxiety do we bring upon ourselves by constantly worrying about not having enough or attaining more things? God won't necessarily give you everything you want, but He will provide everything you need. Try this – use the word "pray" instead of the word "worry" in the future. Then pray for things instead of worrying about them.

THANK YOU TO OUR CWL LADIES: on Wednesday January 27th, the Parish hosted the beginning of the School Year Mass. Representative staff numbers from the Catholic Primary Schools in the Valley and from Lavalla Catholic College came together with Bishop Greg and the priests from the Valley parishes to celebrate Mass.

After the Mass the CWL ladies catered for morning tea for the principals, priests and Bishop Greg and provided a most wonderful spread. They certainly did the Parish proud, thank you so much, talented ladies!

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 celebrations:-

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@smpt.org.au and advise that you are able to assist in one of these ministries.

We are all the parish of St Michael's, each one of us is responsible for the good stewardship of our buildings and grounds, and for ensuring our Masses are well run and meaningful.

It is wonderful that our Parish Groups are, with certain conditions, able to meet again providing we comply with numbers limits and cleaning protocols.

At this point in time, parish groups who wish to hold meetings during Parish Office hours are welcome to use the Mary MacKillop Room. Groups who usually meet outside of office hours may use the meeting room in the Parish Centre, again in accordance with numbers restrictions and cleaning protocols.

Please contact the office if you are interested in your group using Church premises for meetings. (5174 2060 or sec@smpt.org.au)

As of this weekend we now have a QR code available for parishioners to use to record their attendance at Mass. If you have a smart phone, you only need to scan in the QR code, and register your name via your phone. Your details are recorded directly with the Department of Health and Human Services.

If you do not own a smart phone, then do not fear. You may record your name and phone number on the attendance sheets provided using either your own pen or a 'clean' pen. Please arrive to Mass 15-20 minutes early to ensure your attendance is recorded.

Rosters for Saturday February 06 & Sunday February 07, 2021

Mass	Lector	Commentator	Ushers
Sat 5:00pm	T Larkin / B O'Brien	S Grout	Volunteer required
Sun 9:00am	C McLure / R Diaz	L Van der Velden	Volunteer required
Sun 10:30am	Theresa Denny	Carolyn McCabe	Volunteer required
Sun 5:00pm	Eileen Harte	Volunteer required	Volunteer required

Entrance Antiphon Ps 105:47

*Save us, O Lord our God!
And gather us from the nations,
to give thanks to your holy name,
and make it our glory to praise you.*

First Reading Deuteronomy 18:15-20

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

I will put my words into the prophet's mouth, and he will tell them all I command.

Moses said to the people: "Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."

Responsorial Psalm Ps 94:1-2, 6-9, R. v.9

**(R.) If today, you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.**

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. **(R.)**
2. Come in, let us kneel and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. **(R.)**
3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.'
(R.)

**Second Reading** 1 Cor 7:32-35

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

The unmarried woman dedicates herself to the things of the Lord, that she might be holy.

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

*A people in darkness have seen a great light:
a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 1:21-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

This is a new kind of teaching that speaks with authority.

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the Sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit, and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

Readings for the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Job 7:1-4, 6-7

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39