



# 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

The Hon Daniel Andrews MP  
Premier of Victoria  
Parliament House  
Spring St  
East Melbourne VIC 3002



### Dear Premier

We write on behalf of the Muslim and Catholic communities in Victoria in solidarity with other people of faith, expressing profound concern over the Change or Suppression (Conversion) Practices Prohibition Bill 2020.

Every day we are working alongside our fellow Victorians to celebrate our diversity, care for the vulnerable and serve one another. We value our freedom to do so responsibly, by supporting and caring for people in their searching and questioning, with honesty, attentiveness, and compassion.

Unfortunately, this Bill doesn't just ban out-dated and insidious practices of coercion and harm, which we firmly reject. The bill also criminalises conversation between children and parents, interferes with sound professional advice, and silences ministers of religion from providing personal attention for individuals freely seeking pastoral care for complex personal situations. It includes ill-conceived concepts of faith and conversation, vague definitions, and scientifically and medically flawed approaches. It places arbitrary limitations on parents, families and people of faith. People change for all kinds of reasons, and should feel free to do so, whether it be on matters of personal identity, gender, sexuality, family association, or religion. Contrary to its intent, this Bill obstructs people's freedom by limiting, restricting and removing options for their good, thereby creating undesirable possibilities of harm.

If a simpler, clearer bill had been tabled, with adequate consultation, then we would be able to give full support to a focused and practical way to protect people from harm.

Other faith communities, religious representatives and organisations have contacted you and the Attorney General to seek resolution to these difficulties. With this letter we stand with them and look for respectful engagement.

At present the Bill appears to target people of faith in an unprecedented way, puts limits on ordinary conversations in families, and legislates for what prayer is legal and what prayer is not. Various amendments can be made to rescue the Bill from taking Victoria into strange new territory, in which prayerful advice and guidance, freely sought by one adult from another, is criminalised. We are working together as faith leaders to offer a constructive opportunity to prevent such a step from taking place, and seek your active support.

Specifically, we seek an urgent 'pause' on the Bill and a meeting with yourself and the Attorney General, and ask for transparent and comprehensive consultation. We make this request publicly and respectfully, always open to dialogue and to finding a constructive resolution.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Mohamed Mohideen,  
President, on behalf of the Islamic Council of Victoria

Most Reverends Greg Bennet, Paul Bird CSsR, Peter A Comensoli, Terence Curtin, Shane Mackinlay, Bosco Puthur, Peter Stasiuk CSsR, Antoine-Charbel Tarabay  
on behalf of Catholic Dioceses and Eparchies of Victoria

Sunday Mass Times	
Saturday	5:00pm
Sunday	9:00am 10:30am 5:00pm
<b>Attendance numbers at our Masses are limited to 180 people.</b> <b><u>Please arrive 15 minutes early to register your attendance.</u></b> <b>Covid safety practices apply</b>	
Weekday Mass Times	
Tues Feb 09	9:30am Mass
Weds Feb 10	11:00am Adoration
	12:00pm Mass
Thurs Feb 11	9:30 am Mass
Fri 12	9:30am Mass
	10:30am Mass, Bupa Care <i>Residents only</i>
Parishioners attending weekday Masses are asked to <u>arrive 15 minutes before Mass to ensure their attendance is recorded.</u>	

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** We remember those who have died recently including Riley Pearce, Pietrangelo (Peter) Di Ciero and Bill Weller and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Joseph Lapuh, Gorga Bonnelo and family, Pat Harrup and Terry Dixon  
***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 Templer, Julie Vaz, Brian Vivian, Celie Smith, Wil Waanders, George Walkan and Roy Ward and all those we hold dear in our hearts.

### **THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:**

#### **Tuesday Feb 09**

7:00pm Baptism Preparation Meeting, in the Church

#### **Wednesday Feb 10**

1:00pm Weds pm Cells Group, Mary MacKillop Room

5:40pm Liturgy Team, Parish Centre

#### **Thursday Feb 11**

7:00pm Finance Team, Parish Centre

7:30pm RCIA, Mary MacKillop Room

# Congratulations!

... to our patient children who are celebrating their First Holy Communion this weekend. We are so pleased that the updated Coronavirus restrictions have not again affected the celebration of this Sacrament for these children in 2021.

#### **Well done to -**

Harry Ayres	Stevie Bedford
Harry Bosch	Tajh Brand
Darcy Briggs	Vanessa Buhagiar
Adele Calabro	Spencer Campbell
Sophie Clegg	Sierra Colantuono
Haylee Crookes	Jayme Davis
Jian Diwa	Lucy Fazioli
Zanthe Flewin	Nicole Francolino
Chloe Galante	Lachlan Gallivan
Audrey Goicoa	Mace Henderson
Sienna Inchincoli	Oliver Jones
Alycia Kelly	Iris Knowles
Ellery Kornet	Ruby Kus
Jack Lemon	Lucy Magaldi
Macey Manzo	Lily McKay
Miah Moloney	Taylin Moloney
Levi O'Neill	Kitty Passalaqua
Orla Phillips	Aston Prince
Isla Rabette	Harrison Ritchie
Grace Robinson	Ruby Roscoe
Lulu Ross	Kira Rossl
Harlow Sexton	Kye Spiteri
Melanie Stanistreet	Hudson Stone
Chloe Taylor	Alani Treasure
Callan Van der Meer	Mia Varsaci
Annabella Veneman	Isabella Vitale
Wil Walker	Beth Wallace
Harry Wight	Tyler Zandona

Our congratulations and thanks to the families of all these children, your guidance and support of your child's faith journey is a wonderful blessing; our thanks also to the members of the Sacramental Team for your energy, enthusiasm and care of our youngsters and their families.

**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.

**BAPTISMS:** 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.





**FACE MASKS:** As of 11:59pm on February 03, 2021, it is again mandatory for all of us over the age of twelve years to wear face masks when indoors.

We ask all parishioners to abide by all Covid-safe directives, to help us keep our Church open.

**RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION:**

In this time of pandemic, we need to follow these instructions when receiving Holy Communion.

All worshippers are to wear a face mask throughout the celebration of Mass and the other Sacraments.

The communicant is required –

- To maintain the proper distancing in communion queue.
- To wear a mask
- To engage in the dialogue with the communion minister and receive the host in the hand, while wearing the mask.
- To take two steps to the side, and away from the priest.
- To then remove one side of their mask to place the Host in their mouth with the other hand.
- To re-positions the mask.
- To then return to their seat via a different pathway.



**FINANCE MATTERS:**

**January 2021**

Planned Giving	Envelopes	\$5,795.00
(Church Account)	Credit Card	\$2,185.00
	<u>Direct Debit</u>	<u>\$6,283.00</u>

January Total Received \$14,263.00

January Planned Giving amount pledged \$18,909.50

Loose Collections	Jan 03	\$ 715.60
(Presbytery Account)	Jan 10	\$ 955.65
	Jan 17	\$ 916.90
	Jan 24	\$ 644.05
	Jan 31	<u>\$1,114.10</u>
		\$4,346.30

Electronic giving	<u>266.40</u>
January Loose Collections	<u>\$4,612.70</u>

**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)

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.

**STEWARDSHIP MATTERS** "Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed... He told them, 'Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come.'" - Mark 1:35, 38

In today's Gospel reading we see a perfect example of stewardship. Jesus gives His time to do all that God wishes - healing the sick and preaching. But before He begins, Jesus makes time to be alone with God in prayer. It is through prayer, spending time with God, that we find the strength to do what He wishes us to do. Be sure to find time every day to be with God.

**Rosters for Saturday February 13 & Sunday 14 February 40, 2021**

Mass	Lector	Commentator	Ushers
Sat 5:00pm	R Webber / W Gomez	D Smith	Volunteer required
Sun 9:00am	J Dal Pra	C McCabe	Volunteer required
Sun 10:30am	M Hansen	Volunteer required	Volunteer required
Sun 5:00pm	Cath / Ella / Sienna Hill		Volunteer required

**Entrance Antiphon** Ps 105:47

*O come, let us worship God  
and bow low before the God who made us,  
for he is the Lord our God.*

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

A reading from the book of Job

*I am filled with sorrow all day long.*

Job began to speak:

Is not man's life on earth nothing more than  
pressed service,  
his time no better than hired drudgery?

Like the slave, sighing for the shade,  
or the workman with no thought but his wages,  
months of delusion I have assigned to me,  
nothing for my own but nights of grief.

Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?'

Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!'

Restlessly I fret till twilight falls.

Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have  
passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind.

Remember that my life is but a breath,  
and that my eyes will never again see joy.

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

**(R.) Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.**

1. Praise the Lord for he is good;  
sing to our God for he is loving:  
to him our praise is due. **(R.)**
2. The Lord builds up Jerusalem  
and brings back Israel's exiles,  
he heals the broken-hearted,  
he binds up all their wounds.  
He fixes the number of the stars;  
he calls each one by its name. **(R.)**
3. Our Lord is great and almighty;  
his wisdom can never be measured.  
The Lord raises the lowly;  
he humbles the wicked to the dust. **(R.)**

**Second Reading** 1 Cor 9:16-19 22-23

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

*Punishment will come to me if I do not preach the Gospel.*

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.

**Gospel Acclamation** Mt 4:8:17

*He bore our sickness,  
and endured our suffering.  
Alleluia!*

**Gospel** Mk 1:29-39

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.*

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

*Readings for the 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*First Reading: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46*

*Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:31 – 11:1*

*Gospel: Mark 1:40-45*