

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
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 Imhagwe Chairperson, Fr Francis, Lia Di Corleto, Watson Gomez, Jenifer Hanratty, Steve Kimani, Judi McLaughlin, Thomas Mathew, Amanda Reid, 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 Brendan Byrne SJ

In the second of the Gospel readings taken from John 6 at this stage of Year B we find ourselves at the beginning of Jesus' long discourse on the 'Bread of Life'.

Jesus' interaction with the crowd in the **Gospel** (John 6:24-35) plays off these traditions. Following the miraculous feeding, the people had wanted to make Jesus their king. But he eluded them and went off to the hills by himself while his disciples set out to cross the lake by boat. Later (vv. 16-21), in a manifestation of his divine status, he rejoined them by walking upon the sea. Eventually, the crowds whom Jesus had fed by multiplying the loaves catch up with him again on the other side of the lake and begin the dialogue with him that triggers the discourse. They ask questions of Jesus that betray inadequate understanding of his person and his activity. Jesus takes up their questions and responses, correcting them and turning them in a direction that leads to mature faith and readiness to receive revelation.

He points out that they have been looking for him simply because they had been fed, albeit marvellously, with what was still ordinary food. They had failed to 'see signs' in the sense that they did not understand the gift of ordinary bread as a sign or symbol pointing to a deeper reality: that Jesus is the gift of 'Bread' sent down from heaven to satisfy a far deeper human need, the gift of eternal life.

By following the way of the Law they are 'working' in the sense of working for money in order to have the wherewithal to buy bread to keep them alive. But such bread is like the bread the Israelites went out to collect on the first five days, bread that would not last. Instead they should understand that, in the presence of Jesus, they are really in a 'Sabbath' situation where the Manna sent down on the sixth day is bread that truly lasts – lasts for eternal life. The Son of Man (Jesus) will give (v. 28 [The NRSV rightly has the future tense; contrast Jerusalem Bible]) them that lasting 'bread' when lifted up upon the cross he becomes the supreme revelation of the Father.

A seal affixed to a document authoritatively stamps the document with the author's identity and ownership. The 'seal' that the Father has set upon Jesus (v. 27) probably refers to his endowment with the Spirit – an episode not described in the Fourth Gospel but alluded to by John the Baptist in 1:32-34. Endowment with the Spirit provides divine accreditation and guarantee that the revelation given by Jesus is the 'food that endures to eternal life'.

The only 'work' then that is required on the human side is the 'work' of believing that such is the case: namely, that, in the person of Jesus, God is sending down from heaven the Bread of Life in this imperishable and life-giving sense.

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| Sunday Mass Times | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Saturday | 5:00pm |
| Sunday | 9:00am, 10:30am, 5:00pm |
| Attendance at Masses are currently limited to 80 people. <i>Booking to attend is not required, the church doors will be closed when our limit is reached.</i> PLEASE arrive 15 minutes early to Mass to record your attendance before Mass begins. | |
| Weekday Mass Times | |
| Tues Aug 03 | 9:30am Mass |
| Weds Aug 04 | 11:00am Adoration |
| | 12:00pm Mass |
| Thurs Aug 05 | 9:30am Mass |
| Fri Aug 06 | 9:30am Mass |

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK

including Maria Alessandrini, Fr Bernard Buckley, Conceicao Carvalho, Peter Dal Pra, Ann-Maree Daly, Anthony Derham, Gary Donchi, Bill Edgar, Kevin Fitzsimon, Bernadette Formaran, Fr Frank Freeman, Marj Gilbert, Carolyn Gleeson, Jacqui Granville, Ellen Hammond, Jenny Hansch, Robert Hazelman, Imogen Hillier, Marie Howard, Joan Lamont, Joyce Martin, Ivy May, Deborah McKerchar, Ben Melenhorst, Maree Morris, Henry Polo, Joan Riggall, Kath Ryan, Jerry Templer, Damiano Tripodi, Julie Vaz, Brian Vivian, Celie Smith, George Walkan and Roy Ward and all those we hold dear in our hearts.



MASS OFFERINGS: Masses have been offered for Carmel Hayes and Angelina Agostino.

BAPTISMS: This weekend, we welcome for Baptism:-

- **Neisha Ann Joseph**, daughter of Appu and Athira;
- **Ellie Wynter Prigg**, daughter of Ryan and Cheree.



Congratulations to the families, from us all. The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be on **Tuesday 24th August at 7:00pm** in the Church. Please contact the Parish Office on 5174 2060 if you are interested to attend.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Fr **Ajin** celebrates his birthday on Sunday 1st August! Happy Birthday Fr Ajin, from us all. We're so glad you're here with us.

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS

Tuesday August 03

10:30am **CPG Core Group**
Church

Wednesday August 04

9:30am **Weds AM Prayer Group**
Church

EASING OF COVID RESTRICTIONS: Thankfully, we are again able to hold Masses in our Church with a **limit of 80 people** at Mass. Parishioners are not being asked to book to attend Masses – we now have ushers who are counting in parishioners; when our limit is reached then the door to the Church will be closed. All parishioners are asked to support the Parish in meeting its Covid limitations.

Huge thanks to those parishioners who are happy to act as our ushers (or Covid Marshalls); without you, we would not be able to open our doors.

So, this means:-

That meetings can take place during daylight hours in the Church. The Mary MacKillop Room and the chapel remain closed until further notice.

The office remains closed, all contact needs to be by either phone or email.

PRAY FOR OUR CLERGY: Next week on **Wednesday 4th August**, we celebrate the feast of St John Vianney, the patron saint of priests.

Please continue to pray for all our clergy: Bishop Greg and all our priests and deacons, that they may continue in their ministry of service and live out their vocation as shepherds of the faithful.

Our clergy will be gathering online next Wednesday for their annual Vianney Reflection Day.

WEDNESDAY AM PRAYER GROUP: The Wednesday AM Prayer Group will meet this coming Wednesday at 9:30am in the Church.

MEDICAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM: A meeting will be called as soon as possible to outline the direction forward in the future. We are fortunate that one of our parishioners has organized suitable training for our MERT members; currently there are four places available for the training, so if you are interested in becoming a response person for the MERT, please contact the parish office.

Volunteer information brochures are on the table as you enter the Church, please take one if you feel this is a ministry you could participate in.

CWL NEWS: The CWL meeting planned for August 03, and the Ladies Walk planned for August 04 have both been cancelled.

PLANNED GIVING NEWS: Envelope givers will realise that their last envelope is for giving on August 22.

This means that in the next two weeks, we will have the new envelopes in the Church for parishioners to collect and take home, also to deliver to those who live nearby.

Last time our envelopes were distributed, we were blessed with a veritable army of deliverers, who were able to deliver all but one envelope, saving the Parish a huge postage bill. It costs \$9.00 to post out each packet of envelopes. If you are able to help out again in this way, could you please let the Parish Office know that you are help out in the weeks of August 16 to 25.

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.

SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY – *(continued from Page 1)*

Unconvinced, the crowds want Jesus to turn on a ‘Manna-like’ miracle as they believe Moses did (v. 30). Jesus corrects them in regard to both past and present. It was not Moses but God who gave them bread from heaven. Likewise, they should not now be expecting him to provide bread from heaven as if he were simply a figure comparable to Moses. What Moses provided was the Law, which was not ‘bread from heaven’ that would last (‘endure to eternal life’). Whereas, he (Jesus) is the Bread from heaven that the Father is now providing for the life of the world. If the crowd can simply put aside its own presuppositions and demands, and simply believe in the generosity of God, then they will receive this life-giving revelation.

Both as revelatory Word of God and as Eucharist Jesus is for us the ‘Bread of Life’.

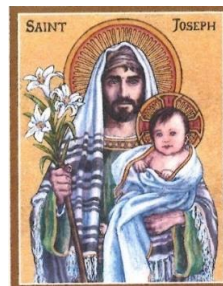
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URGENT PLEA FOR HELP We urgently need photos of Monsignor Allman during his ministry - Fr Ajin would like to put together a PowerPoint presentation to be part of Mons’ 70th & 96th Celebrations on Sunday August 22.

If you’ve photos of Mons in your collection, could you please drop them in the mail slot beside the door of the Parish Centre, or email to the office in the highest possible format, as soon as possible. Many thanks 😊



Pope Francis’ Prayer to Saint Joseph

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.
Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and
courage, and defend us from every evil.
Amen.

STEWARDSHIP MATTERS

“Each day the people are to go out and gather their daily portion; thus will I test them, to see whether they follow my instructions or not.” EXODUS 16:4
When the Israelites gathered more than their daily portion of manna, the surplus became wormy and rotten. In the same way today, self-reliance, pride and ego leads to hoarding and excessive surplus of goods and money. Living a stewardship lifestyle helps us discern our “wants” from our “needs”. Living a grateful and generous lifestyle reminds us that God will provide all that we need and that we have plenty to share.

Rosters for August 07 & 08 *(covid restrictions allowing)*

| Mass | Lector | Commentator | Usher/Mass Counter | Altar Servers |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Sat 5:00pm | R Webber | D Smith | A Henry | Volunteers |
| Sun 9:00am | C McLure/R Diaz | C McCabe | C McLure | C Reid, S Reid, L Roy, K Roy |
| Sun 10:30am | U Imhagwe E Imhagwe | L Van der Velden | V Vaz | N Kimani, N Gils, E Imhagwe, J Gomez |
| Sun 5:00pm | M Hanratty Z Hanratty | S Darby | J & M McLaughlin | A Shine, E John, M Alex, E Hanratty |
| <i>Mick’s Kitchen</i> | Aug 05 Burns Team | | Aug 12 McLaughlin/Hill Team | |

Entrance Antiphon Ps 69:2,6

O God, come to my assistance;
O Lord, make haste to help me!
You are my rescuer, my help;
O Lord, do not delay.

First Reading Exodus 16:2-4 12-15

A reading from the book of Exodus

I will rain bread from heaven upon you.

The whole community of the sons of Israel began to complain against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness and said to them, 'Why did we not die at the Lord's hand in the land of Egypt, when we were able to sit down to pans of meat and could eat bread to our hearts content! As it is, you have brought us to this wilderness to starve this whole company to death!'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Now I will rain down bread for you from the heavens. Each day the people are to go out and gather the day's portion; I propose to test them this way to see whether they will follow my law or not.'

'I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel. Say this to them, "Between the two evenings you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have bread to your hearts content. Then you will learn that I, the Lord, am your God.'" And so it came about: quails flew up in the evening, and they covered the camp; in the morning there was a coating of dew all round the camp. When the coating of dew lifted, there on the surface of the desert was a thing delicate, powdery, as fine as hoarfrost on the ground. When they saw this, the sons of Israel said to one another, 'What is that?' not knowing what it was. 'That' said Moses to them 'is the bread the Lord gives you to eat.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 77:3-4. 23-25. 54. R. v.24**(R.) The Lord gave them bread from heaven.**

1. The things we have heard and understood, the things our fathers have told us, we will tell to the next generation: the glories of the Lord and his might. **(R.)**
2. He commanded the clouds above and opened the gates of heaven. He rained down manna for their food, and gave them bread from heaven. **(R.)**
3. Mere men ate the bread of angels. He sent them abundance of food. He brought them to his holy land, to the mountain which his right hand had won. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Eph 4: 17, 20-24

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians
Put on the new person that has been created in God's image.

I want to urge you in the name of the Lord, not to go on living the aimless kind of life that pagans live. Now that is hardly the way you have learnt from Christ, unless you failed to hear him properly when you were taught what the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self, which gets corrupted by following illusory desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God's way, in the goodness and holiness of the truth.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 4:4

*Alleluia, alleluia!
No one lives on bread alone,
But on every word that comes
from the mouth of God.
Alleluia!*

Gospel John 6:24-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Whoever comes to me will never be hungry; whoever believes in me will never thirst.

When the people saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into boats and crossed to Capernaum to look for Jesus. When they found him on the other side, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly, you are not looking for me because you have seen the signs but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat.

Do not work for food that cannot last, but work for food that endures to eternal life, the kind of food the Son of Man is offering you, for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal.'

Then they said to him, 'What must we do if we are to do the works that God wants?' Jesus gave them this answer, 'This is working for God: you must believe in the one he has sent.' So they said, 'What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you? What work will you do? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as scripture says: He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'

Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly, it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven, it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven, the true bread; for the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.'

'Sir,' they said 'give us that bread always.' Jesus answered: 'I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never thirst.'

Next week's Readings ~ August 08, 2018
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Kings 19:4-8
Second Reading: Ephesians 4:30 – 5:2
Gospel: John 6:41-51