



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

The end of an era in view

from Fr Francis

I was wondering, how do I break such a piece of news on a day when we celebrate Mary of the Cross MacKillop? Then I thought, I guess Mary MacKillop will be pleased with her, so why not... Here we go...

For a couple of months now, or let us say for over a year, I have been having this discussion with her. She had been contemplating it and praying over it. She had made moves a couple of times, and each time I pleaded with her, and she pushed it forward. The last time, she simply said to me, Francis, I am reaching my elastic limit, and may be able to go no further. This confirms the fact that for every stretch, there is a limit. When once the limit is attained, the material can stretch no further; and any attempt at stretching further results in a "break". This is in line with the principle of elasticity; it is in conformity with all human efforts.

It is on this note that I would like to announce the intention to retire, of our beloved and most cherished Parish Secretary, Bev. A member of the PPC, upon hearing this last week commented: "oh no! Bev... is one figure that holds our parish together... I know that she has reached retirement age, but I was secretly hoping that she will continue forever..." Another simply remarked, "Wow! Wow! Wow! We are going to really miss her not being in that office..."

Well, to say we are going to miss her not being in that office is simply an understatement. We will miss her gentle smiles, her wisdom at sorting things out, her home-management skills, her professional decorum, her friendly nature and gestures, and above all, her contagious and openly communicated love of God. Her passion for our parish community is unquantifiable and unmatched. "This is my parish, and this is my community," she would always say to me. For this statement alone each time I cherished her, and felt really blessed to be serving you alongside her as the Parish Secretary. It certainly is not going to be the same without her. Nevertheless, we bless God for giving her the opportunity to have served God and the church in our midst. All we can say for now is "Well done, good and faithful servant..." (Matt 25:23).

She has still got a couple of months with us as Secretary. While I do not want to think about the date, it is already in motion... and it will come. Her last day in the office as Secretary is sometime in November. I wanted to push it till the first of December or at least the end of November, but she insisted: I am very close to my elastic limit. Can't go no further.

So, we agreed. She will remain in the office till after the first Sunday in November, but will leave before the second Sunday. The Friday before that second Sunday is 12th November, 2021. That will be her last day in office. The end of an era!!! Well done! Bev.

Fr Francis

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 10	9:30am Mass
Weds Aug 11	11:00am Mass
	12:00pm Mass
Thurs Aug 12	9:30am Mass
Fri Aug 13	9:30am Mass (hopefully)

Cancelled

Cancelled

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We remember those who have died recently including John Denis Fahy, Eileen Considine (Sr Philippa's sister) and Joan O'Dwyer and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Angelina Agostino, Carmel Hayes and Rita Sweeney.

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

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, Barbara Greaves, Ellen Hammond, Jenny Hansch, Robert Hazelman, Imogen Hillier, Marie Howard, Joan Lamont, Joyce Martin, Ivy May, Deborah Mc Kerchar, 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, and for the Teuma, Rolih and Fern families.

BAPTISMS: 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.



CATHOLIC CARE COLLECTION: Next weekend, we will have leaving collections for the work of Catholic Care Australia. Please support their works, providing counselling, food and travel assistance for those who find themselves in desperate need. Donation envelopes will be in the Church porch next weekend also.

CELEBRATORY MASS FOR MONSIGNOR ALLMAN:
Sunday August 22 at 2:00pm. As we have no idea what numbers we might be allowed in our congregation on August 22, it would be a good idea for parishioners who wish to share this special occasion with Monsignor to ring the office and book a place. Hopefully, we'll be allowed plenty of spaces.

HAPPY HOLIDAY: Fr Ajin will be taking leave from August 09 to 16. We hope you have a relaxing time away from us all, Father Ajin. **Bad luck, Fr Ajin.**

LOCKDOWN #6: Our parish plans for this coming week are all cancelled, due to covid restrictions brought into place at 8:00pm on Thursday 5th August.

Our Church and our office are again closed. Should you need to contact Father, please call the office phone number, and leave a message.

Please take good care of yourselves, stay safe and pray for each other, for all our priests, deacons and Bishop Greg.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP: The CPG will meet on Thursday morning in the Church. All Parishioners are warmly invited to attend. Please contact Cathy on 0432 588 195 for further information.

R.C.I.A.: (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) St Michael's warmly invites anyone interested in discovering more about Catholic faith to come along to our meetings which are held on Thursday evenings in the Parish Centre, 7:30-9:00pm. (Covid Restrictions allowing). Please contact Susan Grout on 0412 671 308 or the Parish Office on 5174 2060, if you, or someone you know are interested.



Cancelled

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS	
Tuesday August 10	
10:30am	CPG Core Group Church
1:00pm	Knights of the Holy Cross
Wednesday August	
9:30am	Wedding Preparation Group (if restrictions are eased on Aug 10)
Thursday	
10:30am	Charismatic Prayer Group Church
7:00pm	RCIA, Parish Centre (if restrictions are eased on Aug 10)

Cancelled

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE are running a series of short sessions online via Zoom, Engaging Your Faith. Choose one, choose all, \$20 per session Aug 21 to Sept 16. Go to www.ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/engaging-your-faith for further details and to book.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES: will be available in the Church on the weekend of August 14 & 15.

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 😊

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 –

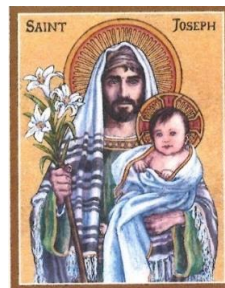
- To maintain the proper distancing in communion queue.
- To wear a mask
- To engage in the dialogue with the communion minister and receive the host in the hand, while wearing the mask.
- To take two steps to the side, and away from the priest.
- To then remove one side of their mask to place the Host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

Feast Day of St Mary MacKillop:

Mary Helen MacKillop RSJ (15 January 1842 – 8 August 1909), now formally known as St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, was an Australian nun who has been declared a saint by the Catholic Church. Of Scottish descent, she was born in Melbourne, but was best known for her activities in South Australia. Together with the Reverend Julian Tenison Woods, she founded the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart (the Josephites), a congregation of religious sisters that established a number of schools and welfare institutions throughout Australasia, with an emphasis on education for the rural poor. With the process to have MacKillop declared a saint having begun in the 1920s, she was beatified in January 1995 by Pope John Paul II. Pope Benedict XVI prayed at her tomb during his visit to Sydney for World Youth Day 2008 and, in December 2009, approved the Catholic Church's recognition of a second miracle attributed to her intercession. She was canonised on 17 October 2010, during a public ceremony in St Peter's Square at the Vatican. She is the first and only Australian to be recognised by the Catholic Church as a saint.

Mary was no stranger to challenge, anxiety and uncertainty but her trust in God was strong and constant, as was her devotion to St Joseph. We can be inspired by Mary, her life and example and the beautiful writings that she left her Sisters.

“Take fresh courage, lean more on God and less on ourselves”.



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.

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Gospel Reading:

Your heavenly Father knows you need them all. Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on God’s saving justice, and all these other things will be given you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow: tomorrow will take care of itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.



Next week’s Readings (August 15)

The Feast of the Assumption

1st Reading: Apoc 11:19, 12:1-6, 10

2nd Reading: 1 Cor 15:20-26

Gospel: Luke 1:39-56

Rosters for August 14 & 15 (covid restrictions allowing)				
Mass	Lector	Commentator	Usher/Mass Counter	Altar Servers
Sat 5:00pm	B Purcell B O’Brien	S Grout	C Payne	Volunteers
Sun 9:00am	M Hansen AM Thomas	M Wilkinson	A Sykes	C Reid, S Reid, TM Thomas RM Thomas
Sun 10:30am	J Dal Pra K Roy	L Van der Velden	G & U Imhagwe	E Imhagwe, E Imhagwe, N Kimani, J Joseph
Sun 5:00pm	E Harte J Panozzo-Tilè	J Fleming	J & M McLaughlin	Z Hanratty, J Hanratty, E Hanratty, E John
<i>Mick’s Kitchen</i>	Aug 12	McLaughlin/Hill Team	Aug 19	Moretti Team

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Mt 25:34,36,40

*Come, you blessed of my Father, says the Lord:
I was sick and you visited me.
Amen, I say to you: whatever you did
for one of the least of my brethren,
you did it for me.*

First Reading 1 Kings 17:7-16

A reading from the first book of Kings

The jar of meal shall not be spent according to the word of the Lord spoken through Elias

And then the word of the Lord came to Elijah, 'Up and go to Zarephath, a Sidonian town, and stay there. I have ordered a widow there to give you food.' So he went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks. Addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please,' he said 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

"Jar of meal shall not be spent,
jug of oil shall not be emptied,
before the day when the Lord sends
rain on the face of the earth."

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 62:1-8

(R.) *My soul clings to you, your right hand holds me fast.*

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. **(R.)**
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. **(R.)**
3. So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. **(R.)**
4. On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. **(R.)**

Second Reading Colossians 3:12-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Bear with one another, forgive each other

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you, and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 27:55

*Alleluia, alleluia!
Many women were there by the cross, watching
from a distance,
the same women who had followed Jesus and
looked after him.
Alleluia!*

Gospel Matthew 6:25-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Do not worry about your life

Jesus said to his disciples:

I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat, nor about your body and what you are to wear.

Surely life is more than food, and the body more than clothing! Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they are?

Can any of you, however much you worry, add one single cubit to your span of life? And why worry about clothing? Think of the flowers growing in the fields; they never have to work or spin: yet I assure you that not even Solomon in all his royal robes was clothed like one of these. Now if that is how God clothes the wild flowers growing in the field which are there today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow, will he not much more look after you, you have so little faith?

So do not worry; do not say, "What are we to eat?"

What are we to drink? What are we to wear?"

It is the gentiles who set their hearts on all these things.

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