



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

Platinum jubilee of priestly service to God and humanity

Dear Mons Allman,
 Today, Bishop Greg Bennet of Sale Diocese, the clergy of the Diocese and family and friends come together to celebrate you: 70 years of ministerial priesthood, and 96 years of earthly existence. What a huge milestone to celebrate! This is the day that the Lord has made, we rejoice and we are glad. As the old saying goes: "honour to whom honour is due." This honour and much more, is due you, Mons; and how else can we celebrate you than to gather with you around the table of the Lord together with brother priests, led by our bishop, to give thanks to God within the context of the Eucharistic sacrifice, the very sacrifice that you have celebrated in the last 70 years. What a blessing from God to be able to do this, and I am sure you will say, with our mother Mary: "my soul glorifies the Lord, and my spirit exalts in God my Saviour" (Luke 1:46-47). Indeed, we all join you today to magnify and exalt the name of the Lord.

I write this piece on behalf of myself, Fr Ajin, the pastoral team and the entire parishioners of St Michael's, your favourite and most cherished parish and church. As you know, you are a household name in Traralgon, and we feel highly privileged to be hosting this platinum jubilee Mass of your ordination. In this parish you ministered to many families whose children you baptized, gave communion to, confirmed, anointed, reconciled to God, and married. On behalf of them all, both those present and those unable to make it, I say thank you Mons.

Just so you know, we have had to turn down many applications for this Mass due

to the coronavirus restrictions. This demonstrates how much you are loved and cherished in the community and beyond. I am privileged to be walking where you once walked.

Thank you for giving us the beautiful edifice we have today as St Michael's Church Traralgon. Following from your hard-work and ingenuity, now every visitor to Traralgon desires to behold the beauty of our magnificent and gorgeous church building—the stain-glass windows, the round altar table with a protruded Tabernacle Pillar highlighted by the hanging sanctuary lamp. What a glorious legacy you have left for posterity. God bless you Mons.

Even post your official retirement, you proved that you weren't really tired. You picked up ministry at St Columbkille's Glengarry, until June/July 2019 when you finally decided to give up Glengarry to engage in an undistracted stay/ministry at O'Mara House. A man of great strength, passion, and love of God and ministry, you are. You are indeed a priest forever, a priest like Melchizedek of old (Gen 14:18-20).

Ajin and I (and Saji, Mark and Confidence) remain grateful to you for making us welcome. Your written words to us this time last year still ring in my ears: "Francis and Ajin, the Diocese needs you. May you always feel wanted and needed as one of us. Our priesthood brings its own strength and confidence in all we do – so please keep doing it. God bless." Thank you for those beautiful words.

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Sunday Mass Times	
Saturday	5:00pm
Sunday	9:00am, 10:30am, 5:00pm
Attendance at Masses is currently limited to 80 people, provided we have an Usher in attendance. Booking to attend is not required, the church doors will be closed when our limit is reached. PLEASE arrive 15 minutes early to Mass to record your attendance before Mass begins.	
Weekday Mass Times	
Tues Aug 24	9:30am Mass
Weds Aug 25	11:00am Adoration
	12:00pm Mass
Thurs Aug 26	9:30am Mass
Fri Aug 27	9:30am Mass

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We remember those who have died recently including Veronica Smith, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Carmela Woodhouse, Kathleen Hodgson, Jim W Gilmour, Eva Lang and Joan Bermingham.

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, Sr Margaret 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 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.



BAPTISMS: We welcome for Baptism,
 * **Killian Brian Longin**, son of Matthew and Bernadette and
 * **Charlie Sofia Mary Wilson**, daughter of Declan and Chrissy.



Congratulations to the families, from us all. We look forward to getting to know Charlie and Killian better as they grow. 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.

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.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES: Huge thanks to our parishioners who have so enthusiastically delivered all but fifteen of the next batch of Planned Giving Envelopes. What fantastic enthusiasm, talk about seeing a need and doing something about it! If anyone would like to deliver the remaining 15 envelopes, it would be most appreciated.

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It is no coincidence that the Psalmist today invites us to "Taste and see the goodness of the Lord" (Ps 33:9). You have tasted this goodness, and that has always been your message. I am sure today, you will join the universal church as she echoes "I will bless the Lord at all time, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast; The humble shall hear and be glad" (Ps 33:2-3).

May you continue to swim in the ocean of God's blessings, Mons.

Fr Francis



PLENARY COUNCIL NEWS:

With just 6 weeks to go before the First Assembly of the Plenary Council, Bishop Greg has asked for the prayers of everyone in the Diocese as the representatives of our Diocese undertake training and formation.

Our representative members are – Bishop Greg Bennet, Fr Peter Slater (VG), Fr Denis O'Bryan (EV), Mrs Katherine Jelavic and Mrs Lize Privetera.

Please keep our representatives and the whole Catholic community in Australia in your prayers as this Council approaches.

In this year of St Joseph, let us turn to him to intercede for us as we journey together.

R.C.I.A.: (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

St Michael's Parish warmly invites anyone interested in discovering more about the 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.



AFGHANISTAN: We have received a statement from the Australian Council of Christians and Jews. This Council seeks to deepen mutual understanding between Christians and Jews in Australia.

The Council expresses its solidarity with the people of Afghanistan at this time when their human rights are threatened, and extends deepest sympathy to the families of Afghan background in Australia.

The scenes and news emerging from Afghanistan are devastating. We pray for those whose lives have been turned upside down, who are now beset by violence, fear and dreadful uncertainty.

May the leaders of all nations work for peace, restoration of order, dignity, safety and human rights to the people of Afghanistan. May all countries reach out with God's love apparent to those who are now refugees.

We call on Our Lady of Perpetual Help to pray with us for all those who suffer unjustly.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM NEWS: First Communion will be celebrated early in Term 4. Dates will be advertised as soon as possible.

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-position the mask.
- To then return to their seat via a different pathway.

Youth Minister 2022

Expressions of interest are invited for the position of **Warragul and Drouin Parishes Youth Minister** from January 2022.

Current position is 8 hours per week equivalent but it is hoped that, in combination with some neighbouring parishes, multiple days can be offered to the right applicant.

Expressions of interest: to Deacon Mark Kelly 0427 748 646 Mark.Kelly@cdsale.org.au

STEWARDSHIP MATTERS

“If it does not please you to serve the Lord, decide today whom you will serve...As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.” JOSHUA 24:15

When we commit to serve the Lord, we must be willing every day, joyfully participates in charitable works and generously supports their local parish and Church mission. If we say we serve God, we must actually to become a disciple in the work of the Lord. A disciple is a person who spends time in prayer do something and not merely talk about it!



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.

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS

Tuesday August 24

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

7:00pm **Baptism Preparation Meeting**
Church

Thursday August 26

10:30am **Charismatic Prayer Group**, Church

7:00pm **RCIA**, Parish Centre

*Lord, who shall we go to?
You have the message
of eternal life and we believe.*

Rosters for August 28 & 29 2021 – 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Sat 5:30pm	Sun 9:00am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
Lector	R Foote T Larkin	Shane Reid Scarlett Reid	Jenny Dal Pra Niah Gils	Cath Hill Ella Hill
Commentator	Dorothy Smith	Carolyn McCabe	Lien Van der Velden	Sienna Hill
Usher (Covid Marshall)	Anneke Henry	Rachel Williams-Rankin	Jenny & Peter Dal Pra	Judi & Martin McLaughlin
Musicians	Jane	Jane	Jane	Jane
Altar Servers	Volunteers	KM Thomas, RM Thomas R Roy, L Roy	E Imhagwe, N Gils, E Imhagwe, J Joseph	M Alex, A Shine, E John
<i>Mick's Kitchen</i>	Aug 26 Scholtes Team		Sept 02 Hemming Team	

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 85:1-3

*Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;
save the servant who trusts in you, my God.
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all
the day long.*

First Reading Joshua 24:1-2 15-18

A reading from the book of Joshua

We will serve the Lord God, because he is our God.

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 33:2-3. 16-23. R. v.9

(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. **(R.)**
2. The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
The Lord turns his eyes to the just
and his ears to their appeal. **(R.)**
3. They call and the Lord hears
and rescues them in all their distress.
The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save. **(R.)**
4. Many are the trials of the just man
but from them all the Lord will rescue him.
He will keep guard over all his bones,
not one of his bones shall be broken. **(R.)**
5. Evil brings death to the wicked;
those who hate the good are doomed.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.
(R.)

Next week's Readings ~ August 29, 2021
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-8
Second Reading: St James 1:17-18 21-22 27
Gospel: Mark 7:1-8 14-15 21-23

Second Reading Eph 5:21-32

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

This is the great mystery, it applies to Christ and the Church.

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

Gospel Acclamation see John 6:63 68

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Your words, Lord, are spirit and life:
you have the words of everlasting life.
Alleluia!*

Gospel John 6:60-69

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Lord, whom shall we go to? You have the words of everlasting life.

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?

'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.

'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'