



## 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

## HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Wishing all the father's of our parish and of all our parish families, a happy and blessed Father's Day in this time of isolation. Our thoughts and prayers go out to those who won't be able to share this day with their Dad (or father figure) due to the isolation restrictions in place; and to all those who are apart from their Dad's because of distance (geographical and familial) and death. To those Dads who are mourning a child or children, and to those for whom this is a first Fathers Day without their Dad, our thoughts and prayers for you all.

We give thanks for the blessings of Mons Allman, Fr Francis and Fr Ajin. How fortunate we are to have them here in Traralgon with us. We ask God's blessings on all the priests of our Diocese and beyond.



### Prayer for *Father's Day*

God our Father,  
 We give you thanks and praise  
 for fathers young and old.  
 We pray for young fathers,  
 newly embracing their vocation;  
 May they find courage and perseverance  
 to balance work, family and faith  
 in joy and sacrifice.  
 We pray for Fathers around the world  
 whose children are lost or suffering;  
 May they know that the God of compassion  
 walks with them in their sorrow.  
 We pray for men who are not fathers  
 but still mentor and guide us  
 with fatherly love and advice.  
 We remember fathers, grandfathers,  
 and great grandfathers  
 who are no longer with us  
 but who live forever in our memory  
 and nourish us with their love.

*Amen.*



Sunday Mass Times	
Saturday	Cancelled
Sunday	Cancelled
<b>PLEASE arrive 15 minutes early to Mass to record your attendance before Mass begins.</b>	
Weekday Mass Times	
Tues Sept 07	Cancelled
Weds Sept 08	Cancelled
Thurs Sept 09	Cancelled
Fri Sept 10	Cancelled

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** We remember those who have died recently including Hector (Jim) Stephens and Marie Howard and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Maria Di Sisto, John Langmaid.

**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, 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.



**FUNERAL PRAYERS** for **Hector (Jim) Stephens** were celebrated on Thursday September 02, 2021. Please remember Jim and his family and friends in your prayers. May he rest in peace.

**MASS OFFERINGS:** Mass has been offered this weekend for **Maria Di Sisto**, for the fifth anniversary of her death.

**BAPTISMS:** The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held as soon as possible when lockdown restrictions ease. Please contact the Parish Office on 5174 2060 if you are interested to attend.



**ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PARISH, TRARALGON**  
**Parish Secretary Position (0.8 FTE)**

Administration role supporting our Parish and our Parish Priests.

Applicants will need –

- To be supportive of the Catholic ethos
- Sound grammar and language skills, competent computer and bookkeeping skills. Experience in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint are essential, database management is also required.
- Current Working With Children's Check and Victorian Drivers Licence are essential. The successful Applicant will also need to provide a Victorian Police Check.

Remuneration to be negotiated in accordance with the Modern Award: Clerks, Private Sector Award 2010.

A Job Description is available on our website, [www.smpt.org.au](http://www.smpt.org.au). Applications to be mailed to our Parish Priest, PO Box 103, Traralgon Vic 3844 or emailed to [sec@smpt.org.au](mailto:sec@smpt.org.au) by 4:00pm on Friday September 17, 2021.

**PRIESTS' WELFARE FOUNDATION COLLECTION:**

This Sunday (September 05) is Father's Day, and is also the weekend for our annual collection to assist the Priests Welfare Foundation of our Diocese.

This Fund supports the priests and deacons of our diocese in times of sickness and retirement. At present the Foundation is supporting nine priests and three deacons and their wives in retirement, and is responsible for the other priests, including our overseas priests, and deacons in time of sickness.

The budgeted expenditure of the Foundation for them over the next year will be over \$200,000.00.

*Donations can be made by going to*

*<https://www.cdsale.org.au/preistswelfarefoundation>.*

The foundation is most grateful and appreciative of your support for our priests and deacons, and especially in these difficult times. All donations of \$2.00 and over are tax deductible and a receipt for tax deduction purposes will be automatically sent if an email address is provided. Your donations may also be made through your parish.

**PLENARY COUNCIL NEWS:**

With just 4 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.

**AFGHANISTAN SUPPORT:**

*(from Bishop Greg)*

I would draw your kind attention to an on-line initiative from the National Council of Churches in response to the crisis in Afghanistan.

The Bishops Commission for Social Justice, Mission and Service, and Bishops Commission for Christian Unity and inter-religious Dialogue, have given their support to the initiative and have invited us to join with other Christians in calling for a special intake of Afghan refugees. Christians from across the Church, alongside a wider public movement, are being moved to speak boldly to our national government leaders to provide urgent action for the well being of Afghan refugees. This is a moment which calls for solidarity by the Australian Church as one.

The call is simple –

*We, the Australian Church, are calling on the Federal Government to welcome a special intake of an additional 20,000 Afghan refugees, and support the ongoing well-being of all Afghan refugees and their families.*

This is a loud and urgent call from Christians across all walks of life and perspectives, united in concern for the well-being of the Afghan community.

Please visit the site below, register your concern and show solidarity for this important issue.

<https://www.unitedforafghanistan.com/>

It is the hope that as we unite as the Church, and show our government that we believe we are called to reach out and care for the vulnerable, that they will respond with a just and compassionate commitment to help the most vulnerable Afghan refugees.

I encourage you to review the website and to bring this invitation to the attention of our people.

With every peace,

**Most Reverend Greg Bennet**





**CHILD SAFETY WEEK** is celebrated over the coming week. Even though we're not able to have children present in our Masses at the moment, children will always be very important people in the fabric of our Parish life.

Child Safety Week is a time for us to reflect on the efforts we can make to ensure that every child and all vulnerable adults in our Parish community are treated with dignity and respect at all times. Thank you to all those volunteer parishioners who have their Working With Children Checks, and who have signed the 2021 Parish Code of Conduct, these are some of the steps we can all take to foster awareness and promote safety. When our parish is open and running, we also carry out risk assessments for all parish activities, to help ensure the safety of all involved.

**WE CAN'T BE TOGETHER, BUT STILL WE CAN PRAY:**

- We pray for all who are fathers and those who are father figures to loved ones in their lives. We pray too, for our Fathers, Deacons and Bishops. May the richness of their 'Fatherhood' bring them peace and joy.
- We pray for all those throughout our world whose lives have been impacted by the corona virus in so many different ways. May God's healing love find a place in the hearts of all.
- We pray for those whose lives have been upturned by political dissension, violence and denial of human rights, remembering especially our brothers and sisters in Afghanistan.
- We pray for children and vulnerable adults throughout the world, that they may always be treated with dignity, kindness and respect.
- We pray for the sick and housebound, and those who care for them; may they know the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- We pray for all who have died, and for those who are left to mourn. Lord hold them tenderly in your abiding love.



**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.

**MIGRANT & REFUGEE SUNDAY: Sunday September 26 is the 107<sup>th</sup> World Day of Migrants and Refugees.**

Pope Francis has chosen the theme, *Towards An Ever Wider "We"*. The Pope's message for September 26 2021 can be found at <https://jrs.net/en/resource/towards-an-ever-wider-we/>

**STEWARDSHIP MATTERS**

"Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he promised to those who love him?" JAMES 2:5

What is more important – being rich in faith or rich in possessions? Society tells us that possessions are most important. God teaches a different lesson. When we are rich in faith, we keep God first and experience true joy and peace. When we put possessions first, we soon realize we can never have enough and happiness is fleeting. When we put faith over possessions we truly realize it is better to give than receive.

**Rosters for September 11 & 12 (in joyful hope) – 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

	Sat 5:30pm	Sun 9:00am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
<b>Lector</b>	B Purcell B O'Brien	M Hansen AM Thomas	J Dal Pra K Roy	E Harte
<b>Commentator</b>	S Grout	M Wilkinson	Lien Van der Velden	J Fleming
<b>Usher</b> (Covid Marshall)	A Henry	A Sykes	V Vaz	J & M McLaughlin
<b>Musicians</b>	Jane & Simon	Jane & Simon	Jane & Simon	Jane & Simon
<b>Altar Servers</b>	To be advised	To be advised	To be advised	To be advised

*Mick's Kitchen* Sept 09 Burns Team (perhaps)

Sept 16 Van Berkel Team

**Entrance Antiphon** Ps 118:137 124

*You are just, O Lord, and your judgment is right;  
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.*

**First Reading** Isaiah 35:4-7

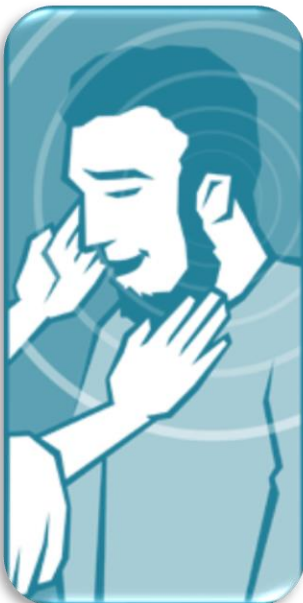
A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*Then the ears of the deaf shall be opened and the tongues of the dumb speak.*

Say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. 'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water.

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 145:7-10 R v1**(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!**

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **(R.)**
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bound down,  
the Lord who loves the just,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger. **(R.)**
3. The Lord upholds the widow and orphan,  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. **(R.)**

**Second Reading** James 2:1-5

A reading from the letter of St James

*Has not God chosen the poor of the world to inherit the kingdom?*

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats'; then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

**Gospel Acclamation** see John 6:63 68

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.*

*Alleluia!*

**Gospel** Mark 7:31-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.*

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

Next week's Readings ~ September 16, 2018  
24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 50:5-9  
Second Reading: James 2:14-18  
Gospel: Mark 8:27-35