

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 Dianne Bergant CSA

Classified as one of the Servant Songs, the first reading resembles a personal lament. Despite all the suffering that he is forced to endure, the author is confident that God is on his side. This is a remarkable statement since suffering was generally thought to be deserved recompense for some transgression. There is no suggestion that God will take the suffering away. Instead, God is present with the afflicted one, and the suffering itself is no cause for shame. In fact, suffering actually strengthens the one who laments. The righteous one knows that even in suffering, God is there as an advocate.

The psalm is an individual prayer of thanksgiving. The ancients believed that death was an elemental force that could take possession of people, undermining their lives and draining them of vitality. Any ailment was considered some form of death. After the psalmist's suffering is reported, the mood shifts from one of despair to one of grateful praise. God is acclaimed as gracious, just and merciful. These covenant qualities are the very qualities that inspired the psalmist's confidence and devotion. The psalmist illustrates God's power in three ways: the soul or life force is freed from death; eyes are freed from tears; feet are freed from stumbling. It is no wonder that the psalmist breaks out in a song of thanksgiving.

The author of the Letter to James addresses a misunderstanding regarding the nature of true faith. He insists that genuine faith is not simply orthodox doctrine. It must be practical, expressed in action and authentic worship. The people involved are referred to as brothers and sisters, indicating that the conflict is taking place within the community. Some members are in dire need of food and clothing, and others simply tell them to 'Go in peace'. This is not the lively faith called for by Jesus who spent himself for all people even unto death. James' opponents want to separate faith and works. James insists that faith that does not manifest itself in action is dead.

In the gospel, Jesus asks what people are saying about him. Some believe he is John the Baptist; others that he is Elijah; still others that he is one of the other prophets – all religious figures who have already died. Speaking in the name of the others, Peter proclaims that he is the Christ, the Messiah, the anointed one of God. Hearing this, Jesus elaborates on the character of his messiahship. He will be a messiah like the Son of Man, the enigmatic figure who will come on the clouds at the end of this age. To this he adds that he will suffer and die, an aspect not part of the ancient messianic traditions. Peter's rebuke exemplifies this. Jesus persists, adding that his followers will also suffer. This is indeed a hard saying.

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Sunday Mass Times	
Saturday	5:00pm
Sunday	9:00am, 10:30am, 5:00pm
<p>Eased restrictions mean that we can now have 20 people at Mass.</p> <p>BOOKING TO ATTEND WEEKEND MASSES IS ESSENTIAL,</p> <p>but not required for weekday Masses</p> <p>PLEASE arrive 15 minutes early to Mass to record your attendance before Mass begins.</p>	
Weekday Mass Times	
Tues Sept 07	9:30am Mass
Weds Sept 08	11:00am Adoration 12:00pm Mass
Thurs Sept 09	9:30am Mass
Fri Sept 10	9:30am Mass

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We remember those who have died recently including Kathleen Murphy and Hector (Jim) Stephens and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Dungal De Los Angeles, Nellie Coleman, Fr Tim Hourigan, Maria Di Sisto and John Langmaid.

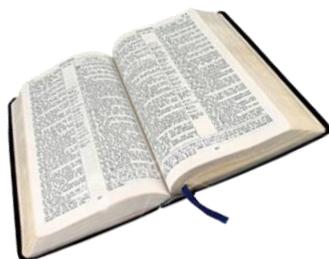
Lord, let your perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

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.



PROPOSED BIBLE STUDY:

Fr Francis is looking to create an ongoing Bible Study with a scripture and tradition basis. He is planning for this group to meet fortnightly, with the sessions lasting for one hour. The time for the gathering will be decided when those who are interested can meet (either physically or via Zoom), and can decide on suitable time.



Should you be interested in joining in this group, please give your name, email address and phone number to Bev in the office on 5174 2060 or by email to sec@smpt.org.au.

BAPTISMS: The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held on **Tuesday 21st September 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.

FUNERAL PRAYERS for **Kathleen Murphy** will be offered on Tuesday 14th September at 1:30pm Attendance by invitation only.

Please remember Kathleen and her family and friends in your prayers. May she rest in peace.

<u>NEXT WEEK'S MEETINGS</u> <i>(with up to 10 people only)</i>	
Tues Sept 14	
10:30am	CPG Core Group, Church
1:30pm	KSC, Mary Mackillop Room
7:00pm	MK Team Leaders (via Zoom)
Thurs Sept 16	
10:30am	Charismatic Prayer Group, Church
7:30pm	RCIA, Parish Centre
7:00pm	Finance Team, Parish Centre

PRIESTS' WELFARE FOUNDATION COLLECTION:

Last Sunday was Father's Day, and was also the weekend for our annual collection to assist the Priests Welfare Foundation of our Diocese. We will hold leaving collections for this worthy cause this weekend.

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.

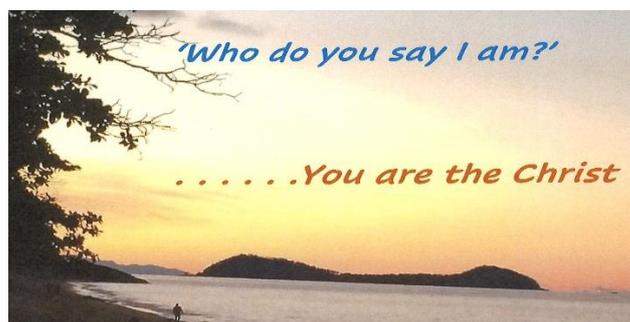
The budgeted expenditure of the Foundation for them over the next year will be over \$200,000.00.

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.

Most Reverend Greg Bennet



SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER AND OUR PARISH:

As we continue with limited Mass numbers and very few parish gatherings, please remember each other in prayer, and by keeping in touch by phone or email or sms. It's a tough time for everyone, and the smallest contact can make a huge difference in the day of someone in isolation.

Our thanks to those who continue to maintain their planned giving pledges, your support is so very necessary and so gratefully received.

Please remember our priests at this time, by keeping them firmly in our prayers and also by remembering their financial needs. Our priests are financially supported by our weekly 'first collections', and these expenses still need to be met. Parishioners are asked to make 'first collection' donations by electronic transfer to St Michael's Parish Traralgon Presbytery Account, BSB 083 879 Account Number 48906 6098. Please use as the Reference **1C** followed by your name (eg, *1C Mary Citizen*).

If you are wanting to request a Mass Offering, then please place your donation in an envelope, and clearly mark:-

1. *The name of the person(s) for whom you wish to offer the Mass.*
2. *Whether it's a death anniversary, or recent death.*
3. *Your name, contact number and email.*

The envelopes can be 'posted' through the mail slot beside the front door of the Parish Office.

Please look out for those in our community who are the most vulnerable and could be in need of our support. Let the Office know if you know of anyone in need.

PLENARY COUNCIL NEWS:

With just 3 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.

Most Reverend Greg Bennet

MIGRANT & REFUGEE SUNDAY: Sunday September 26 is the 107th 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/>

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.

Applications to be mailed to our Parish Priest, PO Box 103, Traralgon Vic 3844 or emailed to sec@smpt.org.au by 4:00pm on Friday September 17, 2021.



STEWARDSHIP MATTERS

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." MARK 8:34

Living a stewardship lifestyle means not only being responsible for my own life, but for the lives of others as well. We realize that our gifts are not intended for ourselves, rather they are meant to be shared with others. "Taking up my cross" means doing things when someone else needs me and not when it's convenient for me.

Rosters for September 18 & 19, 2021 – 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Sat 5:30pm	Sun 9:00am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
Lector	C DiCorleto A Taylor	T Denny	J Panozzo-Tilè	E Joseph
Commentator	D Smith	C McCabe	M Tainsh	S Luscombe
Usher (Covid Marshall)	A Henry / C Payne	C McLure	M / B Kennedy	C Hill
Musicians	Alison & Amanda	Charismatic Choir	Diamante Family	Jane & Simon
Altar Servers	To be advised	To be advised	To be advised	To be advised

Mick's Kitchen Sept 16 Van Berkel Team

Sept 23 McLaughlin/Hill Team

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Sir 36:18

Cf. Sir 36:18

*Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,
that your prophets be found true.
Hear the prayers of your servant,
and of your people Israel.*

First Reading Isaiah 50:5-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I gave my body to those who struck me.

The Lord has opened my ear.

For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away.

I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed. My vindicator is here at hand.

Does anyone start proceedings against me? Then let us go to court together. Who thinks he has a case against me? Let him approach me. The Lord is coming to my help, who dare condemn me?

Responsorial Psalm Ps 145:7-10 R v1**(R.)** *I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.*

1. I love the Lord for he has heard the cry of my appeal; for he turned his ear to me in the day when I called him. **(R.)**
2. They surrounded me, the snares of death, with anguish of the tomb; they caught me, sorrow and distress. I called on the Lord's name. O Lord my God, deliver me! **(R.)**
3. How gracious is the Lord, and just; our God has compassion. The Lord protects the simple hearts; I was helpless so he saved me. **(R.)**
4. He has kept my soul from death, my eyes from tears and my feet from stumbling. I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living. **(R.)**

**Second Reading**

James 2:14-18

A reading from the letter of St James

Faith without good works is dead.

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

Gospel Acclamation

Galatians 6:14

*Alleluia, alleluia!**My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world.**Alleluia!***Gospel**

Mark 8:27-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

You are the Christ ... the Son of Man was destined to suffer much.

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it, but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

Next week's Readings ~ September 19, 2021
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Wisdom 2:12 17-20

Second Reading: James 3:16 – 4:3

Gospel: Mark 9:30-37