



## 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 vulnerable adults 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 Otabo** 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: Catherine Hill

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 Imhagve Chairperson, Fr Francis, Lia Di Corleto, Watson Gomez, Jenifer Hanratty, Steve Kimani, Judi McLaughlin, Thomas Mathew, Amanda Reid, Jodie Ware, Ros Joyner, and Doug Doherty.

**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

*"Advent increases our hope, a hope which does not disappoint.  
The Lord never lets us down."*

Pope Francis

Today we light the first candle of the Advent wreath, our symbol of waiting and preparation, "The Prophet's Candle" or "The Candle of Hope". Advent is a time of waiting hope and joyful expectation as we journey together looking forward to the birth of Christ. During this time, we are invited to think of ourselves as a synodal church, as companions on the journey of life. As we celebrate this season of Advent, we think again of the love of God for us, endless as ever new, as symbolized in our Advent Wreath, which will be blessed today.

### REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

#### The Coming of our Saviour

Sometimes our own lives, the life of the Church, the life of societies and nations cry out for Our Lord Jesus Christ to come again right now and rescue us right now.

In some instances we can become conscious of Jesus' saving, transforming power in a particular situation. But, for the whole of humanity across the millennia, we do not know the day or the hour when death and all its warriors such as disease and violence, will be absolutely vanquished by Christ in glory.

This can lead to a type of pain which finds solace in all those things which dull the spirit. Our Lord gives examples: debauchery, drunkenness. Today he might have added 'living in the virtual world'. Rather, Our Lord wants us to live in the real world on high alert.

In the meantime each one of us can be a signal of what is to come. Each time we exhaust ourselves heroically loving someone whom others might abandon, each time we take a risk because we cry out against injustice, and in a myriad of other ways, we signal that the Kingdom is already being established on earth.

We could pause for a moment to pray for the strength to be on high alert for the opportunities to translate the legacy of Jesus into our own time and place, thus giving reasons to each other for our faith and hope that Christ *has* come, Christ *is* risen, Christ *will* come again.

Sunday Mass Times	
Saturday	5:00pm (vaccination check required)
Sunday	9:00am (vaccination check required) 10:30am (50, no vaccination check required) 5:00pm (vaccination check required)

**Please arrive 15 minutes early to all Masses to enable your vaccination status to be sighted. Booking to attend Masses is no longer required. The door to the Church will be closed when we have reached our covid limited numbers.**

Weekday Mass Times	
Tuesday Nov 30	9:30am Mass
Wednesday Dec 01	11:00am Adoration 12:00pm Mass
Thursday Dec 02	9:30am Mass
Friday Dec 03	9:30am Mass

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** We remember those who have died recently including Kevin Jones, John Black, Sue Stewart (Dixon), Coleen Bergman, Maria and Ivan Kolesaric, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Allen Garrett, Agostino Damiano, Fr Dave Cagney, Bruce Hunter, Giovanni Di Sisto, Francesco Albanese and Monsignor Bill Caffrey.

*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, Joan Lamont, Joyce Martin, Ivy May, Deborah Mckerchar, Ben Melenhorst, Maree Morris, Henry Polo, Joan Riggall, Theresa Rosello (Phillipines), Kath Ryan, Jerry Templer, Damiano Tripodi, Julie Vaz, Brian Vivian, Celie Smith, Sharon Veleff, George Walkan and Roy Ward and all those we hold dear in our hearts.



**ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL:**

St Michael's Conference members invite parishioners to support this year's St Vincent de Paul Christmas program. The Christmas Gifting Tree will be in the church from Sunday November 28<sup>th</sup> to Sunday December 12<sup>th</sup>. Parishioners are asked to take a gift tag, and return your gift/voucher to the tree by December 12.

The conference would like to thank all parishioners for their support throughout the year, and wish everyone a happy and holy Christmas spent with those we love most.



**BAPTISMS:**

This weekend we welcome for Baptism, Juliette Elena Crivari and Valentina Maria Crivari, daughters of Mario and Pamela. Congratulations from us all.



The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held on Tuesday November 30 at 7:00pm in the Church. Please contact the Parish Office on 5174 2060 if you are interested in attending.

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS	
<b>Tuesday November 30, 2021</b>	
7:00pm	Baptism Preparation Meeting, MMR
<b>Wednesday December 01, 2021</b>	
9:00am	Wednesday morning Prayer Group MMR
1:00pm	Wednesday afternoon Prayer Group, MMR
<b>Thursday December 02, 2021</b>	
7:30pm	R C I A, Parish Centre

**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. Please contact Susan Grout on 0412 671 308 or the Parish Office on 5174 2060, if you, or someone you know are interested.



**PIETY STALL NEWS:**

2022 Columban Calendars are now available from the Piety Stall for \$9.00 each.

**ATTENDING MASSES WITH OUR LATEST COVID RESTRICTIONS:**

Our church is now open without restrictions or capacity limits for fully vaccinated attendees. This will apply to all our masses apart from the Sunday 10:30am mass where vaccination check in is not required, but numbers are limited to 50 people. As restrictions are easing and numbers are increasing, we will no longer be holding a mass at 6:15pm Saturday night.

Current Mass times are as follows:

- Sat 5:00pm No limits, vaccination check-in required
- Sun 9:00am No limits, vaccination check-in required
- Sun 10:30am 50 people, no vaccination check-in required
- Sun 5:00pm No limits, vaccination check-in required

Face masks are no longer required, however are highly recommended if you are unable to maintain social distancing or are with people who are vulnerable to COVID-19. Following COVID safe guidelines helps protect each other and keeps our church open, please remember to stay home if you are feeling unwell.

**BLESSING OF OUR ADVENT WREATH:**



Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ:  
 he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples,  
 he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us,  
 he is the Saviour of every nation.

Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation. May he come quickly and not delay. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

**SAVE THE DATE:**

As the Advent season approaches and our Parish begins to open up again, we would like you to join us for the following celebrations:

- **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021**  
Prayers at the Crib @ 7:30pm
- **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2021**  
Farewell morning tea for Father Francis

Please put these dates in your calendar, further information will be announced in the coming weeks.

Unfortunately the Parish Dinner has been postponed due to the uncertainty around current COVID restrictions. We look forward to celebrating together early next year, once the rules have relaxed a little more.

**PARISH VOLUNTEERS:**

Thank you very much to all our volunteers who continue to step up and support our Parish in many different ways, it is very much appreciated! If you would like to offer your time or talents, please do not hesitate to contact the Parish office. Volunteering is a great way to meet other parishioners and ensures St Michael's Parish continues to be a vibrant and enriching community. Volunteers are required to have a current Working with Children Check, be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and sign the Parish Code of Conduct form. Forms are still available in the entry of the Church or from the Parish office. A big thank you to all the parishioners who have returned these in the last few weeks. Paperwork and restrictions can be frustrating but help keep our community safe and our parish compliant with current regulations.

**SYNOD 2021-2023 LET'S WALK TOGETHER:**



**Companions on the Journey.**

Jesus wants us to walk together side by side. Of those in our Church, who do we walk with and who is forgotten? What about those outside the Church, who is not included or welcomed?

Have your say <https://tinyurl.com/HavingASay> or use the QR code

Find out more

<https://www.cdsale.org.au/synod-of-bishops>



Written submissions can also be dropped into the Parish Office which can be included as part of the collective Parish response. In the coming months we will arrange Parish sessions to meet and discuss the themes of the Synod together, In the meantime, feel free to gather with other parishioners, friends and family and share your ideas on communion, participation and mission within the Catholic Church. Contact the Parish Office for more information or ideas on how to start the conversation.

**QUOTE OF THE DAY:**

Pope Francis on Synodality

The Christian community must reflect the “style of God, who travels the paths of history and shares in the life of humanity.” This is a “time to look others in the eye and listen to what they have to say, to build rapport, to be sensitive to the questions of our sisters and brothers.”

(Pope Francis, Homily for the Launch of the Synod 2021-2023, 10 October 2021.)

**STEWARDSHIP MATTERS**

*“But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand.”*  
 LUKE 21:28

We celebrate Advent each year in preparation of the birth of Jesus, His first coming, as we await his second coming. In this Advent season, use the sacrament of Reconciliation to strengthen your relationship with Jesus. It's never too late.

<b>Rosters for December 04 and 05, 2021</b>			<b>Second Sunday of Advent, Year C</b>	
	<b>Sat 5:00pm</b>	<b>Sun 9:00am</b>	<b>Sun 10:30am</b>	<b>Sun 5:00pm</b>
<b>Lector</b>	A Taylor	Cathy McLure Rebecca Diaz	U Imhagwe E Imhagwe	M Hanratty Z Hanratty
<b>Commentator</b>	D. Smith	Volunteer	Volunteer	M Noone
<b>Usher</b> (Covid Marshall)	A Henry A Ryan	M Rigg M Blanchard	2 x Volunteers	
<b>Musicians</b>	Diamente Family		Filipino Choir	
<b>Altar Servers</b>	To be advised	To be advised	To be advised	To be advised

*Mick's Kitchen:*

Dec 02 Burns Team

Dec 09 Van Berkel Team

**Entrance Antiphon** Cf. Ps 24:1-3

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.  
 In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to  
 shame.  
 Nor let my enemies exult over me;  
 and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

**First Reading** Jer 33:14-16

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

*I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David.*

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

‘In those days and at that time,  
 I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land.  
 In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 24:4-5. 8-9. 10. 14. R. v.1

**(R.) To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.**

1. Lord, make me know your ways.  
 Lord, teach me your paths.  
 Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
 For you are God my saviour. **(R.)**
2. The Lord is good and upright.  
 He shows the path to those who stray,  
 he guides the humble in the right path;  
 he teaches his way to the poor. **(R.)**
3. His ways are faithfulness and love  
 for those who keep his covenant and will.  
 The Lord’s friendship is for those who revere  
 him;  
 to them he reveals his covenant. **(R.)**

**Second Reading** 1 Thes 3:12 - 4:2

A reading from first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

*When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness.*

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus., who is, who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.

**Gospel Acclamation** Luke 21:36

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
 and grant us your salvation.  
 Alleluia!*

**Gospel** Luke 21:25-28 34-36

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke  
*Your redemption is near at hand.*

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

‘Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.’

Next week’s Readings ~ December 5  
*Second Sunday of Advent Year C*

First Reading: Bartholomew 5:1-9  
 Second Reading: Philippians 1:3-6 8-11  
 Gospel: Luke 3:1-6