



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 Otobo Parish Priest
Fr Ajin Albarnas IVD Asst Priest
 Parish Centre 5174 2060
 Priests' Residence: 5174 6765

Deacon Tony Aspinall
 Phone 5174 8167
 Email: deacontony8@gmail.com

St Michael's Parish Office
 Telephone: 5174 2060
 Address: 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 0449 162 313 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, 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

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The message of Deutero-Isaiah opens with the exclamation 'Comfort my people'. The passage itself is a kind of prophetic commissioning; God summons a group of people to speak God's own words of comfort. They are told to act out their deliverance even before they see evidence of it. The people who had suffered so long are told to prepare a road over which their God will travel. Jerusalem, broken and depleted, is told to announce to the other vanquished cities of Judah the approach of this triumphant procession. The people themselves will be heralds of good news. They are to announce that the mighty, victorious God is coming.

The nature hymn depicts God as the creator and sustainer of all life. The psalmist is overwhelmed by the splendour of the universe where God is robed in majesty and glory, wrapped around with radiant light, the way the commanding gods of the ancient Near East were depicted. The sea, once thought to be threatening, is now the habitat of various forms of life. God is the one who cares for all living things. Creation is not a static act, completed once for all in the distant past. It is experienced as an ongoing event. In a very real sense, creation is more than a primordial event, it is a personal experience.

In the second reading, grace takes the form of salvation. God's saving grace imparts the kind of training that is necessary to combat the forces of a godless world and to live truly Christian lives. Virtuous living is evidence that the age of fulfilment has indeed arrived. Christians live an 'already but not yet' existence. Their moral lives are both signs of, and expectation of, the final fulfilment. The grace of salvation has been achieved through the sacrifice of Christ Jesus. The bath of rebirth or renewal may be a reference to baptism. However, the washing may be merely a symbol of the removal of sin rather than the means of accomplishing its removal.

The expectation that filled the people who came to John was eschatological; they were looking for the Christ, the 'anointed one'. John insists that he is not this 'anointed one'. There is no account of the baptism itself. Instead we have an account of what happened while Jesus was praying after the baptism had occurred. All of the verbs indicate that the events happened *to* Jesus; they were not accomplished *by* him or *through* him. The Spirit descends upon Jesus. The Trinitarian scene is completed with the voice from heaven, which identifies Jesus as 'Son'. The words spoken combine an allusion to the 'servant of the Lord' (cf. Isa 42:10) and the enthronement of the king (cf. Ps 2:70), both passages rich with messianic significance.

Sunday Mass Times	
Saturday	5:00pm (no vaccination check required)
Sunday	9:30am (no vaccination check required) 5:00pm (no vaccination check required)
Please arrive 15 minutes early to all Masses to enable your check in, you no longer need to show your vaccine certificate. Booking to attend Masses is no longer required.	
Weekday Mass Times	
Tuesday Jan 11	9:30am Mass
Wednesday Jan 12	11:00am Adoration 12:00pm Mass
Thursday Jan 13	9:30am Mass
Friday Jan 14	9:30am Mass

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We remember those who have died recently including Marjorie Hayes, Peter Glaubitz, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Jonathan Phelan, Ellen Koch, Bryan Hanrahan, Joseph Thomson and Jack Dessent.

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, Roy Ward and Kelly Maher and all those we hold dear in our hearts.



Our new mass times are as follows:

Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 9:30am

Sunday 5:00pm

Current COVID restrictions mean that there are no longer any vaccination requirements or limits on the number of parishioners attending masses.

Face coverings are now required when indoors, including our church, Mary MacKillop Room, and our Parish Centre.

We will let you know if any of these rules change, and thank you for your patience and support during all these changes.

BAPTISMS:

The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held on Tuesday January 11 at 7:00pm in the Church. Please contact the Parish Office on 5174 2060 if you are interested in attending.



THIS WEEK'S EVENTS:	
<u>Sunday January 09, 2022</u>	
10:30am	Farewell Morning Tea- Fr Ajin, Mary MacKillop Room
<u>Sunday January 09, 2022</u>	
6:30pm	Malayalam Thanksgiving Mass, St Michael's Church
<u>Tuesday January 11, 2022</u>	
7:00pm	Baptism Preparation Meeting, St Michael's Church
<u>Wednesday January 12, 2022</u>	
12:00pm	Final Mass for Fr Ajin & Welcome Mass for Fr Aju, St Michael's Church
<u>Sunday January 16, 2022</u>	
10:30am	Welcome Morning Tea- Fr Aju Mary MacKillop Room

FAREWELL MASS FOR FATHER AJIN:

This weekend will be Father Ajin's last Sunday Mass in our Parish. He has been a much loved and appreciated member of our St Michael's Parish community over the past (almost) two years, and he will be greatly missed. We have enjoyed watching him blossom during his time at St Michael's and wish him all the very best for his new role as Assistant Parish Priest at Our Lady Help of Christians in Narre Warren.

We will celebrate his farewell mass this Sunday January 09, at 9:30am. All are invited to stay behind afterwards for a coffee and a chat in the Mary MacKillop Room, please bring a plate to share.

He will also be celebrating a Malayalam Mass of Thanksgiving this Sunday at St Michael's at 6:30pm, all are warmly invited to attend.

WELCOME MASS FOR FATHER AJU:

As we say 'goodbye' to Father Ajin, we say 'hello' to Father Aju. Father Aju and Father Ajin will be celebrating mass together at St Michael's on Wednesday January 12 at 12pm after adoration, and we warmly invite all parishioners to attend. We will also hold a formal welcoming mass for Father Aju next Sunday January 16 at 9:30am. Everyone is encouraged to come along to the Mary MacKillop room after morning Mass to share some morning tea and welcome Father Aju to our parish.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Cleaning teams are desperately required as we begin to open up and have more people attending Mass. We are no longer required to clean our pews after each mass, however we do require volunteers to ensure our church is cleaned regularly. We are looking to restart our Parish Cleaning Roster and ask anyone that is interested and able to assist, to contact the parish office. The more people that are willing to help, the less often they will need to be rostered on.

SYNOD 2021-2023 LET'S WALK TOGETHER:



Our Celebration: Communal celebrations where we explore God's Word and break bread are our glue. Are our celebrations guiding and inspiring our decisions & our lives and where are they failing?

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 within the Catholic Church.

Prayer for the Synod:

As we embrace this Synodal Process, this prayer invites the Holy Spirit to be at work in us so that we may be a community and a people of grace.

*We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
As we gather together in Your name.
With You alone to guide us,
Make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
And how we are to pursue it.
We are weak and sinful;
Do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
Nor partiality influence our actions.
Let us find in You our unity
So that we may journey together to eternal life
And not stray from the way of truth
And what is right.
All this we ask of You,
Who are at work in every place and time,
In the communion of the Father and the Son,
Forever and ever.
Amen*

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

From Tuesday January 11 2022, our Parish office will be open from Tuesday – Friday, from 9am to 4pm. You may attend in person, or call us on 5174 2060 or email us at sec@smpt.org.au, whatever suits you.

MICK'S KITCHEN:

Is currently closed but will re-open on Thursday February 03, 2022.

Next week's Readings:

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Yr C

First Reading: Isaiah 62: 1-5

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11

Gospel: John 2: 1-11



Rosters for January 15/16 2022		Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C		
	Lector	Commentator	Usher/Welcomer	Musicians
Saturday Jan 15 5:00pm	R Webber	B Purcell	A Ryan & B O'Brien	Alison & Amanda
Sunday Jan 16 9:30am	W Gomez	C McCabe	M Wilkinson & A Sykes	Charismatic Choir
Sunday Jan 16 5:00pm	A M Thomas	S Darby	M & J McLaughlin	
<i>Mick's Kitchen:</i>	Feb 03 Moretti Team		Feb 10 Hemming Team	

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Mt 3:16-17

As the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened,
And the Spirit descended upon him like a dove,
And the voice of the Father thundered:
This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

First Reading Isaiah: 40 1-5, 9-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it.

'Console my people, console them'
says your God.
'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem
and call to her
that her time of service is ended,
that her sin is atoned for,
that she has received from the hand of the Lord
double punishment for all her crimes.'
A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness
a way for the Lord.
Make a straight highway for our God
across the desert.
Let every valley be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
let every cliff become a plain,
and the ridges a valley;
then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed
and all mankind shall see it;
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'
Go up on a high mountain,
joyful messenger to Zion.
Shout with a loud voice,
joyful messenger to Jerusalem.
Shout without fear,
say to the towns of Judah,
'Here is your God.'
Here is the Lord coming with power,
his arm subduing all things to him.
The prize of his victory is with him,
his trophies all go before him.
He is like a shepherd feeding his flock,
gathering lambs in his arms,
holding them against his breast
and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 103: 1-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-30

(R.) Oh bless the Lord, my soul!

1. Lord God, how great you are,
clothed in majesty and glory,
wrapped in light as in a robe!
You stretch out the heavens like a tent. (R.)
2. Above the rains you build your dwelling.
You make the clouds your chariot,
you walk on the wings of the wind,
you make the winds your messengers
and flashing fire your servants. (R.)
3. How many are your works, O Lord!
In wisdom you have made them all.
The earth is full of your riches.
There is the sea, vast and wide,
with its moving swarms past counting,
living things great and small. (R.)

4. All of these look to you
to give them their food in due season.
You give it, they gather it up:
you open your hand, they have their fill.
(R.)

5. You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. (R.)

Second Reading Ti 2: 11-14, 3: 4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus

He saved us through the water of rebirth and renewal in the Holy Spirit.

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

When the kindness and love of God our saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

Gospel Acclamation Luke 3:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

John said: He who is to come is mightier than I;

He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

When Jesus had been baptised and had been praying, the heavens were opened and the Holy Spirit came upon him.

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.'

Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'