

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 Aju Varghese Parish Priest

Parish Centre 5174 2060

Priest's 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 Aju, 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

Acting Principal: Mr Doug Doherty

Kildare Campus 5174 8111

St Paul's Campus 5174 7355

FAREWELL FROM FATHER AJIN:

"Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Some people move our souls to dance. They awaken us to a new understanding with the passing whisper of their wisdom. Some people make the sky more beautiful to gaze upon. They stay in our lives for a while, leave footprints on our hearts, and we are never, ever the same." What begins has to end one day...a hello ends up in a goodbye and we all have to be prepared for it....

Farewells are never easy, and as Catholics, we understand full well that this type of farewell to a priest who has served us is common and the way of the Church. In fact, farewells have an even deeper meaning for us as Catholics.

Since I have announced my departure, many people have expressed to me how my presence will greatly be missed in this parish. Yes! There is always sadness in parting. When friends have been together for a long time and one has to go, it always creates some emotions. As I will be leaving Wednesday 12th January, I take this opportunity to express my gratitude. First of all I thank God for the gift of your faith and I pray that He may continue to strengthen it. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to bear witness to Jesus and to exercise my priesthood and offer the sacrifice of the mass in memorial of Jesus our Lord. Second, I would like to thank Fr Francis Otobo with whom I have shared my best memorable days of life. Together we have carried our pastoral ministry in a spirit of brotherhood. I thank all the members of the parish council and the pastoral staff for the collaboration that we have had in the exercise of our apostolate in this parish. Most of all, I want to offer my gratitude to the people of St. Michael's for what you did for me, and for the ways you opened your lives to me. I thank each and every one of you for all that you have done for me during the time we have been together. I thank you all for your kindness and generosity that you have demonstrated not only to me, but also to people in India as you donated different things. I have enjoyed my time here in Traralgon. I would say, it is a great privilege being part of this Parish. I hope I will not disappoint you to say that I will leave with the great desire to come back one day. As I am leaving, I ask you to forgive me for anything I might have said or done, any attitude which might have offended you. It is also good for me to go so that you may get new faces with new talents and ideas. You taught me what it means to be a priest. The way the people and this parish have embraced me has been wonderful. I thank God for the last two years I have been here.

I hope I can be the priest that the Lord wants me to be. I want to love God's people in Jesus, and as Jesus. I want to accept the gift of my baptismal graces and help parishioners allow those graces to take deeper root in their lives, as well.

We may be separated by time and distance in the interim, nothing will diminish the important role that you have and always will play in my life. Although I will be physically far away from you, I will remain spiritually near to you. Far from my eyes but near to my heart.

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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 18	9:30am Mass
Wednesday Jan 19	11:00am Adoration 12:00pm Mass
Thursday Jan 20	9:30am Mass
Friday Jan 21	9:30am Mass

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We remember those who have died recently including Williamina Battista, Dennis Fitzsimon, Marjorie Hayes, Peter Glaubitz, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including John Van Berkel, Roger Biancon, Bishop Patrick Phelan, Bishop Noel Daly, Jonathan Phelan and Ellen Koch.

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.



FR AJIN'S FAREWELL, continued from front page:

While I am leaving you, there is one who remains constant: Jesus Christ. Jesus has been here from the beginning, and will be with you for the rest of time. If through the power of the Holy Spirit you allow Jesus to guide (you) our St Michael's Parish will always have a mission. It may not look like the church we have today. There may be difficult decisions which need to be made. But a passion for our Lord and Saviour will see you through all your future trials. I wish you happy adventures, fantastic new friendships, amazing experiences and the journey of a lifetime with your new parish Priest, Fr Aju. God bless you both in abundance! I hope you have a wonderful future. I hope that under new pastoral leadership you find a way to connect with the neighbourhood and invite more people to join you. Go out smiling! My heart-felt thanks to you all. May God bless you! Good bye!

BAPTISMS:

This weekend, we welcome for Baptism, Dakota Benny Wegmann, daughter of David and Carine, Lyla Marie Clarke, daughter of Brendan and Alyssa, and Wesley Stuart Luckins, son of Jordan and Megan.



Congratulations

The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held on Tuesday February 8 at 7:00pm in the Church.

Please contact the Parish Office on 5174 2060 if you are interested in attending.

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. Any parishioners who would like to attend the RCIA sessions are most welcome also. Please contact Susan Grout on 0412 671 308 or the Parish Office on 5174 2060, if you, or someone you know are interested.



THIS WEEK'S EVENTS:	
Sunday January 16, 2022	
10:30am	Welcome Morning Tea- Fr Aju, Mary MacKillop Room
Thursday January 20, 2022	
7:30pm	RCIA Meeting St Michael's Church

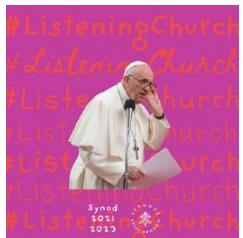
FAREWELL FR FRANCIS & FR AJIN:

Thank you to all our parishioners who gave so generously to the leaving collections for Father Francis and Father Ajin. Father Francis has enjoyed having some spending money for his trip home to Nigeria, where he is enjoying some much deserved time off, catching up with old friends and family. Father Ajin is saving for a new Mac Book computer and is very grateful for the money from our collection to put towards it. We wish them all the best in the next part of their journey and thank them for all they have done during their time at St Michael's.

WELCOME MASS FOR FATHER AJU:

After saying farewell to Father Francis and Father Ajin, we now welcome Father Aju to St Michael's as our new Parish Priest. We will have a special welcoming mass for Father Aju this Sunday the 16th of January at 9:30am, followed by morning tea in the Mary MacKillop Room. Everyone is warmly invited to come along and introduce themselves to Father Aju, and welcome him to our parish. Please bring along a plate to share.

SYNOD 2021-2023 LET'S WALK TOGETHER:



Sharing Responsibility: Our Church is all about participation and shared responsibility. How well do we balance authority with teamwork and responsibility? How do we encourage lay participation, involvement and leadership?

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 participation 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.



This prayer can be used throughout the duration of the Synodal Process from October 2021-2023.

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.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Our Parish office has re-opened 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:

Thank you to Judi Scholtes and her team for organizing a wonderful Christmas Feast at Mick's Kitchen on the 23rd of December. Unlike previous years, it was a takeaway only event however thanks to the generous financial support of Traralgon Centre Plaza, it was a very successful evening. A big thank you to all the Traralgon Aged Care Residents, families and staff for donating goods to be gifted at the Mick's Kitchen Christmas, as well as parishioners and other community members who also donated food and baked goods. Mick's Kitchen is currently closed, however it will re-open on Thursday February 3rd.

CURRENT RESTRICTIONS:

Current COVID restrictions mean that there are no longer any vaccination requirements or limits on the number of parishioners attending masses. However we ask that you maintain social distancing where possible and refrain from coming to mass if you are feeling unwell.

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.

STEWARDSHIP MATTERS:

"To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit." (1 Corinthians 12:7)

St. Paul tells us that God has blessed each of us for a reason. How has God blessed you? Are you using your gifts according to God's plan? How are you helping to build God's kingdom here on earth? Remember that if you don't do the work God planned for you, no one else can do it. Live the life God has intended for you, feel His love, peace and joy!

Rosters for January 22nd & 23rd 2022

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

	Lector	Commentator	Usher/Welcomer	Musicians
Saturday Jan 22 5:00pm	R Foote & T Larkin	J Fleming	A Ryan & B O'Brien	
Sunday Jan 23 9:30am	U & E Imhagwe	Volunteer	M Wilkinson & A Sykes	
Sunday Jan 23 5:00pm	C & S Hill	E Hill	M & J McLaughlin	
<i>Mick's Kitchen:</i>		Feb 03 Moretti Team		Feb 10 Hemming Team

Entrance Antiphon Ps 65:4

*All the earth shall bow down before you, O God,
and shall sing to you,
shall sing to your name, O Most High!*

First Reading Is 62:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

As the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you.

About Zion I will not be silent, about Jerusalem I will not grow weary, until her integrity shines out like the dawn and her salvation flames like a torch.

The nations then will see your integrity, all the kings your glory, and you will be called by a new name, one which the mouth of the Lord will confer.

You are to be a crown of splendour in the hand of the Lord, a princely diadem in the hand of your God; no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken', nor your land 'Abandoned', but you shall be called 'My Delight' and your land 'The Wedded'; for the Lord takes delight in you and your land will have its wedding.

Like a young man marrying a virgin, so will the one who built you wed you, and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 95:1-3. 7-10. R. v.3

(R.) Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

1. O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
O sing to the Lord, bless his name. **(R.)**
2. Proclaim his help day by day,
tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples. **(R.)**
3. Give the Lord, you families of peoples,
give the Lord glory and power,
give the Lord the glory of his name. **(R.)**
4. Worship the Lord in his temple.
O earth, tremble before him.
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'
He will judge the peoples in fairness. **(R.)**



Next weeks Readings:

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

First Reading: Nehemiah 8:2-6 8-10

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-30

Gospel: Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

Second Reading

1 Cor 12:4-11

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

One and the same spirit distributes different gifts as he chooses.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

One may have the gift of preaching with wisdom given him by the Spirit; another may have the gift of preaching instruction given him by the same Spirit; and another the gift of faith given by the same Spirit; another again the gift of healing, through this one Spirit; one, the power of miracles; another, prophecy; another the gift of recognising spirits; another the gift of tongues and another the ability to interpret them. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, who distributes different gifts to different people just as he chooses

Gospel Acclamation Luke 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Jn 2:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The first of the signs given by Jesus was at Cana in Galilee.

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited. When they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the wedding was all finished, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' Jesus said, 'Woman, why turn to me? My hour has not come yet.'

His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' There were six stone water jars standing there, meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews; each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water,' and they filled them to the brim. 'Draw some out now' he told them, 'and take it to the steward.' They did this; the steward tasted the water, and it had turned into wine. Having no idea where it came from – only the servants who had drawn the water knew – the steward called the bridegroom and said, 'People generally serve the best wine first, and keep the cheaper sort till the guests have had plenty to drink, but you have kept the best wine till now.'

This was the first of the signs given by Jesus: it was given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.