

## 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 0499 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 Michelle Charlton

**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

### SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY by Dianne Bergant CSA

Jeremiah declares that his call from God was prophetic in nature. His vocation was his destiny even before he was born. His entire identity took shape within him even as he was formed in his mother's womb. Jeremiah is told to get ready to proclaim the word of the Lord. This was not going to be an easy task, but God will fortify him as one would fortify a city. The passage ends with words of encouragement. His adversaries will not prevail against the prophet, because the Lord will be with him. There is no promise here of deliverance from the onslaughts. The promise is that Jeremiah will not be crushed by them.

The responsorial psalm opens with a plea for deliverance from distress: protect me; save me from shame; rescue me; hear me. This is followed by a prayer of confidence in God. Different kinds of rock are used to characterise the trustworthiness of God. The psalm ends with a promise to make know the wonders that God has wrought. The psalmist trusted God even while in the womb. As the psalmist had called on the righteousness of God at the beginning of the prayer (v.2), so that same righteousness is proclaimed at the end. It is the righteousness of God that is the basis of the psalmist's confidence.

Paul's praise of love is one of the best known biblical passages. In the reading for last Sunday, Paul insisted that all the gifts that the Spirit bestowed upon individuals functioned for the upbuilding of the community. Today he concentrates on love, the 'more excellent way', the greatest of all spiritual gifts. As beneficial as all the spiritual gifts may be, without love they are nothing. They are useful now, while we are still in this world. However, at the end of this world, their usefulness will come to an end and they will cease to be. Love, on the other hand, will never cease to be.

The Scripture to which Jesus refers announced the eschatological age of fulfilment. It provides a glimpse into the kind of messiah that Jesus will be, namely one who will refashion society for the sake of the oppressed. The response of those in the synagogue who heard Jesus is curious. At first they speak highly of him and are amazed at his words, but later in the episode they drive him out of the city to the brow of a hill to hurl him down. Jesus is not accepted by his people because he preaches that he has come not merely for this people, but for any who will open themselves to his teaching. This response gives us a second insight into the kind of messiah Jesus will be. Not only will he fulfill the role of the prophet who announces the advent of the age of fulfilment, but he will also be rejected, as were the other prophets.

Sunday Mass Times	
Saturday Feb 05	5:00pm Mass
Sunday Feb 06	9:30am Mass 5:00pm Mass
<b>Please arrive 15 minutes early to all Masses to enable your check in, you no longer need to show your vaccine certificate.</b> <b>Booking to attend Masses is no longer required.</b>	
Weekday Mass Times	
Tuesday Feb 01	9:30am Mass
Wednesday Feb 02	11:00am Adoration 11:00am Reconciliation 12:00pm Mass
Thursday Feb 03	9:30am Mass
Friday Feb 04	9:30am Mass

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** We remember those who have died recently including Michael McCabe, John Gough, Joan Lamont, Shirley Alford and Bronwyn Janssen, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Pat Harrup, Bill Weller, John Ehigie, Terry Dixon and Elizabeth Russell. *Lord, let your perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

**WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK** including Maria Alessandrini, 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, 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.



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**

Cleaning teams are urgently 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, to contact the parish office. The more people that are willing to help, the less often they will need to be rostered on. Our Maintenance Team is also in need of some more volunteers as we start to work on the list of repairs and jobs that have been put off due to restrictions and lockdowns. Please let the office know if you are willing to assist, either for a one off project or in an ongoing role. Your skills and time will be greatly appreciated. Feel free to contact the office if there are any other ways you would like to volunteer your time or talents within our parish community. All help is greatly appreciated and it's a wonderful way to get to know other parishioners better.

**BAPTISMS:**

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:	
<b>Wednesday, February 02, 2022</b>	
9:00am	Prayer Group, Parish Centre
<b>Wednesday February 02, 2022</b>	
9:30am	CWL Walking Group, Meet at our Our Lady of the Way Grotto.
<b>Wednesday February 02, 2022</b>	
11:00am	Reconciliation, St Michael's Church
<b>Thursday February 03, 2022</b>	
7:30pm	RCIA Meeting, Parish Centre

**MARY MACKILLOP ROOM:**

Our Mary MacKillop room is currently unavailable due to rain damage it suffered last week. We are currently in the process of cleaning it up, however it will be unavailable for parish use for the next month or so at least. Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions, we are still unable to use the St Michael's school hall or school grounds for parish events and car parking either. Meetings will need to be held in the Parish Centre, so please ring the office to book in a time and space, and to discuss the needs of your group/event.

The toilets near the school hall are also unavailable at this stage as they are on school grounds and subject to COVID restrictions. In order to protect staff and students, all Diocesan schools have been closed to parishioners and members of the community. This impacts all schools and parishes, not just ours and we thank Jodie and her team at St Michael's for their patience and support as we all try to navigate the rules and our new normal. During mass times, there is a toilet available for parishioners to use behind the Mary MacKillop Room, next to the chapel.

**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (CWL):**

The CWL will resume it's walking group this Wednesday February 2. The group meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 9:30am at Our Lady of the Way Grotto, next to the church. Walks usually last an hour and all are welcome to attend. Please contact Joanna Sykes on 0413 489 704 for more information.

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



**Learning to Journey Together:** We all need to be open to change and ongoing learning. How open are we to change and ongoing learning and how are we formed? Are our leaders open to change and ongoing learning? How can we do better?

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.



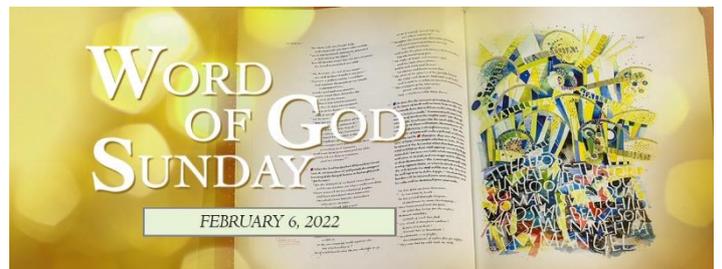

This prayer can be used throughout the duration of the Synodal Process from October 2021-2023.

**Quote of the Day on Synodality:**

*Discerning and Deciding: The synodal path is not only one of listening but also one of discernment that invites us to 'reread' the experiences brought forth in our listening to discover joys and challenges, insights and opportunities.*

*Journeying together calls the Church out of attitudes of complacency and towards an openness to listen, discern, and dialogue with the community towards a consensus that arises from the Spirit and points the People of God toward our mission.*

(Synod of Bishops Preparatory Document, nos 26, 30; Vademecum nos 2.3, 5.3)



The Church in Australia celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God on the first Sunday in February – February 6 in 2022. Pope Francis established the day, which is devoted to “the celebration, study and dissemination” of the Word of God. Visit [www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodSunday](http://www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodSunday) to access resources to help commemorate the day and for suggestions on how to better engage with Sacred Scripture in various ways and settings.

**Next Week's Readings:**  
 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
 Word of God Sunday  
 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Is 6: 1-8  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Cor 15: 1-11  
 Gospel: Luke 5: 1-11

**STEWARDSHIP MATTERS:**  
*“Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not pompous.” (1 Corinthians 13:4)*  
 Do you get jealous? Do you focus more on the things that other people have than on the gifts that God has given to you? Are you pompous? Do you acquire more possessions to impress others? At times we are all guilty of these things. Pray for more humility. Pray to become less “self-centered” and become more “God-centered”.

Rosters for February 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> 2022		Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C		
	Lector	Commentator	Usher/Welcomer	Musicians
<b>Saturday Feb 05</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	A Taylor	D Smith	A Ryan & B O'Brien
<b>Sunday Feb 06</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	C McLure & R Diaz	M Tainsh	J & P Dal Pra
<b>Sunday Feb 06</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	M & Z Hanratty	M Noone	M & J Hanratty
<p><i>Mick's Kitchen:</i> Currently Closed due to COVID restrictions</p>				

**Entrance Antiphon** Ps 105:47

*Save us, O Lord our God!  
And gather us from the nations,  
to give thanks to your holy name,  
and make it our glory to praise you.*

**First Reading** Jeremiah 1:4-5 17-19

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

*I have appointed you as prophet to the nations.*

In the days of Josiah, the word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying,

'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you came to birth I consecrated you; I have appointed you as prophet to the nations. So now brace yourself for action. Stand up and tell them all I command you. Do not be dismayed at their presence, or in their presence I will make you dismayed. I, for my part, today will make you into a fortified city, a pillar of iron, and a wall of bronze to confront all this land: the kings of Judah, its princes, its priests and the country people. They will fight against you but shall not overcome you, for I am with you to deliver you – it is the Lord who speaks.'

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 70:1-6. 15. 17. R. v.15

**(R.) I will sing of your salvation.**

1. In you, O Lord, I take refuge;  
let me never be put to shame.  
In your justice rescue me, free me:  
pay heed to me and save me. **(R.)**
2. Be a rock where I can take refuge,  
a mighty stronghold to save me;  
for you are my rock, my stronghold.  
Free me from the hand of the wicked. **(R.)**
3. It is you, O Lord, who are my hope,  
my trust, O Lord, since my youth.  
On you I have leaned from my birth,  
from my mother's womb you have been my help. **(R.)**
4. My lips will tell of your justice  
and day by day of your help.  
O God, you have taught me from my youth  
and I proclaim your wonders still. **(R.)**

**Second Reading** 1 Cor 12:31 - 13:13

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

*There are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.*

Be ambitious for the higher gifts. And I am going to show you a way that is better than any of them.

If I have all the eloquence of men or of angels, but speak without love, I am simply a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. If I have the gift of prophecy, understanding all the mysteries there are, and knowing everything, and if I have faith in all its

fullness, to move mountains, but without love, then I am nothing at all. If I give away all that I possess, piece by piece, and if I even let them take my body to burn it, but am without love, it will do me no good whatever.

Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offence, and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes.

Love does not come to an end. But if there are gifts of prophecy, the time will come when they must fail; or the gift of languages, it will not continue for ever; and knowledge – for this, too, the time will come when it must fail. For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophesying is imperfect; but once perfection comes, all imperfect things will disappear. When I was a child, I used to talk like a child, and think like a child, and argue like a child, but now I am a man, all childish ways are put behind me. Now we are seeing a dim reflection in a mirror; but then we shall be seeing face to face. The knowledge that I have now is imperfect; but then I shall know as fully as I am known.

In short, there are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

**Gospel Acclamation** Luke 1:38

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
The Lord sent me to bring Good News  
to the poor and freedom to prisoners.  
Alleluia!*

**Gospel** Luke 4:21-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*Jesus, like Elijah and Elisha, was not sent only to the Jews.*

Jesus began to speak in the synagogue, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.' And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips.

They said, 'This is Joseph's son, surely?' But he replied, 'No doubt you will quote me the saying, "Physician, heal yourself" and tell me, "We have heard all that happened in Capernaum, do the same here in your own countryside."' And he went on, 'I tell you solemnly, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country.

'There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah's day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a widow at Zarephath, a Sidonian town. And in the prophet Elisha's time there were many lepers in Israel, but none of these was cured, except the Syrian, Naaman.'

When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped through the crowd and walked away.