

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: Lia Di Corleto, Chairperson, Fr Aju, Steve Kimani, Greg Imhagwe, Watson Gomez, Jenifer Hanratty, Judi McLaughlin, Thomas Mathew, Amanda Reid, Jodie Ware, Michelle Charlton, 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

Reflection by Ian J Elmer

Mountains play an important role in the bible; often presented as sites of transcendent spiritual experiences and encounters with God. Abraham shows his willingness to sacrifice Isaac and then encounters God on a mountain (Gen 22:1-14). God appears to Moses and speaks from the burning bush on "Horeb, the mountain of God" (Ex 3:1-2); and he encounters Elijah on the same site (1 Kings 19:8-18). Most impressive of all is the experience of the Israelites at Mount Sinai (Ex 19), in which Moses ascends in a cloud to meet God.

A similar story emerges from the Christian Scriptures, where Jesus often retreats to mountains to be alone (Jn 6:15), to pray (Mt 14:23; Lk 6:12) and to teach his listeners (Mt 5:1; Mk 3:13). It was on a mountain that Jesus refuted Satan's temptation (Mt 4:8; Lk 4:5). And in today's gospel, Jesus ascends a mountain, is transfigured and meets Moses and Elijah (Lk 9:28-36).

In Luke's gospel, the story of the Transfiguration of Jesus signals the start of Jesus' final journey from Galilee to his Passion in Jerusalem (Lk 9:51-19:44). At the end of the journey, Jesus climbs the Mount of Olives and makes preparation for his triumphal entry into Jerusalem and his final clash with the authorities on the Temple mount.

What is interesting about this travel narrative in Luke is that it takes place in the "in between" times, wedged between Jesus' ministry on the "holy mountains" of Galilee and Jerusalem. Down on the plains and in the valleys, Jesus and his disciples are in unfamiliar territory. They are separated from their synagogues in the Galilean hillsides and still distant from their national shrine on Mount Zion.

Along the way to Jerusalem, Jesus' disciples are confronted by Samaritans and people who live on the margins of Jewish society, lepers, disabled beggars, tax collectors and Gentiles. Jesus welcomes, teaches and heals all whom they encounter as they pass by.

Writing for his community, Luke distinguishes between mountain-top experiences where they may encounter the divine in prayer and worship (Lk 9:28), and the lived experience of faith amidst the diversity and vagaries of their wider human society. The spiritual writer, Eugene Peterson, sees these passages in Luke as analogous to the life of the Christian "between Sundays." "Samaria," Petersen writes "is the country between Galilee and Jerusalem in which we spend most of our time." It is a place where we need to talk a language that we wouldn't use in church; but which, nevertheless, must be informed and inspired by our retreat to the mountain on Sundays.

This line of thought reminds us of Vatican II where the Sunday Eucharist is described as the source and summit of the Christian life. This Lent, let us take time to reflect more deeply on our mountain top encounters with Jesus in the Eucharist; reflecting on how these experiences can continue to breathe new life into our encounters with the people who share our everyday lives in the "in between" times.

Sunday Mass Times	
Saturday	5:00pm Mass
Sunday	9:30am & 5:00pm Mass
Booking to attend Masses is no longer required.	
Weekday Mass Times	
Tuesday Mar 15	9:30am Mass
Wednesday Mar 16	11:00am Reconciliation 11:00am Adoration 12:00pm Mass
Thursday Mar 17	9:30am Mass
Friday Mar 18	9:30am Mass

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

We remember those who have died recently including Violeta Meza, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Marie Ireland, Michael Hanratty, Martin Saul, Frank Valencic, Father Tom O’Connell, Connie Falzon and Milka Zidar.

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 Templar, Damiano Tripodi, Julie Vaz, Brian Vivian, Celie Smith, Sharon Veleff, George Walkan, Roy Ward, Kelly Maher, Victoria Rohli, Tony Tactor and Anne Turra, and all those we hold dear in our hearts.



COVID-19 UPDATE:

Face coverings are no longer mandatory within places of worship or workplaces, and you no longer need to check in using the QR code or the sign in sheet. This applies to both the church and the parish office. However it is still recommended that you wear one where social distancing is not possible or you are with vulnerable people. We ask you to continue using the hand sanitiser located at the entrances to both the church and parish office, and to maintain social distancing wherever possible. As always, if you are feeling unwell please keep our parish community safe and stay at home.

We are now able to use the school toilets next to the hall during weekend masses, as well as to park cars in the school yard on Sunday mornings during Mass.

THIS WEEK’S EVENTS:	
Tuesday March 15	
7:00pm	Baptism Preparation Meeting, St Michael’s Church
Wednesday March 16	
4:00pm	RCIC Baptism preparation meeting, Parish Centre
Thursday March 17	
10:30am	Charismatic Prayer Meeting, St Michael’s Church
7:30pm	RCIA Meeting, Parish Centre
Friday March 18	
7:00pm	Stations of the Cross, St Michael’s Church
Sunday March 20	
10:30am	Parish Morning Tea, MMH, St Michael’s School

BAPTISMS:

The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held on **Tuesday April 19 at 7:00pm** in the Church. Please contact the Parish Office on 5174 2060 if you are interested in attending.



RECONCILIATION:

Sacrament of First Reconciliation will be celebrated at St Michael’s Church on the 29th, 30th and 31st of March 2022, for Grade 3 students and above. Enrolment forms and further information can be collected from the parish office or by contacting Jen on 5174 2060 or via email at sacraments@smpt.org.au

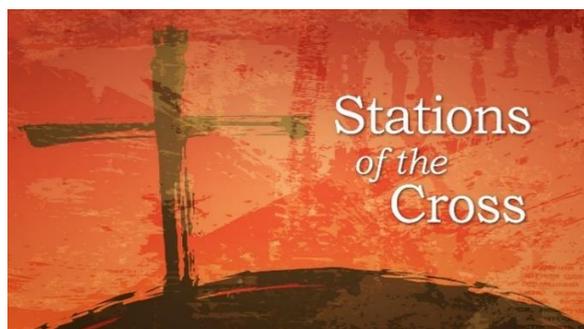
R.C.I.A.: (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

RCIA continues to meet on Thursday evenings at 7:30pm in the Parish Centre. Please keep our catechumens, Laura Andreou, Alyssa Bell and Kyle Alcock, and the RCIA team in your prayers.



BAPTISM FOR SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN:

(RCIC- Rite of Christian Initiation of Children)
A course of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Children will be offered in the parish for children of school age who have not been baptised. An important preparation meeting will be held this **Wednesday March 16th** in the Parish Centre from 4pm – 530pm for parents and children.



Fridays during Lent @ 7pm in the Church

THANK YOU MORNING TEA:

A big thank you to all our volunteers who work tirelessly to keep our church running. Many work behind the scenes to ensure our rosters are filled, our church clean and well maintained and that our parishioners needs are looked after. A special shout out to those organizing our archives and setting up our library, to those who clean and dust and polish; who mow our lawns and get balls off our roof; who visit the sick and the elderly; who run our ministries, our rosters, our piety stall; who sing, who cook, who read, who teach and who support our parish. Thank you to those who see a need, and fill it. It is very much appreciated by us all.

We invite all our volunteers to a thank you morning tea to be held in the Mary MacKillop Hall at St Michael's School, next Sunday after 9:30am Mass. We look forward to getting together and reconnecting as our parish starts to open up again. It is also a great chance for those who would like to learn more about the different volunteering opportunities within our parish. We are always in need of more helpers, in a variety of different areas, for both big jobs and small. So come along and have a chat to our volunteers and bring a plate to share. All are welcome.

**St Michael's Parish Morning Tea
in the Mary MacKillop Hall,
St Michael's School
Sunday March 20th after 9:30am Mass**

ONLINE LENTEN SERIES- EMMAUS SPIRITUALITY MISSION

Restoring freshness in the time of Lent by Michael Elligate, presented by Emmaus Spirituality Ministry. This online program runs on Thursdays during Lent at either 10:30am or 7:30pm. Facilitated by Theresa Denny & Geraldine Naismith, email salespirituality1@gmail.com for bookings, or theresa.m.denny@gmail.com if you have any questions or would like a face-to-face group made available, which Theresa would be happy to facilitate. Cost is \$25 per session, all are welcome so don't let cost prevent you from participating. Emmaus is a joint ministry of the Catholic Diocese of Sale and Jesuits and Ignatian Spirituality Australia.



SYNOD 2021-2023 LET'S WALK TOGETHER:

Don't miss out on this opportunity to take part in a global conversation about the Catholic Church. How are we called to walk together as Christians? How can we listen to one another in making important decisions about our faith and our mission? The deadline for online submissions in the local consultation for the international Synod on Synodality is **Sunday, March 13**. Find out more and share your contribution at: <https://catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>

TAKE AND READ - BORROW OR KEEP:

A library of pre-loved books is available in the Kay Street foyer for parishioners to avail themselves of. Thank you to our wonderful team who have taken this on and set it up for us all to enjoy.



PROJECT COMPASSION 2022



Please take home a Project Compassion box and a set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **For All Future Generations**.

With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support vulnerable communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction. Project Compassion 2022 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come to build better future for all.

As St Pope John Paul II said,
"The future starts today, not tomorrow."

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.

Rosters for March 19 th & 20 th 2022			Third Sunday of Lent, Year C	
	Lector	Commentator	Usher/Welcomer	Musicians
Saturday Mar 19 5:00pm	R Webber	S Grout	C Payne	Alison & Amanda
Sunday Mar 20 9:30am	S & S Reid	M Tainsh	J & P Dal Pra	Charismatic Choir
Sunday Mar 20 5:00pm	E Harte	S Darby	C Hill	
<i>Mick's Kitchen:</i>	17 th March- Scholtes Team		24 th March- McLaughlin Team	

Entrance Antiphon Cf Ps 26:8-9

*Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face.
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.*

First Reading Gen 15:5-12 17-18

A reading from the book of Genesis

God made a covenant with Abraham, his faithful servant.

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied, 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 26:1, 7-9, 13-14. R. v.1

(R.) *The Lord is my light and my salvation.*

- The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life
before whom shall I shrink? **(R.)**
- O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken:
'Seek his face.' **(R.)**
- It is your face, O Lord, that I seek,
hide not your face.
Dismiss not your servant in anger;
you have been my help. **(R.)**
- I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord! **(R.)**

Second Reading

Phil 3:17-4:1

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians
Christ will transfigure these bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body.

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 17:5

*Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!*

Gospel

Luke 9:28-36

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed, and his clothing became brilliant as lightning.

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' – He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

Next week's readings 3rd Sunday in Lent Year C

First reading:	Exodus 3:1-8 13-15
Second reading:	1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12
Gospel:	Luke 13:1-9