



Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year C

March 27, 2022

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

A Gospel Reflection from Redempt Jawa CSsR

A father's undying love for his sons

The parable in today's gospel tells us about the experience of being loved and forgiven. It is about a father who shares his love equally with his two sons and, as they mature into adulthood, he gives them space to make their own decisions.

The younger son decides he wants to have his own life and so he takes his share of the inheritance, moves away, and becomes disconnected from his father and brother. The older son, however, decides to remain loyal and to serve his father. But one day, after arriving home after a day working in the fields, he becomes angry after seeing his father embrace his younger brother who has returned home, having wasted his inheritance.

It seems unbelievable that his father would welcome the younger sibling because he had turned his back on his father and the family home. However, this is where we witness God's mercy which goes beyond our human thoughts and ways. Seeing his younger son coming towards him, his father runs to him, welcoming and hugging him with tremendous joy and love. To his relief, the younger son finds his father is still the same loving and merciful man.

His father can't hide his joy, so he throws a party to celebrate his son's return. The younger son feels even more loved by his father than before he left the family property. The older son is invited to join the celebrations, but refuses, bitterly complaining that he has served his father loyally all his life but has never been treated like a king. Why would the younger brother be treated like a king when he turned his back on his father? It doesn't make sense! At this moment the older son doesn't feel loved, even though he has experienced his father's care all his life.

Both sons, in different ways, failed to appreciate and respond to their father's steadfast love and generosity. The younger son, only when he had nothing left to lose, returned home, only then to realise his father's great love and mercy. The older son, momentarily blinded by envy and jealousy, failed to recognize his father's unfailing love for him throughout his life and to share his father's joy in the younger son's return. We too are greatly loved by God and we have the freedom to make our own decisions. Coming home to God, whatever the mistakes or poor decisions we have made along the way, is really a journey of love. It takes courage and humility, as the younger son showed.

God, our Father, never changes or wavers his love for us. He is always waiting for us. Let us make the move and go back home to renew our relationship with God, our Father. Let us open ourselves to his unconditional love and mercy, and let's be ready to share God's life and love with others, especially with the wounded ones.

*from the www.majellan.media website
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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 29	9:30am Mass
Wednesday Mar 30	11:00am Reconciliation 11:00am Adoration 12:00pm Mass
Thursday Mar 31	9:30am Mass
Friday April 01	9:30am Mass

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

We remember those who have died recently including Cosimo Prestipino, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Arch Graham, Denis O'Brien, Wil Waanders, John Melenhorst, Brian Hourigan, George Hodgson, Myra King, May O'Reilly and Peter Cunico. *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 Mc Kerchar, Ben Melenhorst, Maree Morris, Henry Polo, Joan Riggall, Theresa Rosello, Kath Ryan, Jerry Templer, 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.



CWL NEWS: The Catholic Women's League will meet at 10:00am in the Parish Centre on Tuesday March 29. All are welcome. Please contact Ansje on 0413 489 704 for further information.

WEDNESDAY 31st MARCH: Following Exposition and Mass, a continuous Rosary will be prayed until 5:00pm to pray for Peace in the World, and especially for those impacted by the war in the Ukraine. A sign up sheet has been placed in the foyer for volunteers to lead each session.

THANKYOU:

A big thank you to the wonderful Bev for stepping up and keeping the parish running over the past two weeks while Cath and Jen were away. We are all very grateful for her support and willingness to jump in at a moment's notice to help where she could. Thanks Bev, we really appreciate all that you do!

The toilets next to the St Michael's School Hall are now open during weekend masses. We are also able to park cars in the school yard on Sunday mornings during Mass. Thank you to Jodie and Lia for their ongoing assistance and support with this matter.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS:	
Tuesday March 29	
10:00am	CWL Meeting, Parish Centre
6:00pm	First Reconciliation, Church
Wednesday March 30	
6:00pm	First Reconciliation, Church
Thursday March 31	
10:30am	Charismatic Prayer Meeting, St Michael's Church
6:00pm	First Reconciliation, Church
7:00pm	Finance Team, Parish Centre
7:30pm	RCIA Meeting, Parish Centre
Friday April 01	
7:00pm	Stations of the Cross, St Michael's Church

BAPTISMS: This weekend, we welcome for Baptism :-

- **Ruby Grace Adamo**, daughter of Adam and Amie; and
- **Lachlan Anthony Cross and Grace Poppy Cross**, children of James and Bree (Melinda).



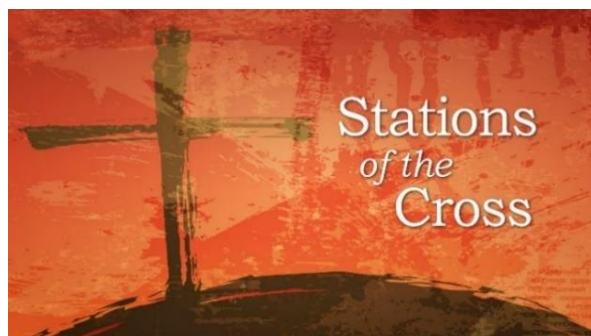
Congratulations to the families, from us all! Welcome to our Parish family!

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: Congratulations to all the children, families and the parish Sacramental team for all the work and enthusiasm to help bring our children to readiness to receive this wonderful Sacrament. Their celebrations will occur over Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday this coming week. Please keep them all in your prayers.

CAN YOU HELP? Hoping a parishioner might be able to help out...if you have a single bed and mattress in good condition which you no longer need, Fr Aju would be pleased to have one installed in the presbytery. Pick up can be arranged. Please let the office know on 5174 2060.

ECUMENICAL PRAYER IN TIME OF TROUBLE The Diocese warmly invites all to attend an evening of prayer on **Wednesday April 06 at 7:00pm** in St Mary's Church, 50 Monash Road, Newborough. Please join in these prayers for Ukraine and the people of NSW and Qld devastated by flood. All Enquires to St Kieran's Parish Office, 5127 1057.



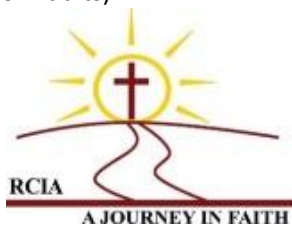
Fridays during Lent @ 7pm in the Church



Easter 2022, St Michael's, Traralgon		
Tues April 05	7:00pm	Tenebrae Service
Sun April 10		Palm Sunday
Tues April 12	6:00pm	Reconciliation
Thurs April 14	7:30pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
Fri April 15	9:30am	Stations of the Cross
	3:00pm	the Passion of the Lord
Sat April 16	9:30am	RCIA Ephphatha Rite
	7:30pm	Easter Vigil
Sun April 17	9:30am	Easter Sunday Mass

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.



LATROBE COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES: We have received information from LCHS enquiring whether any parishioners would like to receive a first, second or third Covid19 vaccination. They are able to provide a portable vaccination centre in a minivan. Please let the Parish Office know on 5174 2060 as soon as possible, so your details may be forwarded on to LCHS.



SYNOD 2021-2023 LET'S WALK

TOGETHER:

SAVE THE DATE MAY 01, 2022

2:00pm

St Kieran's Church, Moe

The first phase of the diocesan consultation period for the synod of Bishops has come to an end. To mark this, Bishop Greg is inviting you to a Diocesan gathering to celebrate this phase. The date has been set based on the feedback from the Clergy at the recent reflection day. Please keep this afternoon free and Bishop would appreciate it if there are no other events scheduled for that afternoon. This is a celebration for the whole diocese and it is hoped for representation from each parish at this event. Further details shortly!

STEWARDSHIP MATTERS:

"No longer was there manna for the Israelites, who that year ate of the yield of the land of Canaan." (JOSHUA 5:12)

Over the forty years that the Israelites journeyed through the desert, God provided them with manna to eat. As soon as they were able to enjoy the fruits of the Promised Land the manna ceased. Likewise, God's blessings to us may change over the years but it is important to trust that God will always provide us with all that we need.

Next week's readings

Sunday April 03, 2022 Fifth Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21

Second Reading: Philippians 3:8-14

Gospel: John 8:1-11



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 April 02 & 03, 2022		Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year C		
	Lector	Commentator	Usher/Welcomer	Musicians
Saturday Apr 02 5:00pm	A Taylor	B Purcell	A Ryan	Diamente Family
Sunday Apr 03 9:30am	C McLure/R Diaz	C McCabe	M Rigg & M Blanchard	Filipino Choir
Sunday Apr 03 5:00pm	M & Z Hanratty	M Noone	J Hanratty	Jane & Simon
<i>Mick's Kitchen:</i>	31 st March	Moretti Team	7 th April	Hemming Team

Entrance Antiphon cf.Ps24:15-16

*Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.*

First Reading Joshua 5:9-12

A reading from the book of Joshua

The people of God went to the promised land and there kept the passover.

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.'

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 33:2-7 Rv9

(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. **(R.)**
2. Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. **(R.)**
3. Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress. **(R.)**

Second Reading 2 Cor 5:17-21

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

God reconciled us to himself through Christ.

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted us to the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 15:1-8

*Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I will rise and go to my father and tell him:
Father, I have sinned against heaven
and against you.
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!*

Gospel

Lk 15:1-3 11-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Your brother here was dead and has come to life.

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here I am dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son; But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him: put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never one disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we have been fattening."

'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."