

# 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 adults at risk:** 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 adults at risk and providing them with a safe, supportive and enriching environment to develop spiritually, physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially. Please contact our Safeguarding Officer 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  
 Principal: Mr Ryan Greer  
 Kildare Campus 5174 8111  
 St Paul's Campus 5174 7355

## *The Cost of Following Jesus: Reflection By Tim Buckley CSsR*

We often speak of learning from our mistakes, even though we sometimes fail to do so. Likewise, if you are interested in sport, you will often hear sportsmen or women speak of "taking the positives" from a contest they have lost, especially if it's a narrow loss.

As human beings we are naturally inquisitive and our search for meaning goes on from our earliest years until our dying day. We learn by trial and error, like so many great discoveries, by experimentation and reflection.

Much of our knowledge comes through learning in "the school of life itself" and frequently "the school of hard knocks." It is not surprising then that throughout the scriptures, we find many of the authors almost pleading with us to stop and reflect on what is going on both in our own lives and in the world around us.

The wisdom books are particularly adept at challenging us in this way. So too does Jesus who is constantly asking us to look around and take note of the wonder of nature, and more importantly to look into ourselves and note our reactions in a variety of circumstances. The book of Wisdom itself invites us to accept the fact that we struggle to make sense of much of what is going on, but it also paves the way for what Jesus will teach us, namely that it is the spirit of God who will lead us to the truth.

St Paul realised that Christ was the Wisdom of God made manifest and all his teaching reflects this understanding, including the wonderful practical advice he gives to his friend Philemon about making peace with his former slave, Onesimus, who for some reason had run away.

Jesus invites us to follow him, but he is well aware of the demands that will be made if we accept his invitation. It is in that context that we can better understand his almost unpalatable teaching that our families might prove an obstacle to us in following him. Sometimes we need to be shocked before we get the message and undoubtedly this has something to do with Jesus' message about taking up the cross.

Clearly, he cannot be changing his fundamental teaching that we must "love our enemies and do good to those who hate us", in warning us that even the members of our families may not understand and might want to prevent us from giving up everything else for his sake. To reinforce his point, he offers us two very mundane examples – a builder preparing to build, a king preparing for battle – of calculating the pros and cons before making a decision.

Jesus invites us to be his disciples and we are continually learning more and more about the cost of that discipleship. As we weigh the pros and cons in our present situations, is he asking us to make a deeper commitment to him today?

Sunday Mass Times	
Saturday	5:00pm Mass
Sunday	9:30am & 5:00pm Mass
Weekday Mass Times	
Tuesday Sep 06	9:30am Liturgy 11:00am Funeral of Kay Ruane
Wednesday Sep 07	11:00am Reconciliation 11:00am Exposition 12:00pm Mass
Thursday Sep 08	9:30am Liturgy St Gabriel's PS*
Friday Sep 09	9.30am Liturgy

\*All parishioners are very welcome to attend the Liturgy at St Gabriel's Primary School on Thursday.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** those who have died recently including Kay Ruane and Ramon Mil Ico Sr, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including John Power, Catherine Nellie Power, Maria Di Sisto, Aileen Dixon, Brian Cross, Teodora Limsi, Enecia Vergas, Damian Goodwin, Bert Ireland and Marie Howard. *Lord, let your perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

**WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:** including Peter Dal Pra, Ann-Maree Daly, Gary Donchi, Bill Edgar, 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, Jerry Templer, Damiano Tripodi, Julie Vaz, Brian Vivian, Celie Smith, Sharon Veleff, George Walkan, Roy Ward, Victoria Rohli, Father John Speekman, James Whitty, Tony Tactor and Pasqualina Loprese, and all those we hold dear in our hearts.



**THANK YOU:** A wonderful morning was had by all last Sunday as we celebrated the fathers and grandfathers of our Parish. Thank you to all who attended and helped to make the day possible. A special thank you must go to the CWL ladies for working so hard to ensure the day was a success and that everyone was happy and well looked after. Thank you also to our PPC members for helping to organise and run the event, and for their fabulous cake decorating skills. It was a great opportunity for everyone to catch up and share their love and appreciation for the fathers in our parish.

**FR AJU ON HOLIDAYS:** Father Aju has arrived safely in India and is enjoying some much deserved time with his family and friends after being away for more than three years. We hope he enjoys his time away and look forward to hearing all about his adventures when he returns to us on the 25<sup>th</sup> September. In his absence, we are grateful to the support and guidance of Deacon Tony, Father Peter, Father Daniel and Father Vin.

**PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES:** For parishioners who have indicated they would prefer to give by cash, planned giving envelopes are now available for collection at the front of the Church. Please remember to pick them up to save the parish postage costs. Thank you for your support.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS:	
Wednesday September 07	
9.00am	Wednesday am Prayer Group, Parish Centre
11:00am	Reconciliation, St Michael's Church
Thursday September 08	
10:30am	Charismatic Prayer Group, Mary MacKillop Room
7:30pm	RCIA Meeting, Parish Centre
Sunday September 11	
Safeguarding Sunday	

**BAPTISMS:** This weekend we welcome for Baptism

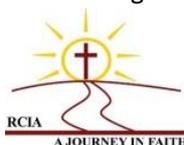
- **Indee and Alannah Ross**, daughters of Andrew and Chenelle, and
- **Imogen Grace and Tessa Margaret Rouget**, daughters of Paul and Jess.



Congratulations from us all and welcome to our Parish! Thank you to their families for leading them on their journey through the RCIC program, and to Alyssa and Susan for their guidance and support. Please keep them all in your prayers.

The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held on **Tuesday September 13<sup>th</sup> 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 weekly meetings on Thursday's in the Parish Centre at 7:30pm. Please contact the Parish Office on 5174 2060, if you, or someone you know are interested.



- **Saturday 15 October:** Priestly Ordination- Rev. Mark Hughes, St Mary's Cathedral Sale, 11:00am
- **Sunday 04 December:** Christmas Family Picnic in the St Michael's School Yard.

The Australian Catholic Bishops Commission for Evangelisation, Laity and Ministry warmly invite you to register for the national Evangelise Online Conference. The conference will run from 5pm October 20 to 5pm October 22. Registration is \$25 per person, or \$20 per person if booking as a group. The conference will promote understanding and explore practices of evangelisation in Australia through encounters with Christ, formation in discipleship, and mission in the world. The conference will feature a range of informative and engaging presentations on topics such as liturgy, marriage and family, discipleship, formation and prayer. There is a range of great presentations and discussions and more information can be found at [www.evangelisation.catholic.org.au](http://www.evangelisation.catholic.org.au) If you would like to participate as a parish group, please contact the parish office to register your interest.

**FATHER'S DAY APPEAL FOR THE PRIESTS' WELFARE FOUNDATION OF THE DIOCESE OF SALE:**

Today the Special Collection is for the Priests' Welfare Foundation and the proceeds will go towards the support of the sick or retired priests and deacons of our diocese and the overseas priests in time of sickness. You may make your donation by using the QR code above or via the website [www.cdsale.org.au/priestswelfarefoundation](http://www.cdsale.org.au/priestswelfarefoundation) or by using the envelopes available at both entrances to the church. We will also hold a leaving collection this weekend to take any cash donations. **All donations of \$2.00 and over are tax deductible** and a receipt for tax deduction purposes will be automatically sent if an email address is provided.



**MINISTRYCORNER**

Did you know that you can volunteer for any of our parish ministries? No prior knowledge is required and training and support is provided. We need more volunteers to support the different ministries in our church. It is a great way to help your parish and get to know your fellow parishioners. Please contact the parish office for more information.

**This week's ministry – ALTAR SERVERS:**

Altar Servers assist Father Aju and Deacon Tony before, during and after the Mass and is a ministry of great responsibility. If your child is interested in becoming an altar server, and you can support them by getting to Mass early and helping them get ready, please contact the parish office for more information. Training and support will be provided to both children and parents.



“Fathers are not born, but made. A man does not become a father simply by bringing a child into the world, but by taking up the responsibility to care for that child. Whenever a man accepts responsibility for the life of another, in some way he becomes a father to that person.” Pope Francis *Patris Corde*

Today, we celebrate Father's Day and honour all those who have been an earthly model of God's paternal love for each one of us just like St Joseph was to Jesus.

We are especially grateful for those fatherly figures who encourage young people to grow in knowledge and love of the Lord. Please pray for all these men, that they continue living out their profound vocation to fatherhood.

***Blessing Prayer for Fathers***

Lord God, who is Father of all,  
send your blessing down on these men who are fathers.

For those who in the night worry for their child,  
grant them your comfort.

For those who in the day work and struggle to provide for their child,  
send them your strength.

For those who mourn a child,  
hold them in your love.

For those who play, laugh, sing and dance with their child,  
you share in their joy.

Lord God, who is Father of all,  
walk with these fathers, in the light times and the dark.  
Bless them, and may they each be a living symbol of your fatherly love;

a symbol to their children and all who they encounter.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



This year, the Diocese of Sale celebrates **Safeguarding Sunday** on September 11. There has been a lot of activity leading up to it over the last few months involving both Parishes and Schools in relation to Child Safety Week (which runs from 4 to 11 September). You are invited to view the Bishop's video, and winning entries of children for the Child Safety competition who have expressed, 'What makes them feel safe and supported?' The Main Child Safety Week page on the Diocese website is <https://www.cdsale.org.au/child-safety-week>

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION:**

*“Everyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple.” (Luke 14:33)*

When we first hear this statement, it seems that Jesus is making an unrealistic demand upon us. How can we renounce all of our possessions? We need them to live. However, what we must renounce is the belief that they belong to us. Everything that we have belongs to God alone. All of our resources are entrusted to us not only for our own use, but also so that we can help others. Once we renounce the idea that we possess or are entitled to anything, it is much easier to share the many gifts that God has given us. Then we truly are His Disciples.

Rosters for September 10 & 11 2022			24 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C			
	Lector	Commentator	Eucharistic Ministers	MERT	Welcomers	Musicians
Saturday Sep 10 5:00pm	R Webber	D Smith	Volunteer		C Payne	
Sunday Sep 11 9:30am	C McLure & R Diaz	M Tainsh	Volunteer	U Imhagwe	J & P Dal Pra	Diamente Family
Sunday Sep 11 5:00pm	E & M Joseph	Volunteer	Volunteer	V Vaz	J Hanratty	Jane
Mick's Kitchen:	Sept 8 <sup>th</sup> McLaughlin Team			Sept 15 <sup>th</sup> St Michael's Staff		

**Entrance Antiphon** Ps 118:137,124

*You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;  
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.*

**First Reading** Wis 9:13-18

A reading from the book of Wisdom  
*Who can comprehend the will of God?*

What man can know the intentions of God? Who can divine the will of the Lord?

The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable; for a perishable body presses down the soul, and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind. It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth, laborious to know what lies within our reach; who, then, can discover what is in the heavens?

As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom and sent your holy spirit from above?

Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened and men been taught what pleases you, and saved, by Wisdom.

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 89:3-6 12-14 Rv1

**(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.**

1. You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.' To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night. **(R.)**
2. You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades. **(R.)**
3. Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants. **(R.)**
4. In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. **(R.)**

**Second Reading** Phlm 9-10, 12-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Philemon  
*Receive him, not as a slave anymore, but as a very dear brother.*

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him – I could say – a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

**Gospel Acclamation**

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
Let your face shine on your servant,  
and teach me your laws.  
Alleluia!*

**Gospel** Lk 14:25-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke  
*All who do not renounce their possessions cannot be my disciples.*

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

**Next weeks Readings**

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

1<sup>st</sup> Reading Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Gospel Luke 15:1-32