



Fr Aju Varghese Parish Priest
 Parish Centre: 5174 2060
 Priest's Residence: 5174 6765
Deacon Tony Aspinall
 Phone: 03 5174 8167
 Email: deacontony8@gmail.com

St Michael's Parish Office
 Telephone: 5174 2060
 Address: 33 Kay Street, Traralgon
 PO Box 103, Traralgon 3844
 Parish Secretary: Catherine Hill
 Email: sec@smpt.org.au
 Sacraments/Youth: Jenifer Hanratty
 Email: sacraments@smpt.org.au

St Michael's Parish Office Hours
 Mondays closed
 Tuesday to Friday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

After office hours: in case of an emergency please call 0499 162 313 and leave a message and your contact details

Baptisms: Six weeks notice required
Weddings: Six weeks notice required

Parish Pastoral Council
 Lia Di Corleto Chairperson, Fr Ajue, Steve Kimani, Greg Imhagwe, Watson Gomez, Jenifer Hanratty, Judi McLaughlin, Thomas Mathew, Amanda Reid, Jodie Ware, Michelle Charlton, and Doug Doherty.

Parish Schools:
St Gabriel's School 5174 5515
 Principal: Michelle Charlton
St Michael's School 5174 3295
 Principal: Jodie Ware
Lavalla Catholic College 5174 5272
 Principal: Ryan Greer
 Kildare Campus 5174 8111
 St Paul's Campus 5174 7355

St Michael's Catholic Parish Traralgon

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Sunday January 01, 2023

St Michael's Vision & Mission Statements

Inspired by Jesus Christ, we are a welcoming Catholic community seeking to enrich lives. Come and join us!

We seek to provide opportunities for all to : grow in holiness; and discover and live out their personal and community call to mission to live as Catholics who effectively transform society.

Statement of Commitment to the Safety of Children and Vulnerable Adults: Central to the mission of St Michael's and St Mary's Parishes 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.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS OVER CHRISTMAS:

Our Parish office is currently closed but will reopen on Tuesday January 10 at 9:00am. During this period, you can call the office on 5174 2060 and leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as we can. If you need to get in touch with Fr Aju over the Christmas break you can contact him on our after hours mobile on 0499 162 313.

BAPTISMS: This weekend we welcome for Baptism, **Hannah Marjorie Spencer**, daughter of Bradley and Anne. Congratulations and welcome to our parish! The next Baptism preparation meeting will be held on Tuesday January 17 at 7:00pm in the Church.

A PRAYER FOR A NEW YEAR:

*And I said to the man who stood
 at the gate of the year:
 "Give me a light that I may tread safely
 into the unknown."
 And he replied: "Go out into the darkness
 and put your hand into the Hand of God.
 That shall be to you better than light
 and safer than a known way."
 Minnie Louise Haskins, 1908.*

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We remember those who have died recently including Lorraine Brady and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including, Marjorie Hayes, Chandana Fernando, Noel Cummins, John Van Berkel, Peter Glaubitz, Gerhard Riess, William Hardbottle, Tom D'Ettorre and Fr James Duffy.

Lord, Let your perpetual light shine upon them. May the 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.

SUNDAY MASS TIMES:

Saturday 5:00pm
 Sunday 9:30 am & 5:00 pm

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

Tuesday January 03 9:30am Mass
Wednesday January 04 11:00am Exposition
 12:00pm Liturgy
Thursday January 05 9:30am Liturgy
Friday January 06 9:30am Liturgy

ROSTERS: January 07 & 08:

The Epiphany of the Lord

5:00 pm Mass Saturday January 07

Lector: R Webber
Commentator: D Smith
Welcomer: M Giddens
Musicians: Jane & Simon

9:30 am Mass Sunday January 08

Lector: U & E Imhagwe
Commentator: C McCabe
Welcomer: D Bau
Musicians: Jane & Simon

5:00 pm Mass Sunday January 08

Lector: J Panozzo-Tile
Commentator S Luscombe
Welcomer: J McLaughlin
Musicians: Jane & Simon

The Living Word

Mary, Mother of God

1 January 2023

First Reading Nm 6:22-27

They will call down my name on the children of Israel and I will bless them.

The Lord spoke to Moses and said, 'Say this to Aaron and his sons: "This is how you are to bless the sons of Israel. You shall say to them:

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord let his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord uncover his face to you and bring you peace."

This is how they are to call down my name on the sons of Israel, and I will bless them.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 66:2-3. 5. 6. 8. R. v.2

(R.) May God bless us in his mercy.

1. God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. *(R.)*
2. Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice.

With fairness you rule the peoples.
you guide the nations on earth. *(R.)*

3. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. *(R.)*

Second Reading Gal 4:4-7

When the appointed time came, God sent his son, born of a woman.

When the appointed time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born a subject of the Law, to redeem the subjects of the Law and to enable us to be adopted as sons. The proof that you are sons is that God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts: the Spirit that cries, 'Abba, Father', and it is this that makes you a son, you are not a slave any more; and if God has made you son, then he has made you heir.

Gospel Acclamation Heb 1:1-2

Alleluia, alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets;

now he speaks to us through his Son.

Alleluia!



Gospel Lk 2:16-21

The shepherds found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the crib... When the eighth day came they gave him the name of Jesus.

The shepherds hurried away to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw the child they repeated what they had been told about him, and everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds had to say. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds went back glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; it was exactly as they had been told.

When the eighth day came and the child was to be circumcised, they gave him the name Jesus, the name the angel had given him before his conception.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Liturgically, the Octave of Christmas commemorates: the Solemnity of the Mother of God; the day designated for prayers for global peace; and the beginning of the New Year. Though the shepherds gain insight into the presence of God by seeing this holy family, it is Mary who holds all these things in her heart. She is the one who ponders the significance of these mysterious events. Mary becomes for Christians an inspiration of contemplation and reflection. She inspires us to consider deeply the significance of events, lest we go blandly through life without meaning or direction. She inspires us to fidelity to the practices of our faith, practices which are the disciplines of soul that lead the community to a clearer focus on God's presence in human affairs.

The theme of peace appears today on many levels. Its meaning, 'fullness of life', bursts forth in every one of the readings. The ancient prayer or blessing of peace is an appropriate start for the New Year. It resonates well with the angels' wish for people of good will. Peace is also our inheritance in Christ. As adopted children of God, we have been given the freedom to live in a godly manner, calling God our *Abba*. Right relationships in the covenant activity of God are the pathways of peace. The beginning of a New Year is a good time to reach out to others and to pray for God's blessing of peace for each dimension of human encounter.

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