



SUNDAY MASS TIMES:

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

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

Tue January 10 9:30am Mass
Wed January 11 11:00am Reconciliation
 11:00am Exposition
 12:00pm Mass
Thu January 12 9:30am Mass
Fri January 13 9:30am Mass

ROSTERS: January 14 & 15:

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 pm Mass Saturday January 14

Lector: B O'Brien

Commentator: M Noone

Welcomer: C Payne

Musicians:

9:30 am Mass Sunday January 15

Lector: E Babu & J Dal Pra

Commentator: M Tainsh

Welcomer: D Bau

Musicians: Charismatic Choir

5:00 pm Mass Sunday January 15

Lector: S Grout

Commentator Volunteer

Welcomer: B McNulty

Musicians: Jane & Simon

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

The Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday January 08, 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 it is urgent, you can contact Fr Aju or Deacon Tony on the after hours mobile on 0499 162 313.

BAPTISMS: The next Baptism preparation meeting will be held on **Tuesday January 17 at 7:00pm** in the Church.

SACRAMENTS 2023: Save the date! The following dates for the Sacramental Program have been announced for 2023.

Reconciliation: March 21 - 23

Confirmation: June 9

First Communion: November 11-12, or November 18-19

THE GREY ARMY: Would you be interested in joining our newest parish team? We are organizing a group to meet once a fortnight at the church to do minor maintenance and external/internal cleaning activities, followed by a cup of tea and a chance to catch up. If you or someone you know would be interested, please contact the parish office. We are hoping to get the group up and running towards the end of January, all are welcome.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We remember those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including, Jack Dessent, Jonathan Phelan, Marjorie Hayes, Chandana Fernando, Noel Cummins and John Van Berkel.

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 Mc Kerchar, 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.



come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Unlike the writers of the horoscope columns in our newspapers, these Wise Men were scholar astrologers, probably from Syria or Iraq. They believed that the stars controlled the destiny of human beings, but they were open enough to the Hebrew scriptures to be led to the amazing discovery of a star-child in Bethlehem.

They knelt before this baby, doing homage, because they realised that the stars did not control *this* infant, but that there was something of this baby which caused the night sky to respond! They preserved the child from the deadly schemes of Herod, and then they returned to their home country, 'by a different way'. They were on a different journey after encountering the Child.

Who can doubt that the Holy Spirit led these wise men from the East to the manger? In fact, the Holy Spirit is at work in every human being, prompting each and every one to become seekers after Truth.

As a person responds to this prompting and tries to lead a good humane life, then the Church teaches that the Holy Spirit can draw them into the saving life of God. Thus, billions in China and India who have never heard the Gospel, can be saved. But, such persons do not savour the fullness of Truth as we do with the privilege of having the scriptures and the sacraments. Where it is possible, we are obliged to offer them the road map to the Truth.

We can take a moment to affirm our faith in the baby in the manger as the One of whom Dante spoke: 'the Love which moves the sun and other stars'. Come, let us adore him.

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The Living Word

The Epiphany of the Lord

8 January 2023

First Reading Is 60:1-6

The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you;

camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 10-13, R. see v.11

(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

- O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement. (R.)
- In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds. (R.)

- The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts shall pay him tribute. The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts. Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him. (R.)
- For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. (R.)

Second Reading Eph 3:2-3, 5-6

The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 2:2

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 2:1-12

We have come from the East to worship the king.

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have