



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



Bishop Greg will be joining us for Mass on Sunday 19th February at 9.30am. All invited.



**Special morning tea after the Mass.
Mary MacKillop Hall**

Sunday February 19 @ 10:30am

After Mass the CWL will be hosting a fundraising morning tea in the Mary MacKillop Hall for World Youth Day. It is a chance for parishioners to catch up and find out more about World Youth Day. The event is being hosted by the Catholic Women's League and any funds raised on the day will go to supporting our young parishioners on their journey to Lisbon for World Youth Day.

We are looking for some donations/ vouchers/ prizes to raffle to raise money for World Youth Day. If you can support this in any way, please drop goods into the Parish Office.

WORLD YOUTH DAY: For more than 30 years, World Youth Day has been an opportunity for the young people of the world to go on pilgrimage. We are very excited that Zahra is registered to go and encourage others in our parish to join her on her journey. Young people in our Diocese, along with the Archdiocese of Melbourne will travel to Lisbon from July 28 to August 09 2023. They will participate in the major events of World Youth Day including the Papal Welcome, catechesis and youth festivals, as well as the final pilgrim walk and vigil with Pope Francis and millions of other young Catholics aged 16-35. For more information contact the parish office 03 5174 2060.

Sunday Mass Times	
Saturday	5:00pm Mass
Sunday	9:30am Mass 5:00pm Mass
Weekday Mass Times	
Tuesday Feb 14	9:30am Mass
Wednesday Feb 15	11:00am Reconciliation 11:00am Exposition 12:00pm Mass
Thursday Feb 16	9:30am* Mass @ St Gabriel's
Friday Feb 17	9:30am Mass

*Thursday morning mass will be celebrated at St Gabriel's Primary School this week

PLEASE PRAY FOR: those who have died recently including Albarnas (Fr Ajin's Dad), Raymond Smith, Bruce Power, John Anderson, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Santo Alicata, Monica Jordan, George Spalding, Archbishop Philip Wilson, John Veller, Peter DiCiero, and Riley Pearce. *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, Sharon Veleff, George Walkan, Roy Ward, Victoria Rohli, Father John Speekman, James Whitty, Pasqualina Loprese, Ria Tactor, Martin McLaughlin and Kelly Maher, and all those we hold dear in our hearts.



SAVE THE DATE:

- Sunday February 19:** Parish Morning Tea, after 9:30am Mass
- Tuesday February 21:** Parish Finance Team, 5:45pm
- Wednesday February 22:** Ash Wednesday
- Sunday February 26:** Rite of Election, 3:00pm
- Tuesday February 28:** Parish Pastoral Council, 6:00pm

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP: A reminder that the Charismatic Prayer Group has returned and everyone is welcome. Come along this Thursday to the Parish Centre at 10:30am.



THIS WEEK'S EVENTS:	
Wednesday February 15	
11:00am	Reconciliation, St Michael's Church
5:30pm	Liturgy Team Meeting, Parish Centre
Thursday February 16	
10:30am	Grey Army Working Bee, Parish Centre
10:30am	Charismatic Prayer Group, Parish Centre
7:30pm	RCIA Meeting, Parish Centre

BAPTISMS: This weekend we welcome for Baptism, **Tommy Aiden Lakeman**, son of Aiden and Shanarra, and **Raymond Jacob Collis**, son of Bradley and Jessica. Congratulations and welcome to our parish!



The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held on **Tuesday March 21st at 7:00pm** in the Church. Please contact the Parish Office on 5174 2060 if you are interested in attending.



RITE OF ELECTION 2023: The Rite of Election will be celebrated by Bishop Greg Bennet at St Mary's Cathedral Sale on **Sunday 26th February at 3.00 pm**. An invitation is extended to all catechumens, candidates, and their families, RCIA team members and parishioners.

A Diocesan Choir will be formed to lead the singing for this beautiful ceremony. Most of the music will be familiar to parishes. Interested singers are asked to register their interest by contacting Sophy Morley at the Diocesan Pastoral Office on 5622 6677 or email smorley@sale.catholic.org.au

- 1:30-2:30pm Choir Rehearsal
- 3:00-4:00pm Rite of Election
- 4:00pm Afternoon Tea

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED: Thank you to those who have been stepping up to help. More ministers are needed and we would ask anyone who has been one in the past and is interested in doing it again to let the parish office know. We will also be holding a training and refresher workshop in the coming weeks for anyone who is new to the ministry or would like to learn more.

THE GREY ARMY: We are having our first meeting of our newly formed Grey Army on Thursday February 16. All those who have put their name down or any others who are interested in coming along, please meet at the Parish Centre at 10:30am for our first working bee, followed by a cup of tea. We are hoping to organise an ongoing meeting once a fortnight to do minor maintenance and external/internal cleaning activities at both the Church, the Parish Centre and the Presbytery.

MICK'S KITCHEN: has now re-opened on Thursday nights for sit down meals in the St Vincent de Paul Assistance Centre, on the corner of Kay and Breed Streets Traralgon. Meals will be served from 6pm – 7pm with tea and coffee available from 5:45pm. All are invited and welcome to attend.



SYNOD OF BISHOPS: The Church around the world has entered the Continental Stage for the Synod of Bishops on Synodality. Groups around Australia have spent time in responding to the Document which reflect the voices of the People of God from over 114 countries around the world. A collation of the Australian submissions has been prepared for Bishop Greg and the other Bishops from the Oceania region who are currently meeting in Fiji. Access the Document for the Continental Stage www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch



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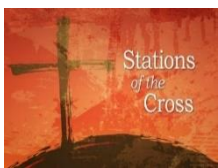
Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills with those who have less opportunity to develop their talents.

- **You will re-ignite your professional passion** as you share skills with colleagues abroad;
- **You will strengthen individuals and organisational processes and procedures** so that generations of people will have opportunities for growth long after you return home.
- **You will Learn.** It is a life changing opportunity to work with and live amongst some of the most appreciative and resilient people you will ever meet.
- **You will be Supported.** Since 1961, Palms Australia has supported qualified and experienced Catholics motivated to undertake this Mission.

Explore 35 positions by scanning the QR code below. On our website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand.



Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know:
RING: 02 9560 533 or 0422 472 567.
WEB: www.palms.org.au



Weekly Stations of the Cross will be offered at 7pm in the Church on Fridays during Lent. Please contact the parish office if you or your group would like to organise one of these evenings.



Art Competition

THEME: HOLY WEEK: the meaning of Easter

St Michaels Parish is running another Art Competition for all students. Get your creative cap on and draw, paint or sketch a masterpiece that represents the theme - **HOLY WEEK.**

Entries close on the March 20th 2023. The winning artwork will feature on the home page of St Michael's Parish website and all artworks will be displayed in the church throughout our Easter celebrations. Artworks will be judged by a panel and prizes will be presented to the most creative entries. Prizes presented to winners at Mass on April 2nd at 5pm.

Please submit your entries to the following school offices (St Michael's and St Gabriel's) or the St Michael's Parish office including the following details on the back: Name, Class, age, and School and a parent's phone number.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES: Parishioners are invited to attend one of the following Ash Wednesday masses on **Wednesday February 22** at St Michael's Church: **9:30am** with St Gabriel's Primary School, **12:00pm** with St Michael's Primary School or **6:00pm.**

Next Week's Readings:
7th Sunday in Ordinary Time
1st Reading Lev 19:1-2, 17-18
2nd Reading 1 Cor 3:16-23

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION:
"For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:20)
The scribes and Pharisees lived according to the letter of the law, and they used this to elevate themselves above the other people. Jesus is clear – it's the love that you have in your heart that will get you to heaven. Simply following church rules out of obligation, not love, does not put you on the path to heaven. Attending Mass on Sunday and then gossiping about a fellow parishioner on the parking lot is an example of a modern day Pharisee.

Rosters for February 18 & 19, 2023			Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A		
	Lector	Commentator	MERT	Welcomer	Musicians
Saturday Feb 18 5:00pm	M & J Hanratty	Z Hanratty	S Hemming	L Kennedy	Alison, Jeanne & Amanda
Sunday Feb 19 9:30am	W & J Gomez	M Wilkinson	W Gomez	J & P Dal Pra	Charismatic Choir
Sunday Feb 19 5:00pm	E & T Joseph	S Darby	E Joseph	M Noone	
February Church Cleaning:	St Michael's Staff				
Mick's Kitchen:	Feb 16	Hemming Team	Feb 23	Scholtes Team	

Entrance Antiphon Cf Ps 30:3-4

*Be my protector, O God,
a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.*

First Reading Sirach 15:15-20

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

He never commanded anyone to be godless.

If you wish, you can keep the commandments,
to behave faithfully is within your power.
He has set fire and water before you;
put out your hand to whichever you prefer.
Man has life and death before him;
whichever a man likes better will be given him.
For vast is the wisdom of the Lord;
he is almighty and all-seeing.
His eyes are on those who fear him,
he notes every action of man.
He never commanded anyone to be godless,
he has given no one permission to sin.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 118:1-2 4-5 17-18 33-34

(R.) Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord.

1. They are happy whose life is blameless,
who follow God's law!
They are happy those who do his will,
seeking him with all their hearts. **(R.)**
2. You have laid down your precepts
to be obeyed with care.
May my footsteps be firm
to obey your statutes. **(R.)**
3. Bless your servant and I shall live
and obey your word.
Open my eyes that I may consider
the wonders of your law. **(R.)**
4. Teach me the demands of your statutes
and I will keep them to the end.
Train me to observe your law,
to keep it with my heart. **(R.)**

Second Reading 1 Cor 2:6-10

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

God in his wisdom predestined our glory before the ages began.

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him. These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 2:32

*Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of
the kingdom.
Alleluia!*

Gospel Matthew 5:17-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Such was said to your ancestors, but I am speaking to you.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.

'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

'It has also been said: Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.