



Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year A

14 May 2023

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

A Blessing Prayer for Mothers by Greg Sunter

*Mother God,
You are the great Creator.
You gave birth to the world and through love brought all things into being.
You are our mother who feeds us;
our mother who comforts and consoles us;
our mother who defends us;
our mother who calms and cares for us.
Before you formed us in our mother's womb, you chose us.
Before we were born you set us apart.
You have carved us in the palm of your hand.*

*Bless all women who bring life into the world.
Bless all women who cannot give birth.
Bless all women expecting the birth of their child.
Bless all women who mourn the loss of a child.
Bless all women who love and care for their children.
Bless all women who share their love and care with others.
Bless all women who tend the needs of their families.
Bless all women who tend the needs of the world.
Bless all women supported by a partner.
Bless all women who parent alone.
Bless all women of integrity.
Bless all women who struggle with who they are.
Bless our mothers and our grandmothers.
Bless our teachers and our carers.
Bless the dads who also mother.
Bless the mums we never knew.*

*God, our Mother and our Father,
look with favour on all those we call 'mother'.
Bless them and keep them as they bless and keep us.
We make this prayer through Mary, who intercedes for us.
Amen.*

Happy Mother's Day to all those we love who have mothered us in some way, by name or by deed, we are grateful for all you have done and all you continue to do. Thank you.

Sunday Mass Times	
Saturday	5:00pm Mass
Sunday	9:30am Mass 5:00pm Mass
Weekday Mass Times	
Tuesday May 16	9:30am Mass 10:45am Mass @ Margery Cole
Wednesday May 17	11:00am Reconciliation 11:00am Exposition 12:00pm Mass
Thursday May 18	9:30am* Mass @ St Gabriel's
Friday May 19	9:30am Mass

**This Thursday we will celebrate mass at St Gabriel's Primary School. Parishioners are warmly invited to attend.*

PLEASE PRAY FOR: those who have died recently including Therese D'Orsa, Peter Bainbridge, Cornelia (Corrie) Schalken and Len Morgan, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Kevin Fitzsimon, Debbie Fowles, Conceicao Maria de Nascimento, Kaye Nailer, John Cleaver, Amanda O'Brien, Simon O'Brien, Dot Mulquiney, and Geoff Chapman. *Lord, let your perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: including 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, Sharon Veleff, George Walkan, Roy Ward, Victoria Rohli, Fr John Speekman, James Whitty, Kelly Maher, John Waanders, Peter Dal Pra, and Jane Eric and all those we hold dear in our hearts.



THANK YOU: to all those who helped organise and lead a wonderful morning tea on Sunday to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Passionist Family Group Movement in Australia. It was wonderful to all be together and reflect on all the fun we have had over the years. The aim of family groups is to get to know other members of the parish, to support each other in good times and bad and to share our Christian faith with other families in our community. If this is something you would be interested in, or you would like some more information, please contact the parish office.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: We are in need of a female Safeguarding Officer for our parish. The applicant would need to be passionate about the safety and protection of children and vulnerable adults. Ongoing training and support will be offered by both the parish and the Diocese. We are also looking for new members to join our risk management team. If you are interested or knowledgeable about minimizing risks and promoting the safety of your fellow parishioners this is the team for you. Anyone who is interested in either position should contact the parish office or speak to Father Aju after Mass.

This Week's Events	
Tuesday May 16	
10:00am	Morning Tea with Fr Peter Mary MacKillop Room
Wednesday May 17	
11:00am	Reconciliation, St Michael's Church
6:00pm	Confirmation Preparation Meeting, St Michael's Church
Thursday May 18	
10:30am	Charismatic Prayer Group, Mary MacKillop Room

BAPTISMS: The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held on **Tuesday June 13 at 7:00pm** in the Church. Please contact the Parish Office on 5174 2060 if you are interested in attending.



SACRAMENTS NEWS: The sacrament of confirmation will be celebrated on Friday June 09 with Bishop Greg Bennet at Lavalla Catholic College's Champagnat Centre. An important information evening will be held on **Wednesday May 17 at 6pm** for parents and children here at St Michael's Church.

YOUTH MINISTRY: Last Friday the young people of our parish gathered to discuss the role and needs of a Youth Council at St Michael's. They enjoyed an evening of prayer, sharing their faith, their hopes for our Church and of course games and pizza. We are looking forward to the revival of our once thriving youth ministry, and the energy and excitement they bring to our parish. They are organising a youth mass on Sunday May 21 at 5pm and are looking for young people to read, commentate, altar serve, and take on all the roles of the mass. If you are interested in participating in our Youth Mass, or becoming a member of our Parish Youth Council (Year 10 and above), please contact the parish office for more information. Their next meeting will be held on Friday May 26 in the Mary MacKillop Room.

PENTECOST SUNDAY: On Sunday May 28, we will celebrate Pentecost with a multi-cultural Mass at 9:30am, which will be followed by a multi-cultural celebration in the Mary MacKillop Hall, where our various nationalities will promote their cultural foods, music and costumes. We are currently seeking leaders from our various cultural groups to lead and help organise this wonderful celebration. If you are interested in helping, or have ideas to share, please contact the parish office.



CONGRATULATIONS: to Father Peter Bickley who will celebrate the 49th Anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood next week. Please join him for mass on **Tuesday May 16 at 9:30am** here at St Michael's, followed by morning tea in the Mary MacKillop Room.

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS- SAVE THE DATE:

Tuesday May 16 after 9:30am Mass- Morning Tea to celebrate Fr Peter's 49th Anniversary

Sunday May 21 @ 5:00pm- Youth Mass

Sunday May 28 @ 9:30am- Pentecost Multi-Cultural Mass and Morning Tea

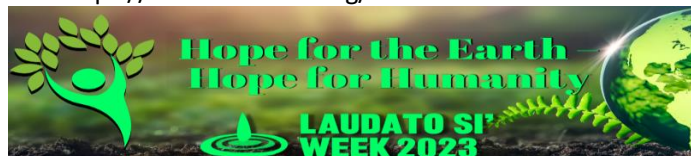
Friday June 09 after 9:30am Mass- St Columbkille's Day morning tea

Friday June 09 @ 5:00pm- Sacrament of Confirmation, Champagnat Centre

CELEBRATE MARY IN MAY: During the month of May, Mary is specially honoured by devotions around the world. May is traditionally dedicated in a special way to honouring and seeking the intercession of Mary as the Mother of God and the Mother of the Church. Please join us to celebrate Mary on the following dates- Saturday May 20, Diocesan May Devotion, St Mary's Cathedral Sale; every Monday at 7pm, pray the Rosary online via Zoom, hosted by St Mary's Parish Bairnsdale; every Saturday at 10am, pray the Rosary at Lumen Christi Church, Churchill.



LAUDATO SI' WEEK is celebrated from the 16th – 24th May where we remember Pope Francis urging us in his encyclical Laudato Si' to hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor and to humbly place ourselves in communion with our common home. The theme for 2023 is Hope for the Earth, Hope for Humanity. In Australia, these dates are different from the dates promoted internationally to enable us to fully celebrate National Sorry Day (May 26) and National Reconciliation Week (May 27 – June 3). As a Parish we celebrate our part in the great progress the whole Church is making on its journey towards the seven Laudato Si' Goals set before us by Pope Francis to achieve ecological conversion. For more information visit <https://laudatosiweek.org/>



WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY: was established by Pope Paul VI in 1967 as an annual celebration that encourages us to reflect on the opportunities and challenges that the modern means of social communication afford the Church to communicate the gospel message. The Catholic Church in Australia celebrates World Communications Day on the Sixth Sunday of Easter (May 14 this year). Pope Francis' message this year has the theme 'Speaking with the heart: The truth in love'.

MARY MACKILLOP PILGRIMAGE: The Catholic Women's League is organizing a pilgrimage to Mary MacKillop Place in Sydney from the 5th – 7th of June 2023. The tour includes return travel via bus from the Latrobe Valley to Sydney, and two nights accommodation. It is an exciting opportunity to travel in a safe and supportive group environment, all the plans and details have been organized for you. Come and Join Us! To register your interest or for more information, speak to Kay Radford or contact the parish office.

JESUIT AND IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY AUSTRALIA: IM23- I Am a Tree of Life.

Online Daily Sunday May 21 – Wednesday May 24, two hours each day. *For your word went forth, and at once the work was done. Immediately fruit came forth in endless abundance and of varied appeal to the taste, and flowers of inimitable colour, and odours of inexpressible fragrance.* 2 Esdras 6:43. This is an International and Australian Laudato Si' Week Event the theme of which is Hope for the Earth- Hope for Humanity. Contact the parish office for more information or visit jisa.org.au/im23



STEWARDSHIP MATTERS:

"For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that be God's will, than for doing evil." 1 PETER 3:17

The old line says "if you want to make God laugh, tell him your plans." Many of us are diligent in our planning and making sure things are progressing smoothly. Then disaster strikes, we don't get the result we anticipated or an unforeseen problem arises. Many times we may respond negatively and ask, "Why me? I did everything right!" Here's the thing – adversity humbles us and reminds us of our dependence on God and not on our own self-reliance. Rest assured, God has a better plan in store for you.

A PRAYER FOR OUR MOTHERS

LOVING GOD, WE THANK YOU FOR ALL THOSE WHO MOTHER US. BLESS THEM SO THAT THEY MAY ALWAYS GIVE LIFE AND NOURISHMENT TO THOSE THEY CARE FOR; MAY THEIR STRENGTH AND SELFLESS LOVE BE GREAT EXAMPLES FOR US ALL. MAY WE, WHO RECEIVE THE BENEFITS AND BLESSINGS OF OUR MOTHERS AND THOSE WHO MOTHER US, HONOUR THEM ALWAYS WITH PROFOUND LOVE AND RESPECT. AMEN.

Rosters for May 20 & 21, 2023

Ascension of the Lord

	Lector	Commentator	Welcomer	Musicians
Saturday May 20 5:00pm	Volunteer	Volunteer	L Kennedy	Alison, Jeanne & Amanda
Sunday May 21 9:30am	K & L Roy	M Tainsh	J & P Dal Pra	
Sunday May 21 5:00pm	Youth Mass	Youth Mass	M Noone	Youth Mass

Church Cleaning:	May 25	Volunteers	
Mick's Kitchen:	May 18	Hemming Team	May 25 Scholtes Team
Touring Statue of Our Lady:	May 14	P Ayres	May 21 M Ayres

First Reading Acts 8:5-8 14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 65:1-7 16 R see v1

(R.) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth,
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.
Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! (R.)
2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow;
shall sing to you, sing to your name!'
Come and see the works of God,
tremendous his deeds among men. (R.)
3. He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the river dry-shod.
Let our joy then be in him;
he rules for ever by his might. (R.)
4. Come and hear, all who fear God.
I will tell what he did for my soul:
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer
nor withhold his love from me. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Pt 4:13-16

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

It is a blessing for you when they insult you for bearing the name of Christ.

If you can have some share in the sufferings of Christ, be glad, because you will enjoy a much greater gladness when his glory is revealed. It is a blessing for you when they insult you for bearing the name of Christ, because it means that you have the Spirit of glory, the Spirit of God resting on you. None of you should ever deserve to suffer for being a murderer, a thief, a criminal or an informer; but if anyone of you should suffer for being a Christian, then he is not to be ashamed of it; he should thank God that he has been called one.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

*All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them
and we will come to them.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 17:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
Father, glorify your Son.

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

'Father, the hour has come:

glorify your Son

so that your Son may glorify you;

and, through the power over all mankind that you have given him,

let him give eternal life to all those you have entrusted to him.

And eternal life is this:

to know you,

the only true God,

and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

I have glorified you on earth

and finished the work

that you gave me to do.

Now, Father, it is time for you to glorify me

with that glory I had with you

before ever the world was.

I have made your name known

to the men you took from the world to give me.

They were yours and you gave them to me,

and they have kept your word.

Now at last they know

that all you have given me comes indeed from you;

for I have given them

the teaching you gave to me,

and they have truly accepted this, that I came from you,

and have believed that it was you who sent me.

I pray for them;

I am not praying for the world

but for those you have given me,

because they belong to you:

all I have is yours

and all you have is mine,

and in them I am glorified.

I am not in the world any

longer,

but they are in the world,

and I am coming to you.'



Next Weeks Readings: The Ascension of the Lord

First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23

Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20