



## 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**  
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

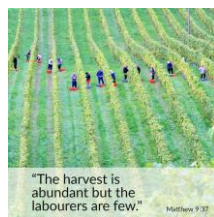
Principal: Mrs Jodie Ware

**Lavalla Catholic College** 5174 5272

Principal: Mr Ryan Greer

Kildare Campus 5174 8111

St Paul's Campus 5174 7355



### A mission that includes all peoples

By Gerard Hall SM

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Our call to be “missionary disciples of Jesus” is based on the Exodus experience of the Jewish people. Yes, God enables the Jews to be liberated from slavery, but much more is at stake. God addresses Moses like an earthly king pledging to confer on Israel the dignity of a “priestly kingdom” and a “consecrated nation”. The Israelites, on their part, are called to pledge themselves to God’s law which is about to be given to them in the Ten Commandments.

Guess what? The Jews were not always faithful to this new covenant that God made with them. Yet, despite this, we learn from this week’s Psalm that God remains faithful and merciful; moreover, God continues to care and protect his people as a shepherd guides his flock. The writers of the Jewish Scriptures are at pains to point out that, despite the failure of the people of the Covenant to live by the Law, God does not give up. Indeed, as the Psalmist tells us: “How good is the Lord, eternal his merciful love; God is forever faithful.”

The extent of God’s faithful and forgiving love is made evident in Paul’s Letter to the Romans. St Paul tells us that God sends his own Son to live among us and die for us. A new covenant is formed to promote the offer of life and salvation not just to the Jewish people, but to all who acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord and strive to live out their faith in loving service of others. Importantly, this offer of a new covenant for all people does not nullify God’s first covenant made with the Jews. This highlights the importance of Jewish-Christian dialogue as a way of understanding the multiple ways God is present among all people calling them to fullness of life. Such dialogue also points to the importance of the Jewish Scriptures for our proper understanding of the God of Jesus Christ in the New Testament.

This brings us to this week’s gospel by Matthew who is very much writing for a Jewish-Christian audience. Matthew had already introduced us to Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount and to some of his healing miracles. Today we see Jesus inviting disciples – we are even given names of the prominent Twelve – to assist him in his mission of the Kingdom. Such mission is in full continuity with God’s mission to Israel. Jesus even uses the words of Moses stating that “the people are like sheep without a shepherd.”

But what are we to make of Jesus’ words to the disciples to avoid “pagan territory” and “Samaritan towns” but, rather, “go to the lost sheep of the House of Israel”? We need to know that Jesus, as the Baptist before him, saw his own mission focussed on the “twelve tribes of Israel”. It is only after the death and resurrection of Jesus that the disciples are empowered by the Spirit to see their mission is for all people regardless of race, nationality or ethnicity.

Sunday Mass Times	
Saturday	5:00pm Mass
Sunday	9:30am Mass 5:00pm Mass
Weekday Mass Times	
Tuesday Jun 20	9:30am Mass
Wednesday Jun 21	11:00am Reconciliation 11:00am Exposition 12:00pm Mass
Thursday Jun 22	9:30am* Mass @ St Gabriel's
Friday Jun 23	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 Tony Susation, Norm Short, father of Judi Scholtes, Julie Vaz mother of Veronica Vaz, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Justin O'Brien, Danny O'Donnell, Eliakutty Mathew, Elisa Bastianutto, James McDonald, Danny O'Keefe, Tony Hutchinson, and Maria Angelica Cuevas. *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 Mc Kerchar, Ben Melenhorst, Maree Morris, Henry Polo, Joan Riggall, Theresa Rosello, Jerry Templer, Damiano Tripodi, 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.



**R.C.I.A.:** These letters stand for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, the ancient Rite of welcoming people into the Church.

St Michael's Parish warmly invites anyone interested in discovering more about the Catholic faith to attend our meetings on Thursdays, in St Michael's Parish Centre. We start at 7.30pm sharp, and finish by 9.00pm sharp. This year's starting date is July 20th. IF YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO MAY BE INTERESTED, ENCOURAGE THEM TO CONTACT EITHER Susan Grout (0412 671 308) or the Parish Office (5174 2060).

**MICK'S ARMY WORKING BEE:** We will have a working bee next **Wednesday June 21 from 12:30pm** to remove the old furniture out of the old assistant priest apartments at the back of the Parish Centre. Anyone who is free and able to help would be greatly appreciated. Please bring along gloves and masks as it is pretty dirty out there. If anyone has a trailer we could use as well, that would be very helpful!

**BON VOYAGE:** It is with great excitement and a little jealousy that we wish our Religious Education Leaders Sue and Alison, all the very best on their upcoming trip to Jerusalem. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers, as they visit the Holy sites of Jerusalem and study the Gospel of Mark along with other DOSCEL leaders.

This Week's Events	
Tuesday June 20	
7:00pm	Baptism Preparation Meeting, St Michael's Church
Wednesday June 21	
11:00am	Reconciliation, St Michael's Church
12:30pm	Mick's Army Working Bee, Parish Centre
Thursday June 22	
10:30am	Charismatic Prayer Group, Mary MacKillop Room
7:00pm	Risk Management Meeting, Mary MacKillop Room

**BAPTISMS:** This weekend, we welcome for Baptism, **Leo Alexander Jackson**, son of Mitchell and Loryn. Congratulations and welcome to our Parish! The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held on **Tuesday June 20 at 7:00pm** in the Church. Please contact the Parish Office on 5174 2060 if you are interested in attending.



**CONFIRMATION:** Congratulations to all the children who received the sacrament of Confirmation on Friday. We look forward to celebrating with them at the youth mass on Saturday night where they will be presented with their certificates. We will then gather in the Mary MacKillop Hall for pizzas. All are welcome.

**YOUTH MINISTRY:** Our Youth Council will be selling coffees to raise money for the Youth Ministry next term after 9:30am Mass on Sundays. They are currently finetuning their barista skills and working out roster details but will be in touch with more information in the coming weeks...

**WORLD YOUTH DAY UPDATE:** Zahra will be travelling to Portugal for World Youth Day on July 28<sup>th</sup> for 2 weeks. As part of her Pilgrimage, she will be spending time at Fatima and would like to pray for the parishioners of St Michaels as a thank you for all your support. There are some prayer cards in the foyers for you to write your prayers on and she will take them to Fatima and pray for you. She invites you to her commissioning Mass along with the 535 other pilgrims on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July at 11am – 2pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne. This will be the final gathering with Archbishop Peter Comensoli, pilgrims, benefactors, family and friends before the pilgrims make their way to Lisbon.



**MELBOURNE iSTAND YOUTH WEEKEND -** iSTAND Events are for students in year 9 - 12 (age 14-18 yrs) and are a wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow young people in a welcoming environment while learning more about yourself, others and God. This iSTAND Weekend will include activities such as games, group activities, prayer, reflection, testimonies and talks.

**DATE:** Friday 30th June - Sunday 2nd July 2023.

**TIME:** Friday 5.30pm - Sunday 2pm.

**LOCATION:** Don Bosco Retreat Centre, 465 Lysterfield Road, Lysterfield VIC 3156.

**COST:** \$140 inclusive of all food and activities. More information at the following link - <https://www.ymt.com.au/istandevents>



**A VOICE TO PARLIAMENT:** A message from Bishop Charles Gauci of Darwin “As Australians we are at a very important time reflecting on the Voice to

Parliament. I will not tell anyone how to vote, but it is my responsibility as Bishop to encourage you all to be reflective in the light of our faith and Catholic Social Teachings: the Common Good and the Dignity of all People.” Visit <https://indigenousvoice.church/>

As a parish, we will have two opportunities to read and discuss the Uluru Statement from the Heart, which informs the current issue of ‘The Voice’ to parliament. These sessions will be held in the Mary MacKillop Room on **Tuesday June 27**, the first will be after Mass at 10am, and a later session will be available at 7:30pm. We invite anyone who is interested in learning more and sharing their ideas to join us.

**REFUGEE WEEK 2023- Online Prayer Service:** The Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office and the Office of Justice Ecology and Peace invite you to an online prayer service to commemorate Refugee Week from 18 to 24 June. The theme of Refugee Week 2023 is **Finding Freedom**. The prayer service will be broadcast live at **7pm AEST on 20 June**.

Please register now at <https://bit.ly/RWPS23>

For further information and registration, please check out their website at <https://acmro.catholic.org.au/>

**FIND YOUR PATH AT CTC:** Mid Year Enrolments are now open through the Catholic Theological College and the University of Divinity. Whether you want to equip yourself for ministry or pastoral work, or take your career in Catholic School Education or Church agency work to the next level; whether you have a burning desire for theological study and research or want simply to deepen and enrich your faith, CTC has the right path for you. An Online Information Session will be held on Monday June 19 at 730pm, visit [ctc.edu.au](http://ctc.edu.au) for more information.



**LAUDATO SI' ACTION PLAN 2023-2025:** The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, in its 2021-2022 Social Justice Statement: Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor, made a commitment to develop a Laudato Si' Action Plan. This plan aligned with Pope Francis' landmark encyclical, Laudato Si', issued on May 24, 2015, which calls for an ecological conversion in response to the ecological crises faced by our planet. The Bishops Conference launched its plan on June 5, World Environment Day.

To access the plan visit <https://tinyurl.com/f49xamyf>.



**St Laurence's Parish Centre  
Leongatha  
Sunday June 25  
2:00pm – 4:00pm**

**LABOURERS FOR THE HARVEST**

*‘The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.’ (Mt 9:37-38)*

Bishop Greg has called for the young men of our Parishes of the Diocese to come to St Laurence's Leongatha on Sunday 25th June at 2:00pm, particularly those who sense a call from God to life as a priest. Or, who simply want to come and enquire. It will be an opportunity to meet and greet those living the life, to pray with them and have questions answered. There will be similar events at Warragul and Berwick in coming months. For all of us, the invitation from Jesus remains, to keep praying for those who are called to be labourers for the harvest.

**INVITATION TO A WINTER CONCERT:** Following the success, and enjoyment by so many, of last year's *first* Winter Concert, the St Jarlath's church community at Yarragon again invites parishioners to a *second Winter Concert* featuring Irish-Australian singer, songwriter, story teller Maria Forde. The venue is again at St Jarlath's Catholic Church, Rollo Street, Yarragon on Friday, July 21st, from 7:00pm. Space is limited so reserve a seat early at: [trafalgar@cdsale.org.au](mailto:trafalgar@cdsale.org.au) or phone the Trafalgar parish office: 03 5633 1166. Entry is by a contribution (generous we hope!!) to the St Jarlath's Church Refurbishment Appeal. A delicious supper will be offered in the hall at interval. Everyone is welcome.

*All of us are able to give without expecting anything in return, to do good to others without demanding that they treat us well in return. As Jesus told his disciples: “Without cost you have received, without cost you are to give.” (Mt 10:8)*

*Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti*

**STEWARDSHIP MATTERS:**

*“As you go, make this proclamation: ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’” Matthew 10:7*

Many of us take our lives for granted. We think we have plenty of time to “repent.” Maybe we should live with a little more urgency in making things right with God. This is the difference in living our discipleship out of obligation versus out of love. Obligation implies we do the minimum required. Love implies we want a relationship. God wants us to be with Him in Heaven forever, but He also wants to be in relationship with us right now, while we are on earth. Start this second – invite the Lord into your heart.

Rosters for June 24 & 25, 2023		12th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A		
	Lector	Commentator	Usher/Welcomer	Musicians
<b>Saturday June 24 5:00pm</b>	A Taylor & B O'Brien	S Grout	A Membrey	Diamente Family
<b>Sunday June 25 9:30am</b>	M Hansen & J Dal Pra	C McCabe	M Wilkinson & W Banks-Smith	Jane & Simon
<b>Sunday June 25 5:00pm</b>	E Harte	C Hill	T Biancon	Jane & Simon
Church Cleaning:	June 17	Hanratty Family Group		
Touring Statue of Our Lady:	June 18	P & J Dal Pra	June 25	N & L Limbom
<i>Mick's Kitchen:</i>	June 22	Cartledge Team	June 29	St Michael's Staff



**Entrance Antiphon**

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help.

Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

**First Reading**

Ex 19:2-6

A reading from the book of Exodus

*You will be a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation.*

From Rephidim the Israelites set out again; and when they reached the wilderness of Sinai, there in the wilderness they pitched their camp; there facing the mountain Israel pitched camp.

Moses then went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Say this to the House of Jacob, declare this to the sons of Israel, "You yourselves have seen what I did with the Egyptians, how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. From this you know that now, if you obey my voice and hold fast to my covenant, you of all the nations shall be my very own, for all the earth is mine. I will count you a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation."' "

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 99:2-3. 5. R. v.3

**(R.) We are his people: the sheep of his flock.**

1. Cry with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Serve the Lord with gladness.

Come before him, singing for joy. (R.)

2. Know that he, the Lord, is God.

He made us, we belong to him,

we are his people, the sheep of his flock. (R.)

3. Indeed, how good is the Lord,

eternal his merciful love.

He is faithful from age to age. (R.)

**Second Reading**

Rom 5:6-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*We have been reconciled to God through the death of his Son; we are saved by his life.*

We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Mk 1:15

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*The kingdom of God is near;*

*repent and believe the Good News!*

*Alleluia!*

**Gospel**

Mt 9:36 – 10:8

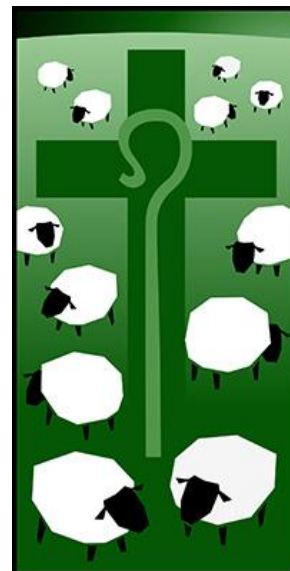
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*He summoned his twelve disciples, and sent them out.*

When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.' He summoned his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness.

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, the one who was to betray him. These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them as follows:

'Do not turn your steps to pagan territory, and do not enter any Samaritan town; go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge.'

**Next weeks Readings****12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading Jeremiah 20:10-13

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Romans 5:12-15

Gospel Matthew 10:26-33