



## 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 Officers Shane Reid or Sally Darby 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

### “Lord! Save me!” Weekly Reflection By: Fr. Mark Hughes

“Lord, save me” is a desperate cry of a man facing a difficult moment in life.

A familiarity of the high seas turned unfamiliar in the darkness of the night. Tossed by the waves of the raging sea, Peter's cry is met with a consoling rebuke “man of little faith, why did you doubt?” A momentary lapse of faith leads to chaos and confusion in an otherwise vibrant, charismatic person. It has managed to deviate his focus to the problem he finds himself sinking in; rather than to the calm in the storm- Jesus.

We have been where Peter was. Life often throws us a similar curve ball when it is least expected. When we are vulnerable and at our lowest point, we do find ourselves battling the high seas having stepped out of our secure boat. So, it would seem! Disappointment and discouragement, suffering and sorrow, insecurity and anxiety leave us feeling isolated from all the good things which were once familiar. Jesus assures us that we are never alone. When our vision is obscured or grows faint, our cry for saving help is heard by the Lord. He is never far apart from his chosen ones. He is in the midst of our troubles. In our powerlessness he reveals his presence and true identity- “it is I,” he speaks of himself. Reassuring us of his presence with us- Emmanuel- God with us ever close to us.

We, the collective “little faith”

draw together as the church.

We gather in the outstretched

arms of the Lord who calls out

“come.” To come just as we are

not as we see ourselves but as

he sees us. No pretense, no

false impersonations, in our

vulnerability; we are invited to

come to the Lord. To look to

him and not be afraid. His call

tugs at our heart to seek him in

faith and trust. To reach out and

know his hand is already

extended reaching out to ours.

So come and come time again

to the Lord if you must. Reach

out and take his hand.

I draw this reflection to a close

with the poem of Helen Steiner

Rice titled “Never be

discouraged”

### “Never be discouraged”

There is really nothing we need know

Or even try to understand

If we refuse to be discouraged

And trust God's guiding hand,

So, take heart and meet each minute

With faith in God's great love,

Aware that everyday of life

Is controlled by God above,

And never dread tomorrow

Or what the future brings

Just pray for strength and courage

And trust God in all things,

And never grow discouraged-

Be patient and just wait,

For God never comes too early

And He never comes too late.

Amen

Sunday Mass Times		
Saturday	5:00pm	Mass
Sunday	9:30am	Mass
	5:00pm	Mass
Weekday Mass Times		
Tuesday Aug 15	9:30am	Mass with St Gabriel's PS
	10:45am	Liturgy at Margery Cole
	11:30am	Mass with St Michael's PS
Wednesday Aug 16	12:00pm-	Funeral Prayers Nicholas Lowden
Thursday Aug 17	9:30am*	Mass
Friday Aug 18	9:30am	Mass
	130pm	Requiem Mass Audrey Sherry

- **There will be no reconciliation or exposition this week and no mass held on Wednesday.**

**\*Mass this Thursday will be held at St Michael's Church NOT St Gabriel's Primary School.**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** those who have died recently including Nicholas Lowden, Audrey Sherry, Tony Duyndam, Trevor Lay, Rosa Doganieri, Maureen Metcalf, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Nessie Dal Pra, Roger King, Jessie Pereira, Tony Camilliu, Rita Sweeney, Veronica Thomson and Vivienne Descent. *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, Sharon Veleff, George Walkan, Roy Ward, Victoria Rohli, Fr John Speekman, James Whitty, Kelly Maher, John Waanders, Peter Dal Pra, Jane Eric, Rose Xuereb and Manuel Xuereb and all those we hold dear in our hearts.

Please let the office know if you, or anyone you know would like a visit from one of our parishioners, Fr Peter or Deacon Tony. We can also arrange for someone to take communion to those at home or hospital if required.

**TOURING STATUE OF OUR LADY:** Places are available for parishioners to join our touring lady roster. It is a wonderful opportunity for families and parishioners to welcome Mary into their home. Please contact the parish office if you would like more information or to add your name to the roster.



**CONGRATULATIONS DEACON TONY!**

This Tuesday August 15 as we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of Mary, we also celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of

Deacon Tony's ordination to the diaconate. He is a much loved leader of our parish who takes great care of both our spiritual and physical needs. Thank you Deacon Tony, and congratulations on reaching this special milestone. We are so glad you are a part of our parish and we are grateful for all that you do! We look forward to celebrating this special time with you in the coming weeks.

This Week's Events	
<b>Tuesday August 15</b> <b>Th Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>	
9:30am	Parish Mass with St Gabriel's PS Gr 3-6, St Michael's Church
10:45am	Liturgy at Margery Cole, 1 Matthews Cres, Traralgon
11:30am	Whole School Mass with St Michael's PS, St Michael's Church
<b>Wednesday August 16</b>	
12:00pm	Funeral Prayers for Nicholas Lowden, St Michael's Church
<b>Thursday August 17</b>	
10:30am	Charismatic Prayer Group, Mary MacKillop Room
<b>Friday August 18</b>	
9:30am	Parish Mass with St Michael's Grade 3-4, St Michael's Church
1:30pm	Requiem Mass for Audrey Sherry, St Michael's Church

**BAPTISMS:** This weekend we welcome for Baptism **Nora Maselli**, daughter of Andrew and Jessica, and **Pia Mary Beasley**, daughter of Christopher and Samantha. Congratulations and welcome to our parish! The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held on Tuesday September 05 at 7:00pm in the Church. Please contact the Parish Office on 5174 2060 if you are interested in attending.



**RCIA- RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:** St Michael's Parish warmly invites anyone interested in discovering more about the Catholic faith to join our Tuesday night RCIA group. If you, or anyone you know may be interested in attending or learning more, please register your details with the parish office.

**BAPTISM PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN:**



Have you ever thought about Baptising your school aged child? Enrolments are now open for our Term 3 program. Two workshops will be held on Sunday August 27 and Sunday September 03 after the 930am mass, with the sacrament of Baptism celebrated the following weekend on the 10<sup>th</sup> of September. At least one parent must be a baptised Catholic and journey with their child. Please contact Cath or Jen in the parish office for more information or to enrol your child.

**YOUTH MINISTRY:** Join our J-Walkers after 9:30am mass this Sunday as they continue walking with Jesus. Hot drinks and tasty treats will be available to purchase from the **Mary MacKillop Hall**, with all funds raised going towards the youth ministry. They will also be leading our mass next Sunday at 930am, so please come along and show your support!

**VOLUNTEERS:** Thank you to all our volunteers for their ongoing support of our parish. It is important that all our volunteers have a current Working With Children Check, and that they have signed a copy of our parish code conduct form. We are very happy to help volunteers update their card details or apply for a new one if required. Call the parish office to make an appointment.

**TRINITY FAMILIES GRANTS:** Charities providing services for families in the region covered by the Catholic Diocese of Sale are invited to apply to the Catholic Charity, Trinity Families, for 2023 project funding. To be eligible to apply there are three criteria an applicant must be able to demonstrate:-

1. They must be a registered charity with deductible gift recipient status (DGR)
2. Any funds granted must be used to support families in a way which aligns with Catholic values
3. The project must be within the defined area of the municipalities of Cardinia, Casey, Baw Baw, Latrobe, Wellington, Bass Coast, South Gippsland and East Gippsland.

Charities wishing to apply for funding are encouraged to download the fillable application form and send it back. Deadline for submission is 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

Further information is available on the website [www.trinityfamilies.org.au](http://www.trinityfamilies.org.au) or by email at [trinity@sale.catholic.org.au](mailto:trinity@sale.catholic.org.au)



**MISSION: TRANSFORM LIVES- THEIRS... AND YOURS:**

Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills and knowledge with those who have few other chances for training. Build enduring global relationships while assisting sustainable, self-reliant, community development. An online information session will be held on September 14 at 6pm, visit the website for more details. On our website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. For more information visit [palms.org.au](http://palms.org.au) or request an information pack from [palms@palms.org.au](mailto:palms@palms.org.au)

**ECUMENICAL PRAYER VIGIL:** Catholic communities around the world have been invited to host an ecumenical prayer vigil on the weekend of September 30 - October 1 in solidarity with a major international gathering in Rome ahead of the first session of the Synod on Synodality. Fifteen people from Australia will be participating in the Synod, and they have asked for the Catholic community's prayers as they prepare for their important task. A prayer vigil would be a great way to respond to their request, and to gather with Christian sisters and brothers in our shared faith. Find out more and register your vigil at: <https://together2023.net/>

**COME AND SEE- A CALL TO THE PRIESTHOOD:** Bishop Greg has called for the young men of our Diocese to come to St. Joseph's Parish Warragul this Sunday August 13, 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 all your questions answered.

**St Joseph's Parish, Warragul: Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup> 2 – 4pm**

**EXCITING NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE:** "In recent months, Bishop Greg Bennet, with members of the Gaudium et Spes Committee, have been discussing the establishment of a Diocesan Mission Council (DMC). This Council has the task of assisting the Bishop in investigating, discerning and proposing practical priorities and strategies for the development of the Diocese's mission and pastoral life. In August and September, Priests and Parish Pastoral Councils will be meeting to give feedback on the DMC's Role and Statutes. In coming weeks, more information will be provided about this important leadership body.

**OUR CONDOLENCES:** The parish community of St Joseph's Korumburra extend sincere condolences to the Wilkinson and Patterson families and friends. As a mark of their support they will be opening the church on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August from 9:30am until 4:00pm. They invite anyone who would care to join them to drop in during this time for prayer and reflection.

**A HISTORY OF THE GIPPSLAND CATHOLIC DIOCESE:** A history of the diocese entitled *A Mass Kit in the Saddle Bag*, written by Patrick Morgan, is now available. Catholics were settling in Gippsland from 1837 for a half century before the diocese of Sale was set up in 1887. The book includes a bibliography, lists of parishes and priests, and over fifty photographs. The diocesan history can be purchased for \$25, plus \$5 postage, from Patrick Morgan, 610 Limonite Rd, Boolarra, Vic, 3870; email: [morganpa@iprimus.co.au](mailto:morganpa@iprimus.co.au); phone: 51 596 216.

**STEWARDSHIP MATTERS:**

*"He said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus." (Matthew 14:29)*

When you hear Jesus calling, do you respond immediately and trust that He knows what He's doing? If so, you are walking on water! When we say "yes" to Jesus, we feel the power of His presence in our lives. We can feel the freedom it gives us! Listen to how Jesus is calling you to live the extraordinary life He has intended for you.

Rosters for August 19 & 20, 2023		20 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A		
	Lector	Commentator	Usher/Welcomer	Musicians
Saturday Aug 12 5:00pm	S & S Reid	M Noone	A Membrey	Alison, Jeanne & Amanda
Sunday Aug 13 9:30am	Youth Mass	Youth Mass	Youth Mass	Ella & Tanya
Sunday Aug 13 5:00pm	E Harte	B Purcell	M Noone	Jane & Simon
Church Cleaning:	August	Welcomers Team		
Touring Statue of Our Lady:	August 13	V Vaz	August 20	M Munari
<i>Mick's Kitchen:</i>	August 17	St Michael's Staff	August 24	Hemming Team

**Entrance Antiphon** Cf Ps 73:20 19 22 23

*Look to your covenant, O Lord,  
And forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.  
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,  
And forget not the cries of those who seek you.*

**First Reading** 1 Kings 19:9 11-13

A reading from the first book of the Kings  
*Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord God.*

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 144:8-9. 15-18. R. v.16

**(R.) Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation.**

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say,  
a voice that speaks of peace.  
His help is near for those who fear him  
and his glory will dwell in our land. **(R.)**
2. Mercy and faithfulness have met;  
justice and peace have embraced.  
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth  
and justice look down from heaven. **(R.)**
3. The Lord will make us prosper  
and our earth shall yield its fruit.  
Justice shall march before him  
and peace shall follow his steps. **(R.)**

**Second Reading** Rom 9:1-5

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans  
*I would willingly be condemned if it could help my people.*

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

**Gospel Acclamation** Mt 4:4

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
I hope in the Lord,  
I trust in his word.  
Alleluia!*

**Gospel** Matthew 14:22-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew  
*Command me to come to you over the water.*

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

## Next week's Readings

1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Isaiah 56: 1 6-7
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Romans 11:13-15 29-32
Gospel:	Matthew 15:21-28