

## 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



### Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter

Like last week's gospel, this week's story takes place in a region that was outside predominantly Jewish territory. Caesarea Philippi (north of Galilee and in the region of modern day Syria) had long been a centre of pagan worship. It was used originally by the Canaanites as a site of worship; the Greeks built a temple to one of their gods there; in 20 BCE Herod the Great built a temple to Caesar Augustus; and after his death, Herod's son, Phillip, renamed the city Caesarea Phillipi after Tiberius Caesar and himself. It is intriguing that Matthew's gospel chooses such a site as the location for such a significant revelation of faith.

Jesus asks the disciples who people say he is. They report that people associate Jesus with one of the great prophets of Jewish tradition. By people identifying Jesus with other great prophets they were projecting Jesus into the same mould as that prophet. What they were saying was that Jesus will be a great leader in the style of John the Baptist, or Elijah or even Jeremiah. The expectation of a messiah was running very high at the time of Jesus and everyone had their own idea about what that messiah would be like – usually aligned with some previous leader. They didn't seem to understand that Jesus was breaking the mould and was not going to fit in with any of those expectations. To see him as one of the great prophets come again is always going to be an inadequate understanding of Jesus as messiah. When Jesus pushes the disciples for their own ideas, it is Simon Peter who speaks up and identifies Jesus as being the Son of the living God. Making a play on Peter's name (in Greek, petros = Peter and petra = rock), Jesus states that hereafter, Simon Peter will be known as Peter and upon the rock of his profession of faith the church will be built.

Living the Gospel ... Who do YOU say I am?

The question that Jesus asks the disciples is a question he asks of all of us. How we answer that question reflects our relationship with Jesus. But more importantly, how we answer that question reflects the way we live our life in response to who we believe Jesus to be. If we truly say that we believe in Jesus as the son of God, then how do we live our lives in such a way that we act on that belief? The gospel shows us that an inadequate answer to that question leads to missing the point of all that Jesus is.

Sunday Mass Times		
Saturday	5:00pm	Mass
Sunday	9:30am	Mass
	5:00pm	Mass
Weekday Mass Times		
Tuesday Aug 29	9:30am	Mass
Wednesday Aug 30	11:00am	Reconciliation
	11:00am	Exposition
	12:00pm	Mass
Thursday Aug 31	9:30am*	Mass
Friday Sep 01	9:30am	Mass

**\*Mass this Thursday will be held at St Michael's Church. Please join Fr Aju and the children of St Gabriel's to celebrate Father's Day.**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** those who have died recently including Marj Gilbert, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Alba Cabbai, David Noon, Marie Howard, Joan Hanratty, Carmen Cook, Veronica Smith and Joan Bermingham.



*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, 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 Aju or Deacon Tony. We can also arrange for someone to take communion to those at home or hospital if required.

**THANK YOU FROM DEACON TONY AND JUNE ASPINALL:** Both June and myself wish to say thankyou to all concerned for a wonderful day last Sunday. There are many people to thank but especially Cath Hill and Jen Hanratty who were the prime movers, as they so often are. They are a force for good in the Parish. None of it would have happened without them.

We thank Adriana for the most beautiful cake, a definite prize winner! Once again the youth group (J-Walkers) brought their enthusiasm to the whole mass and celebrations, many thanks. Thankyou also to the many people who gave such good wishes to us. Not forgetting of course the beautiful flowers for June and the beautiful hamper.

Thankyou to St Michael's Parish for your support and goodwill.

**CHURCH CLEANING:** Come along this Wednesday at 1:00pm to help our Welcomer's Team clean our church. There are lots of jobs to go around, so the more helpers the better!

**The office will be closed on Wednesday August 30 due to a staff training day. We will be back from 9am Thursday.**



This Week's Events	
Tuesday August 29	
10:00am	Catholic Women's League, Mary MacKillop Room
6:00pm	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, Mary MacKillop Room
Wednesday August 30	
11:00am	Reconciliation, St Michael's Church
1:00pm	Church Cleaning, St Michael's Parish
Thursday August 31	
9:30am	St Gabriel's PS Whole School Mass, St Michael's Church
10:30am	Charismatic Prayer Group, Mary MacKillop Room

**BAPTISMS:** 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:** This weekend we welcome our school children who are preparing for baptism on the 10<sup>th</sup> of September. They will participate in workshops this weekend and next weekend as part of the preparation process. Please keep them and their families in your prayers during this special time.

**FIRST COMMUNION:** Enrolments are now open for children wishing to prepare for the Sacrament of First Communion. Any child in Grade 4 or above who has been baptised and has celebrated their first reconciliation is able to enrol. First Communion will be celebrated at parish masses on the weekend of November 25/26. A parent information night will be held in the St Michael's Church on Wednesday October 25 at 6pm. Please contact Jen at [sacraments@smpt.org.au](mailto:sacraments@smpt.org.au) for more information or to receive an enrolment form.



Enrolments are due at the end of the term, by **Saturday September 16.**

**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 from the **Mary MacKillop Hall**, with all funds raised going towards the youth ministry.

**WELCOME BACK:** We welcome Father Aju back this weekend, and look forward to hearing all about his holiday. A HUGE thank you to Father Peter and Deacon Tony for looking after us and our parish while he was away. A special thank you to our parishioners as well who have stepped up and helped support Father Peter and Deacon Tony during this time and for taking on extra responsibilities while Father Aju has been away.

**PRIESTS' WELFARE FOUNDATION FATHER'S DAY APPEAL:** This Fund supports the priests and deacons of our diocese in times of sickness or retirement. At present the Foundation is supporting nine priests and three deacons in retirement and is responsible for the other priests, including our overseas priests, and deacons in time of sickness. The budgeted expenditure of the Foundation for them over the next year will be about \$400,000.

Special Collection Envelopes are available from both the Church St and Kay St entrances, and a leaving collection will be taken up next weekend, so please give generously. All funds raised will go directly to the Priests' Welfare Foundation of the Diocese of Sale and used to support our priests and deacons in times of sickness and during their retirement. All donations of \$2.00 and over are tax deductible. If you require a receipt for taxation purposes, please print your name and address clearly on the special envelope and a receipt will be issued in due course.

# Taizé under the southern cross



**St Michael's Church Traralgon  
Tuesday September 12 @ 12:30pm**

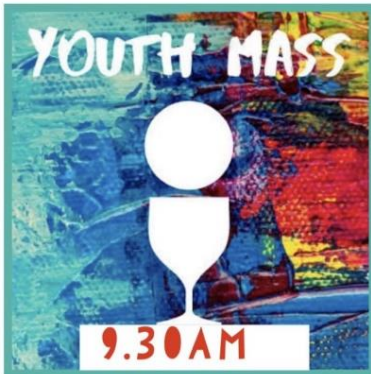
The Grade 6 students from Saint Michael's and Saint Gabriel's Primary Schools join together with the Lavalla Liturgical Choir to sing and pray for their needs and the needs of those they love. **Come and Join them!**

**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 and speak to Cath or Jen to make an appointment.

**SEASON OF CREATION:** Catholic communities nationwide are invited to join the online launch of the Season of Creation, the annual ecumenical celebration of prayer and action for "our common home" Details and registrations for the online launch: <https://www.trybooking.com/CJUOQ>.

## ST MICHAEL'S PARISH TRARALGON

**SUNDAY 10TH SEPT**

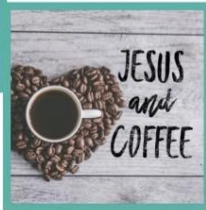


Your invited to our next Youth Mass

Learn to ..  
read  
altar  
serve  
money  
collect  
spread Gods  
JOY!

**9.30 AM**

J-Walkers Coffee  
Cart open after  
Mass in Hall



**CONTACT JEN. 51742060 /SACRAMENTS@SMPT.ORG.AU**

**Next youth mass - 19th Nov 5pm**

**LISTEN, LEARN, LOVE:** The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has launched its 2023-24 Social Justice Statement. This year's statement is titled *Listen, Learn, Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples*. "Strengthening our relationship with our First Peoples is integral and indeed critical to the strengthening of the whole nation," Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv said at the launch. The media release and the statement can be found at the diocesan website at [cdsale.catholic.org.au](http://cdsale.catholic.org.au).



**STEWARDSHIP MATTERS:**  
*"Or who has given the Lord anything that he may be repaid?" (Romans 11:35)*  
 St. Paul reminds us of a central fact of stewardship. We cannot give the Lord anything - God already owns it all. God made everything. All we can do is return a portion of God's many gifts back to Him. Sincere gratitude for our gifts opens our hearts to joyful generosity! Through your generous sharing, you just may be the answer to someone's prayer..

Rosters for September 02 & 03, 2023		22 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A		
	Lector	Commentator	Usher/Welcomer	Musicians
<b>Saturday Sep 02 5:00pm</b>	J Panozzo-Tile	M Noone	C Payne	
<b>Sunday Sep 03 9:30am</b>	U & E Imhagwe	M Wilkinson	D Bau & A Sykes	Filipino Choir
<b>Sunday Sep 03 5:00pm</b>	V Vaz & S Harikrishna	Volunteer	J McLaughlin	Jane & Simon
Church Cleaning:	September	Volunteers		
Touring Statue of Our Lady:	August 27	M Munari	September 03	B Wilksch
<i>Mick's Kitchen:</i>	August 31	Scholtes Team	September 07	Burns Team

**Entrance Antiphon** Cf Ps 85:1-3

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;  
save the servant who trusts in you, my God.  
Have mercy on me, O Lord,  
for I cry to you all the day long.

**First Reading** Isaiah 22:19-23

*I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.*

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:

I dismiss you from your office,  
I remove you from your post,  
and the same day I call on my servant  
Eliakim son of Hilkiyah.  
I invest him with your robe,  
gird him with your sash,  
entrust him with your authority;  
and he shall be a father  
to the inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and to the House of Judah.  
I place the key of the House of David  
on his shoulder;  
should he open, no one shall close,  
should he close, no one shall open.  
I drive him like a peg  
into a firm place;  
he will become a throne of glory  
for his father's house.

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 137:1-3 6 8 Rv8

**(R.) Lord, your love is eternal;  
do not forsake the work of your hands.**

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,  
you have heard the words of my mouth.  
Before the angels I will bless you.  
I will adore before your holy temple. **(R.)**
2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love  
which excel all we ever knew of you.  
On the day I called, you answered;  
you increased the strength of my soul. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly  
and the haughty he knows from afar.  
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,  
discard not the work of your hands. **(R.)**

Next week's Readings:  
22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading:	Jeremiah 20:7-9
Second Reading:	Romans 12:1-2
Gospel:	Matthew 16:21-27

**Second Reading** Rom 11:33-36

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans  
*From him, through him, and in him are all things.*

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

**Gospel Acclamation** Mt 16:18

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my  
Church;  
the gates of hell will not hold out against it.  
Alleluia!*

**Gospel** Matthew 16:13-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew  
*You are Peter, to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.*

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

