

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: Fr Aju Varghese, Deacon Tony Aspinall, Ben Kennedy, Brett Van Berkel, Cath Hill, Cathy McLure, Elizabeth Joseph, Jenifer Hanratty, Jodie Ware, Judi McLaughlin (chairperson), Kim Zerafa, Michael Hansen (deputy chairperson), Michelle Charlton, and Roy Varghese.

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



St Michael's Parish Pastoral Council 2024

(back from left) Brett Van Berkel, Fr Aju Varghese, Cath Hill (Secretary), Judi McLaughlin (Chairperson), Michelle Charlton, Jodie Ware, Michael Hansen (Deputy Chairperson), Ben Kennedy, (front from left) Roy Varghese, Cathy McLure, Kim Zerafa, Jenifer Hanratty, Elizabeth Joseph, absent Deacon Tony Aspinall.

On Tuesday evening our new Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) met for their first official meeting of 2024. A wide and varied agenda was covered as our members enjoyed two hours of robust discussion and parish news. We reflected on the Gospel of Mark and noted how Jesus took care of the needs of the community and used the available assets for the good of the whole. That as a community gathered, we are surrounded by miracles everyday, that apostles are all around us, creating miracles all the time. It was agreed that while our resources may be limited, our faith is great and we are looking forward to supporting our parish as it renews and rebuilds in the coming months and years. Together we prayed:

Unison Prayer- Ruth Harvey

Lead us on our journey

From who we are to who you want us to be;

So that patience is built into us,

Kindness is assumed in us,

Gentleness is part of us,

Compassion flows from us,

Truth is second nature to us,

And the commitment of love is part of us.

Let us go gladly on the journey towards Easter-

The journey towards death and resurrection.

Let us journey in the peace and power of the Spirit. Amen

Sunday Mass Times		
Saturday	5:00pm	Mass
Sunday	9:30am	Mass
	5:00pm	Mass
Weekday Mass Times		
Tuesday Mar 19	9:30am	Mass
	10:45am	Mass @ Margery Cole
Wednesday Mar 20	11:00am	Reconciliation
	11:00am	Exposition
	12:00pm	Mass
Thursday Mar 21	9:30am	Mass*
Friday Mar 22	9:30am	Mass

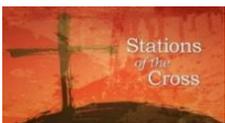
***This Thursday Mass will be held at St Gabriel's Primary School, parishioners are warmly invited and encouraged to join us.**

PLEASE PRAY FOR: those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Myra King, Wil Waanders, John Melenhorst, Anna Maria DiCiero, Tony Buhagiar, and Rocchina Della Fortuna. *Lord, let your perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*



WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: including Bernadette Formaran, Fr Frank Freeman, Carolyn Gleeson, Jacqui Granville, Barbara Greaves, Ellen Hammond, Robert Hazelman, Imogen Hillier, Joyce Martin, Ivy May, Deborah Mckerchar, Ben Melenhorst, Maree Morris, Henry Polo, Joan Riggall, Theresa Rosello, Jerry Templer, Damiano Tripodi, George Walkan, Roy Ward, Victoria Rohli, James Whitty, John Waanders, Peter Dal Pra, Jane Eric, Rose Xuereb, Manuel Xuereb, Peter Lorinc, Don Barnes, Paul Laurie 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.*

FR ROB GALEA: Wow! What a busy week we have had here at St Michael's! It has been a pleasure and a privilege to host Fr Rob Galea from ICON Ministries. His testimony, music and love of God has been an inspiration to us all, from our primary school children and teachers to our eldest parishioners. Thank you so much to Sue for organising and leading the event, and to Jodie and Michelle, our parish primary school principals, for saying yes. A special thanks must go to our parishioners who showed their love and support for our parish and their faith by giving Fr Rob a chance and trying something new. Our church has never been as alive and joyful as it was Thursday night. So thank you to everyone who made it happen.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS Fridays during Lent @ 7pm in the Church

Thank you to our RCIA team for leading our Stations of the Cross this week. We look forward to the Hanratty family group leading next week's stations.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR: Join us for praise and worship, guest speakers and testimonies, prayer and sharing.

**St Michael's Church, 10:30am Thursdays
April 04 - May 09.**

Contact the parish office for more information or to register your interest.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS:	
Tuesday March 19	
10:45am	Margery Cole Hostel Mass, Margery Cole, Yallambee Village
Wednesday March 20	
11:00am	Reconciliation, St Michael's Church
Thursday March 21	
9:30am	Parish Mass with St Gabriel's PS G1 & 2 St Gabriel's Primary School Chapel
10:30am	Charismatic Prayer Group, Mary MacKillop Room
Friday March 22	
9:30am	Parish Mass with St Michael's PS St Michael's Church
7:00pm	Stations of the Cross, St Michael's Church

BAPTISMS: This weekend we welcome for baptism **Maddison Ava Hammill** and **Ruby Ana Hammill**, daughters of Carlee and James, and **Charlotte Eve Spence**, daughter of Danielle and Dylan. Congratulations and welcome to our parish! Our next Baptism Preparation meeting will be held on **Tuesday April 09 at 7pm** in the church. Please contact the parish office for more information and to register your interest.



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS: Please remember to keep Jun, Adriana and Phillipe in your prayers as they continue their journeys to Easter and the re-affirming of their baptismal vows. Thank you to their sponsors, families and our RCIA team for their ongoing encouragement and support. You are invited to supper in the Mary MacKillop Hall after the Easter Vigil on **Saturday March 30 at 7:30pm** to help them celebrate. Please bring along a plate to share.



YOUTH NEWS: Join us for a cappuccino or hot chocolate this **Sunday March 17** after the 9:30am Mass at the J-Walkers Coffee Cart in the Mary MacKillop Hall. All money raised goes towards supporting our Youth Ministry. Our next Youth Mass will be held on **Palm Sunday, March 23 at 5:00pm**. We invite you to come along and support our young ones as they learn and lead the different parts of the mass. We also encourage you to bring along your children and grandchildren to come along and join in.



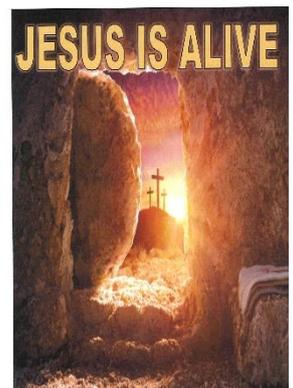
A DAY WITH THE SPIRIT

Saturday April 06

10am – 4pm

Mary MacKillop Hall,
St Michael's Traralgon

Including talks and Mass with Fr Francis Otobo and Fr Mark Hughes. Invite your friends to a wonderful day of worship, teaching and fellowship. All welcome, BYO Lunch.





PARTNERSHIP IN ACTION: The work of Caritas Australia is only possible with the dedication, passion and tenacity of our local partners who implement the programs. They are the heroes on the ground, working tirelessly behind-the-scenes every day to create a better future for their communities.

Caritas Australia partners with the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ) to support communities living in urban slums in the Philippines. FCJ runs a number of programs that include house renovating, food processing, basic literacy skills, urban gardening, upcycling and income generating activities. They also have a clinic visited weekly by a doctor and community nurse.

Caritas Australia partners with Caritas Samoa to assist communities to have increased access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene to ensure human health and well-being by providing water tanks and sanitation facilities.

Caritas Australia partners with the Catholic Development Commission in Malawi through the A+ program. Since 2016, the A+ program has helped 7,397 families across Malawi improve their food security, access to basic water and sanitation, boost women's income generation and strengthen child protection.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, **for all future generations**. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from the parish office or the church foyers, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.



Photo: Richard Wainwright
Caritas Australia

Holy Week 2024

PALM SUNDAY Sunday March 24

(Procession 9:30am & 5pm)

PARISH RECONCILIATION Tuesday March 26 - 6pm

TENEBRAE SERVICE Wednesday March 27 - 7:30pm

HOLY THURSDAY Thursday March 28 - 7:30pm

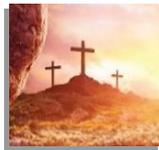
GOOD FRIDAY Friday March 29 - 3pm

(Stations of the Cross @ 9:30am)

EASTER VIGIL Saturday March 30 - 7:30pm

EASTER SUNDAY Sunday March 31 - 9:30am

(no evening mass)



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Parishioners who would like to help organise or take part in our Holy Week Masses should contact the parish office. We would love to have more people involved as there are many tasks and roles to share and we all have different talents.

PALM SUNDAY: Next weekend we celebrate Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week. Our Sunday morning mass at 9:30am will begin in the school yard before processing into the church as Jesus did as he entered Jerusalem. You are invited to join us in the school yard, or in the church after the procession, whatever you are more comfortable with.

INVITATION TO THE ANNUAL CHRISM MASS: All people of the Diocese of Sale are invited to attend the annual Chrism Mass on Tuesday of Holy Week 2024. This ancient and symbolically rich liturgy manifests the unity of the priests of the Diocese with Bishop Greg as they renew their priestly promises. During the liturgy, Bishop Greg will bless the three Holy Oils (the Oil of Catechumens, the Oil of the Sick and the Oil of the Holy Chrism) which will be used in the celebration of the sacraments throughout the Diocese for the year. The Chrism Mass is a great way to come to a deeper appreciation of the sacramental life of the Church.

Details: 11.00am Tuesday, 26th March 2024

Venue: St Mary's Cathedral

Address: 47 Foster St, Sale, 3850



YOU ARE INVITED TO
CHRISM MASS

Join Bishop Greg Bennet and the
Clergy of our Diocese
at St Mary's Cathedral, Sale
on Tuesday, 26th March 2024
at 11.00 am.

STEWARDSHIP MATTERS:

*"I will be their God and they shall be my people."
- Jeremiah 31:33*

What does it mean to be God's people? It means we recognize that everything we have and everything we are belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given us. It means we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for our family, our neighbors and for people we don't know, just as God cares for each of us.

Rosters for March 23 & 24, 2024			Palm Sunday, Year B	
	Lector	Commentator	Usher/Welcomer	Musicians
Saturday Mar 23 5:00pm	B O'Brien & A Taylor	B Purcell	L Kennedy	
Sunday Mar 24 9:30am	C McLure & R Diaz	M Wilkinson	M Blanchard & A Sykes	Diamente Family
Sunday Mar 24 5:00pm	YOUTH MASS	YOUTH MASS	YOUTH MASS	YOUTH MASS
Church Cleaning	March	St Gabriel's School		
Mick's Kitchen	March 21	Hemming Team	March 28	Scholtes Team
Touring Statue of Our Lady	March 17	W & P Watson	March 24	J & D Doherty

First Reading

Jer 31:31-34

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity.

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 50:3-4. 12-15. R. v.12

(R.) Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt.
and cleanse me from my sin. **(R.)**

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **(R.)**

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you. **(R.)**

**Second Reading**

Heb 5:7-9

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 12:26

*Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord;
and where I am, my servant will also be.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!*

Gospel

Jn 12:20-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too.

If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours. 'Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.'

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

Next week's Readings: Palm Sunday	
First Reading:	Isaiah 50:4-7
Second Reading:	Philippians 2:6-11
Gospel:	Mark 14:1 – 15:47