

## 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 Traralgon  
**PENTECOST**  
Sunday  
**SUNDAY 19TH MAY**  
**9.30AM MASS**  
**MULTI-CULTURAL CELEBRATION**

ALL INVITED TO ATTEND IN TRADITIONAL DRESS AND SHOWCASE YOUR CULTURE.

TABLES WILL BE SET UP IN MACKILLOP HALL READY FOR DECORATION AND FOOD. PLEASE CONTACT PARISH OFFICE TO REGISTER YOUR COUNTRY'S TABLE.

PARISH OFFICE  
5174 2060  
SEC@SMPT.ORG.AU

On **Sunday May 19**, 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 parishioners are invited to share 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.

Sunday Mass Times		
Saturday	5:00pm	Mass
Sunday	9:30am	Mass
	5:00pm	Mass
Weekday Mass Times		
Monday May 13	9:30am	Mass
Tuesday May 14	9:30am	Mass
Wednesday May 15	11:00am	Reconciliation
	11:00am	Exposition
	12:00pm	Mass
Thursday May 16	9:30am	Mass*
Friday May 17	09:30am	Mass

*\*Mass this Thursday returns to St Gabriel's Primary School where it will continue on Thursdays at 9:30am for the rest of term. Parishioners are welcome and encouraged to join the students as they celebrate their class masses in the school chapel.*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** those who have died recently including Michael Colantuono, Manuel Xuereb, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Corrie Schalken, Carmen Cook, P J James, Dot Mulquiney, Monica Ainsworth, Ted McEntee, and Dorothy McLean. *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, Victoria Rolih, James Whitty, John Waanders, Peter Dal Pra, Jane Eric, Rose Xuereb, Peter Lorinc, Don Barnes, Paul Laurie, Gus Agostino, Sharon Veleff, Jenny Hansch, Rosemaree Kays, Fr Andrew Wise 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.*



**Sunday May 12, 10:30am**

**Mary MacKillop Hall**

Hosted by the Catholic Women's League, join us as we celebrate our mothers and special people in our lives. All are welcome.

### *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.*

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS:	
Monday May 13	
9:30am	May Devotion in Honour of Mary, Rosary and Mass at St Michael's Church
Tuesday May 14	
5:30pm	Parish Pastoral Council, Mark MacKillop Room
7:30pm	Eucharistic Ministers Training, St Michael's Church
Wednesday May 15	
11:00am	Reconciliation, St Michael's Church
Thursday May 16	
10:30am	Charismatic Prayer Group, Mary MacKillop Room
Friday May 17	
11:30am	St Michael's Whole School Mass, St Michael's Church
Sunday May 19	
10:30am	Pentecost Multicultural Day, Mary MacKillop Hall

**BAPTISMS:** Our next Baptism Preparation meeting will be held on **Tuesday May 21 at 7pm** in the church. Please contact the parish office for more information and to register your interest.



**RCIA:** Have you got Catholic questions? We have Catholic answers! Do you have a question about what Catholics believe or are you considering becoming a Catholic yourself? Come to the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) sessions where we can answer your questions and shed light on what Catholics believe. Please contact the parish office for more information or to register your interest. An information session will be held in the Parish Centre on **Tuesday July 23** from 7:30pm to 9:00pm for anyone interested in learning more about joining the Catholic faith.

**CONFIRMATION:** This weekend we welcome our confirmation candidates and their families as they join us for their Prayer Letter Mass. Please keep our candidates, their families and our sacramental team in your prayers as they journey towards the sacrament of confirmation which will be celebrated on **Friday May 24 at 5:30pm** with Bishop Greg Bennet, here at St Michael's Church.



**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:** Thank you to everyone who joined us on Thursday evening to learn more about the role of Eucharistic Ministers. For those who were unable to attend, we will have another session next **Tuesday May 14 at 7:30pm** in the church. Join us for a refresher of our current practices and training for new and experienced extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist. This is an important and rewarding ministry and we encourage as many of you as possible to come and learn more about it.

**FR PETER'S ANNIVERSARY:** Please join us on **Sunday May 26** to celebrate Father Peter's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We will begin with Mass at St Michael's Church at 12:30pm followed by afternoon tea in the Mary MacKillop Hall. Please RSVP via the trybooking link [trybooking.com/COVIT](http://trybooking.com/COVIT) for catering purposes.

## *News from around the Diocese*

**CLEANING ROSTER:** Thank you to the wonderful parishioners that came along on Wednesday to help clean our church, it is very much appreciated. We will have another session on **Wednesday May 22 at 1pm** in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation celebration on Friday the 24<sup>th</sup>. We would ask anyone who is free and available to come along and help out. There is a job for everyone, from vacuuming, to dusting, to polishing so any help you can give will be very much appreciated. We are still looking for three new teams to join our cleaning roster. If anyone is interested in organising or joining a team, please contact the parish office. Many hands make light work, and you can choose a day and time that suits your team best.

**MAY DEVOTION IN HONOUR OF OUR**

**MOTHER MARY:** Join us **Monday May 13** to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima with Rosary in the church from 9:00am, followed by Mass at 9:30am. After Mass we will move outside to the Grotto to continue our Rosary followed by Morning Tea in the Mary MacKillop Room. Join us as we pray for world peace on the anniversary of the first of six Marian apparitions to three children in Fatima, Portugal in 1917.



**CELEBRATE MARY IN MAY:** May is traditionally dedicated to honouring and seeking the intercession of Mary as the Mother of God and the Mother of the Church. Because she responded yes to the archangel Gabriel, she is our first model of discipleship and our model of grace and trust in God. You can celebrate Mary in May by joining us for the Rosary before each mass here at St Michael's or in the chapel on Saturday mornings from 10am. You can also join us on **Monday May 13**, Feast of Our Lady of Fatima Mass at 9:30am followed by the Rosary in the Grotto, St Michael's Church Traralgon. Our continuous rosary that was to be held on Tuesday May 14 has been cancelled and you are encouraged to join our Lady Of Fatima devotions on May 13 instead.

**STEWARDSHIP MATTERS:**

*"Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God."*

1 JOHN 4:15

How strong is your faith? When you have an opportunity to either defend or clarify a question about our Catholic faith, do you do it? Or, do you remain silent so that others don't think you are weird? Pray for the courage to be strong in all circumstances and to joyfully share your witness with others.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** Bishop Greg Benett has been elected Vice President of Australian Catholic Bishops conference. Bishop of Sale, Greg Bennet, will take on the role after Archbishop of Sydney, Anthony Fisher, retired from the position at the end of the maximum three, two-year terms. "I am pleased to have the opportunity to be vice-president to Archbishop Costelloe whose leadership within conference and broadly across the Church has been so clearly reaffirmed by his re-election," Bishop Bennet said.

**TRINITY FAMILIES APPEAL:** Bishop Greg Bennet has urged the members of the diocese to generously support the annual appeal for Trinity Families, in our parishes this year.

He said "As good stewards of the gifts that God has given us, we must always find a necessary place for those who need our help. To achieve this, Trinity Families Fund needs to continue to grow its funds so that this mission of service can be more effective. It is important to keep at the forefront of our minds that this is our own charity arm specifically set up to serve and support the needs of families in the Greater Gippsland area. While there are many calls upon our donations at this time, what is both worthwhile and unique about Trinity Families is that it is locally based and supports the particular needs of our area."

Bishop Greg urges everyone to give generously to the May 2024 Appeal. Those wanting a receipt for Taxation purposes are asked to use the envelopes available in the church. To donate online, visit <https://sale.cdfpay.org.au/details/?id=622462>

**LAUNCH OF THE DIOCESAN CONSULTATION**

**PROCESS:** Next Sunday May 19, Pentecost Sunday, the Diocesan Consultation Process will be launched in all the parishes of the Diocese of Sale. The Bishop invites all of us to participate in a two-part consultation process of prayer, and attentive listening, to gather ideas on what pastoral initiatives are needed to help our Diocese to become more Christ-centred, synodal and missionary as we together face the opportunities and challenges of our time. Let's pray to the Holy Spirit to inspire and guide our consultation process.



**SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE:** The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. More information and Application Forms are available on their website [pallottine.org.au/svscholarship](http://pallottine.org.au/svscholarship). Applications close July 31.

Rosters for May 18 & 19, 2024			Pentecost Sunday	
	Lector	Commentator	Usher/Welcomer	Musicians
<b>Saturday May 18 5:00pm</b>	R Foote & T Larkin	S Grout	C Payne	Alison, Jeanne & Amanda
<b>Sunday May 19 9:30am</b>	K & L Roy	M Wilkinson	M Blanchard & A Sykes	Jane & Simon
<b>Sunday May 19 5:00pm</b>	E Harte	S Darby	B McNulty	
Church Cleaning	May 22	Volunteers		
Mick's Kitchen	May 16	Scholtes Team	May 23	Burns Team
Touring Statue of Our Lady	May 12	M Ayres	May 19	Lavalla Kildare Campus (J Scholtes)

**First Reading**

Acts 1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.*

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is,' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

**Responsorial Psalm**

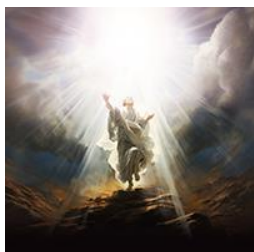
Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6

**(R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:  
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**

All peoples, clap your hands,  
cry to God with shouts of joy!  
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,  
great king over all the earth. **(R.)**

God goes up with shouts of joy;  
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.  
Sing praise for God, sing praise,  
sing praise to our king, sing praise. **(R.)**

God is king of all the earth.  
Sing praise with all your skill.  
God is king over the nations;  
God reigns on his holy throne. **(R.)**

**Second Reading**

Eph 1:17-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

*He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.*

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Mt 28:19. 20

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
Go and teach all people my gospel.  
I am with you always, until the end of the world.  
Alleluia!*

**Gospel**

Mk 16:15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*The Lord Jesus was taken into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God.*

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised is saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

Next weeks Readings: Pentecost Sunday

First Reading:	Acts 2:1-11
Second Reading:	Gal 5:16-25
Gospel:	Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15