



## 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  
Telephone: 5174 9012

**St Michael's Parish Office**  
Telephone: 5174 2060  
Address: 35 Kay Street, Traralgon  
PO Box 103, Traralgon 3844

Office hours – by phone and email  
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

### Christmas Mass Times 2024

**Tuesday Dec 24 Christmas Eve Family Mass 7pm**

*with carols from 6:30pm*

**Tuesday Dec 24 Christmas Eve 'Midnight' Mass 11pm**

*with carols from 10:30pm*

**Wednesday Dec 25 Christmas Day Mass- 9:30am**

*It's the most wonderful time of the year!*

*Calling out all the  
children for our  
Christmas Eve Mass on  
Tuesday 24th of  
December at 6:30pm.*

1st meeting on  
17th of November  
after 9:30am mass

2nd meeting on  
22nd of December  
after 9:30am mass.

RSVP by 15th of  
November

Please contact  
parish office for  
more information

A meeting will be held after the 9:30am mass next Sunday November 17 for all families who would like to take part in the nativity procession at the Christmas Eve Mass on Tuesday December 24 at 6:30pm. All children are welcome and encouraged to take part, there is role for all everyone, regardless of their age or confidence. Please contact the parish office on 5174 2060 or via email sec@smpt.org.au to register your interest.

Sunday Mass Times	
Saturday	5:00pm Mass
Sunday	9:30am Mass 5:00pm Mass
Weekday Mass Times	
Tuesday Nov 12	9:30am Mass 1:30pm Requiem Mass for Anne-Maree Kelly
Wednesday Nov 13	11:00am Reconciliation 11:00am Exposition 12:00pm Mass
Thursday Nov 14	9:30am Mass*
Friday Nov 15	9:30am Mass

\*This Thursday's parish mass will be held at St Gabriel's Primary School with their Year 6 students. All are welcome.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** those who have died recently including Anne-Maree Kelly, Noel O'Hara (Ireland), and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Greg Penny, Nellise Crowe, Mary Gilmour, Alex Abela, and Pat Hanrahan. *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 Roli, James Whitty, Peter Dal Pra, Jane Eric, Rose Xuereb, Don Barnes, Paul Laurie, Gus Agostino, Sharon Veleff, Jenny Hansch, Rosemaree Kays, Fr Andrew Wise, Jaime Mack, Greg Doyle, Valerie Joy Cahill, Nola Fitzsimon 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 the parish.*

### Save the Date! Upcoming Parish Events!

**-Friday November 15:** Come and listen to the J-Walkers as they share their experiences of the Ignite Youth Conference.

**-Sunday November 17:** Join us for coffee and cake in the Mary MacKillop Room after the 9:30am Mass to celebrate Deacon Tony's Birthday.

**-Tuesday November 26:** Catholic Women's League AGM

**-Saturday December 07:** 'Awaken' Youth Mass and Praise and Worship night, all are welcome.

**-Sunday December 15:** Join us for the annual parish picnic in the St Michael's school ground. This is a chance for the parish to get together and celebrate Advent and reflect on the past year.

**RCIA:** Are you, or someone you know interested in becoming a Catholic? Or learning more about the Catholic Faith? Join us on Tuesday nights at 7:30pm, where we can answer your questions and shed light on what Catholics believe. For more information or to register your interest please contact the parish office.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** This weekend we welcome our First Holy Communion Candidates and their families for their Prayer Letter Mass. We look forward to journeying with them in the coming weeks as they prepare for the sacrament of First Holy Communion which will be celebrated at our Parish Masses on the weekend of **November 23 and 24.**

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS:	
Tuesday November 12	
1:30pm	Requiem Mass for Anne-Maree Kelly, St Michael's Church
5:00pm	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, St Vincent de Paul Centre
Wednesday November 13	
11:00am	Reconciliation, St Michael's Church
Thursday November 14	
10:30am	Charismatic Prayer Group, St Michael's Church
Friday November 15	
7:00pm	Ignite Youth Testimony Night, St Michael's Church
Sunday November 17	
10:30am	Coffee Cart & Parish Morning Tea, Mary MacKillop Hall

**BAPTISMS:** This weekend we welcome for baptism, **Ryder Jack Williamson**, son of Trent and Rachel. Congratulations and welcome to our parish!



If you would like to arrange a time for your child's baptism, please contact the parish office for more information and to register your interest.



**YOUTH NEWS:** You are invited to join our J-Walkers on **Friday November 15 at 7pm** in the church as they share their personal experiences of the recent Ignite conference.

It has been great hearing a bit about it at our recent masses and we encourage you to come along and hear more. You are also invited to join us for coffee and cake in the Mary MacKillop Hall next Sunday November 17 after the 9:30am Mass.

**MISSIONARY YEAR:** We are very proud and excited to announce that one of our original J-Walkers, Zahra Hanratty has been accepted into the Net AUS & NZ missionary Team in 2025! Congratulations Zahra! Zahra has been a parishioner at St Michael's Parish most of her life and participated in many ministries including J-Walkers Youth, music roster, reader, commentator, altar server. In 2023 our parish supported her journey to Portugal for World Youth Day and she has felt God calling her to mission ever since. At the Ignite Conference she learned about NET Ministries and felt the Holy Spirit guide her to apply. In January she will travel to Brisbane for a 6 week training period and after that will find out where in Australia or New Zealand she will settle for the remainder of the year. She will live with 5 other young people aged 18-30 and will spend her days supporting other young people in their faith journey in Secondary Schools, Parishes, Youth Groups and Universities. She will share her own experience of Jesus and help other young people encounter God. She needs to fundraise \$6,900 to cover her travel to and from the place she will serve in, food, accommodation, insurance, and any other costs involved in her year of mission. If you would like to sponsor or donate to her year of mission, please contact the Parish office or speak to Zahra directly. All proceeds from this month's J-Walkers Coffee cart on November 17 will go towards Zahra's mission year. Our Parish is producing fruit and we are excited to continue supporting our young people discover the love of Jesus.

**NOVEMBER PRAYERS:** It is our tradition to pray for those who have died and gone before us, especially in the month of November. Envelopes for November Prayer Offerings are available in both foyers and can be placed in the collection bowl or given to Father Aju directly.

You are also invited to write the name of the ones you wish to remember in prayer on the separate cards you will find in the church and place them in the large bowl, near the cross. At the beginning of each mass that you attend, take any card from the bowl and pray for the person named. At the end of mass, return the card to the bowl so that others may eventually pray for this person too.



**OUR STORIES - OUR CHURCH - OUR MISSION**

**DIOCESAN CONSULTATION- PHASE 2- LOOKING FORWARD:**

Our parish has now finished phase two of the consultation process where we looked forward in preparation for our Diocesan Assembly

which will be held on February 14-15 2025. For those unable to join our parish workshops, you can submit your response online at <https://www.cdsale.org.au/assembly24-25>.

**NATIONAL CATHOLIC SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS AUDIT-**

**DIocese OF SALE:** Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd (ACSL) has recently published the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards (NCSS) audit report for the Catholic Diocese of Sale. Completed in September, the audit of our Diocese assessed safeguarding practices for both children and adults at risk in place within the diocese. The audit found that the 100 per cent of the NCSS indicators relevant to the Diocese’s operations are either at a developed stage or developed and embedded across the diocese. Bishop Greg Bennet, said the experience of the audit had been a positive one. “I am so grateful for the many volunteers, staff, and clergy across our diocese who, on a daily basis, have made safeguarding of children and adults at risk a pastoral and personal priority. Our audit affirms their profound effort, commitment, and care. With the ACSL Audit report, we will continue strengthening our practices and policies,” he said.



**SHINING A LIGHT:** In today’s Gospel, Jesus praises the poor widow’s humble offering, contrasting it with the exploitation of the vulnerable. Domestic violence similarly preys on the weak and vulnerable, contradicting Christ’s call for compassion and justice. Parishes across the Diocese of Sale are uniting in Shining a Light on Domestic Violence, praying for its end. Let us stand together to create a safer, more compassionate community.

**DIocese OF SALE- POSITION VACANT: Diocesan Safeguarding**

**Officer-** Permanent part-time role at 2.5 FTE based in Sion House in Warragul, a short walk from the Warragul Railway Station and a commutable distance from Melbourne. As the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer, you will contribute to the development and continual improvement of our safeguarding procedures and policies in relation to the Diocese and its parishes. Applications Including a cover letter and copy of your current Resume addressing the selection criteria and how your qualifications and skills align to the requirements of the Position Description, should be forwarded to Mary Winter (Business Manager) by email [maryw@sale.catholic.org.au](mailto:maryw@sale.catholic.org.au) by 4pm 8 November 2024. For further information and a copy of the Position Description relating to this position, contact Mary Winter by email [maryw@sale.catholic.org.au](mailto:maryw@sale.catholic.org.au) or by phone (03) 5622 6600.

**INVITATION TO AN ECUMENICAL ADVENT CONVERSATION:**

Bishop Richard Treloar, Anglican Bishop of Gippsland and Bishop Greg Bennet, Catholic Bishop of Sale invite clergy and lay people from both Dioceses to join them for an Advent Conversation. A seasonal study of Old and New Testament passages drawn from our common lectionary alongside some of the great Advent Themes. This will be held from **10am - 3.30pm on Friday 29 November** at The Abbey, Raymond Island. The Cost is \$25 per person which includes morning tea and lunch. For more information and to book your place, please RSVP by November 22 to [info@theabbey.org.au](mailto:info@theabbey.org.au)

*Coffee Cart & Morning Tea*  
Join us to celebrate Deacon Tony's Birthday  
Sunday November 17 @ 10:30am  
In the Mary MacKillop Hall

**STEWARDSHIP MATTERS**

*I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury. For they all contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, her whole living.” (Mark 12:43-44)*

Jesus gets right to the point – we are all called to give money to support the mission of the Church, regardless of our circumstance. No gift is too small or insignificant! Giving money to support the mission of our local parish is a matter of our faith, just like praying and participating in parish ministries. When you make a financial offering, is it from your “first fruits” or from what is “left over”?

Rosters for November 16 & 17, 2024			33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B		
	Lector	Commentator	Welcomers	Eucharistic Ministers	Musicians
<b>Saturday Nov 16 5:00pm</b>	S & S Reid	M Noone	M Giddens & Volunteer	B O’Brien & B Purcell	Alison, Jeanne & Amanda
<b>Sunday Nov 17 9:30am</b>	J Dal Pra	C McCabe	P & J Dal Pra	E Ryan, T Caldwell & R Varghese	Charismatic Choir
<b>Sunday Nov 17 5:00pm</b>	S Luscombe	J Fleming	2 x Volunteers	2 x volunteers	Men’s Choir
Church Cleaning	November 19	Collis Team			
Mick’s Kitchen	November 14	St Michael’s Staff		November 21	Hemming Team
Touring Statue of our Lady	November 11	St Gabriel’s School		November 18	J Scholtes



**First Reading** 1 Kgs 17:10-16

A reading from the first book of the Kings

*The widow made a little scone from her flour meal and brought it to Elijah.*

Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' pa was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said, 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives', she replied, 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

"Jar of meal shall not be spent,  
jug of oil shall not be emptied,  
before the day when the Lord sends  
rain on the face of the earth."

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 145:7-10 Rv2**(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!**

It is the Lord who keeps faith forever  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord who sets prisoners free. **(R.)**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down.  
It is the Lord who loves the just,  
the Lord who protects the stranger. **(R.)**

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. **(R.)**

## Next week's Readings

33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr B

First Reading: Daniel 12:1-3

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:11-14 18

Gospel: Mark 13:24-32

**Second Reading**

Hebrews 9:24-28

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*Christ offered himself only once to take the faults of many on himself.*

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

**Gospel Acclamation** Matthew 5:3

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
Happy the poor in spirit;  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs.  
Alleluia!*

**Gospel**

Mk 12:38-44

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*This poor widow has put more in than all who contributed.*

In his teaching Jesus said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.'

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called to his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'

