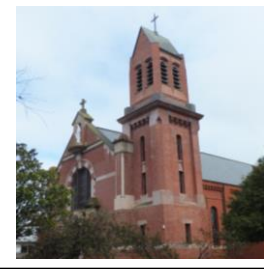




St Michael's Parish, Traralgon
 in partnership with
St Mary's Parish, Yarram
 and including
 St Columbkille's, Glengarry
 St Gerard's Woodside



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.

St Mary's Vision Statement: St Mary's is a faith community that aims to make Jesus known and loved by living the Gospel message of acceptance, welcome and service to all members of the community.

St Mary's Mission Statement: At St. Mary's we strive to:

- *Continue to be an active, prayerful and sacramental faith community.
- *Grow in faithfulness to our Catholic tradition by full participation in Eucharistic celebrations sacraments and prayer. *Respect and value all creation.
- *Use our time, talents and treasures to provide quality human, financial and facility resources to sustain and serve our parish's faith community and the wider community. *Support lifelong Catholic education and faith formation.

Statement of Commitment to the safety of children and vulnerable adults: Central to the mission of St Michael's and St Mary's Parishes is an unequivocal commitment to fostering the dignity, self-esteem and integrity of children, young people and vulnerable adults and providing them with a safe, supportive and enriching environment to develop spiritually, physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially.

St Michael's Parish Information

Fr Francis Otopo Parish Priest
Fr Saji John Assistant Priest
 Parish Centre 5174 2060
 Priests' Residence: 5174 6765

Sr Doreen Dagge RSJ 5174 9997

Monsignor John Allman
 O'Mara House 5174 9674

St Michael's Parish Office 5174 2060
 35 Kay Street, Traralgon Fax 5174 2981
 Parish Secretary: Mrs Bev O'Brien
 Email: sec@smpt.org.au
 web: www.smpt.org.au

Office hours –
 Tuesday to Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm
 Sacraments Admin: Mrs Jenifer Hanratty
 Email: sacraments@smpt.org.au
After office hours - in case of emergency,
please call 5174 2060 and leave your details on the message service.

Baptisms: Four weeks notice required

Weddings: Six months notice required

Parish Pastoral Council: Greg Imhagwe
 Chairperson, Fr Francis, Fr Saji, Sr Doreen,
 Kevin Taylor, Ray Moretti, Amanda Reid,
 Jenifer Hanratty, Steve Kimani, Marita
 Kennedy, Rob Tarraran, Jan Fitzpatrick,
 Ros Joyner and Doug Doherty, Bev
 O'Brien.

Our Schools:

St Gabriel's School 5174 5515
 Principal: Mrs Roslyn Joyner

St Michael's School 5174 3295
 Principal: Mrs Jodie Ware

Lavalla Catholic College 5174 5272
 Principal: Mr John Freeman
 Kildare Campus 5174 8111
 St Paul's Campus 5174 7355

SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY by Dianne Bergant CCS

After the flood, God made a covenant with Noah, his descendants, all the living creatures, and with the earth itself. In it, God pledged never again to destroy the world by means of chaotic waters. This promise carried more than meteorological implications; it also signalled God's control over primordial chaos. As a fearsome warrior, God fought and shackled these forces. Besides being a beautifully coloured arc proclaiming the end of a violent storm and the return of calm, the meteorological bow came to be seen as the divine archer's weapon, a weapon that was unnecessary once chaos was under control. An eternal sign of a cosmic covenant, the bow is a reminder of the pact made with all of creation, similar to the rest that God took after creation (Gen 2:2).

The word of the Lord came to Jonah with a message for Nineveh, a city considered one of Israel's mortal enemies. Much to the prophet's chagrin, the Ninevites heeded the message, believed in God, repented and proclaimed a fast. The incongruities of the story are striking. First and most important, God is concerned with the salvation of a nation other than Israel. Second, the city renowned for its wickedness repented of its sins as soon as it heard the prophet's message. Finally, the comprehensiveness of the spirit of repentance was exceeded only by its

geographic breadth. All people, great and small, put on the garments of penance. Even the worst sinners can repent and be made new.

Christ's death was like the sacrifices of expiation that were offered daily in the temple, with the blood of the victim being sprinkled on the altar. However, unlike the sin-offerings that were made repeatedly and expiated only the guilt of the individual, Christ's vicarious sacrifice was effective for all time and for all people. By means of it, we have all been brought to God and have access to God's saving grace. Just as Noah saved others from the devastating waters of the flood, so Christ saved others from the ultimate destruction of separation from God. Baptism is not merely a simple cleansing; it is a transformative experience, just as the resurrection was a transformative experience for Christ.

The wilderness, into which the Spirit drove Jesus, was not a romantic place. It had been the place of Israel's testing (cf. Num 10:11-21:34). Forty days held special meaning for the two men who appeared with Jesus. Moses fasted for forty days and forty nights as he wrote the ten commandments on tablets of stone (Exod 34:28). Elijah fasted for the same length of time as he walked to Horeb (1 Kgs 19:8). It was in this same tradition that Jesus fasted. There he was prepared for the ministry that lay ahead of him. The eschatological time of fulfilment (kairós) has arrived. The long-awaited reign of God is inaugurated.

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Saturday	6.00pm	St Michael's Traralgon
Sunday	9:30am	St Michael's Traralgon
	10:00am	St Mary's Yarram
	10:00am	St Columbkille's Glengarry
	6:00 pm	St Michael's Traralgon

WEEKDAY LITURGY TIMES

February 19 to February 24

Mon 19	9:30am	Liturgy of the Word St Michael's
Tues 20	10:45am	Mass, Margery Cole Hostel
	11:00am	Mass, St Mary's
	7:00pm	Rosary for Pauline Bransgrove
Weds 21	10:00am	Mass, St Mary's
	11:00am	{Exposition
	12:00pm	{Mass, St Michael's
Thurs 22	9:30am	Mass, St Gabriel's PS
Fri 23	9:30am	Mass, St Michael's
	10:30am	Mass, Bupa Care
	7:00pm	Stations of the Cross St Michael's
Sat 24	9.30am	Mass, St Michael's

Rosary: Tuesday to Sunday 30 minutes before Mass.

Reconciliation: Saturdays 10:15am & 5:30pm or any time by arrangement with Father.

BAPTISMS: The next meeting for those preparing for Baptism is on **Tuesday 13th March at 7:00pm in the Parish Centre.** Please contact the Parish Office on 5174 2060 for further information.



FAREWELL TO FR SAJI: Parishioners are invited to Fr Saji's farewell cuppa after 9:30am Mass on this Sunday. Parishioners are asked to bring a plate of morning tea to share in the Mary MacKillop Room.

Fr Saji will be in our parish until Wednesday February 28, and this is our opportunity to say 'thank you', and to farewell him. He leaves us to go to Narre Warren and to participate more fully in the Syro Malabar Eparchy in Melbourne

FROM FR SAJI:

Dear Parishioners of St Michael's
Thank you so much for your support, concern and prayer. As it was my first year in Australia (first time away from my home land), it was a learning experience for me in both Australian culture and in Latin mode of administering sacraments. And you helped me to get through. I appreciate your patience and generosity. Even though I will be in Narre Warren, I assure you of my prayers.

Thanks, and regards, Saji.

SYRO MALABAR MASS: will be celebrated at 6:00pm on Monday February 19, here at St Michael's. All are welcome.

NEWS OF FR BERNARD: Fr Bernard has recently been in hospital for an operation which went well. He is making a good recovery. Please remember him in your prayers.

If you'd like to send him a message of support, there are sheets on the tables in the Church entries. The messages will be put together into a booklet and sent to him.

FUNERAL FOR PAULINE

BRANSGROVE: The funeral Mass for Pauline will be celebrated at St Joseph's Church, Witton Street Warragul at 10:30am on Wednesday February 21.

There will be an open casket in St Michael's Church on Tuesday evening, 6:15-6:45pm, followed by the Rosary. Our condolences to the Bransgrove family.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: will be celebrated each Friday of Lent at 7:00pm in the Church. This week will be led by our Cells Groups.

LENTEN REFLECTION GROUP: The Lenten Reflection Group will run through the Mondays of Lent in the Parish Centre at 7:30pm each week.

BAPTISM PROGRAMME

FOR SCHOOL – AGED CHILDREN: Our Parish is once more running a programme for children aged from 4 to 13 who wish to be baptized.

There will be three weekly sessions of one hour (4.30–5.30pm), held in the Parish Centre, starting on **Wednesday February 28th**. The other dates are **Wednesday March 7th**, and **Wednesday March 14th**. The children will be presented to the Parish community in the Rite of Reception on Saturday March 17th at the 6.00pm Mass, with their baptisms being celebrated at the Easter Vigil on Saturday March 31st.

Contact either the Parish Office on 5174 2060 or **Susan Grout (0412 671 308) by Wednesday February 21st**, if your child/children are interested.

There is a cost of \$20 for a baptism candle and \$20 for a baptism stole for each child to use in the baptism ceremony. Parents are asked to bring correct money for these to the meeting on February 28.

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Mon Feb 19

7:30pm Lenten Reflection Group, Parish Centre

Weds Feb 21

9:00am Weds am Cells Prayer Group Mary MacKillop room

1:00pm Weds pm Cells Prayer Group, Parish Centre

6:45pm First Communion Parent Information Night, St Gabriel's Primary School

Thurs Feb 22

4:30pm First Communion Catechist Session 1

4:30-5:30pm Youth Mass Training

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We remember those who have died recently, including Annie Waanders, Neil Walker (SA), James Patrick (Pat) Harrup and Simon Panther and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Gemma Rössl, Myra King, Joseph Lapuh, Tommy & Kathleen Sweeney, Tony Panozzo-Tilè, Bishop Arthur Fox, Mercedes Pena and Giovanni Condello.

Lord, let your perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

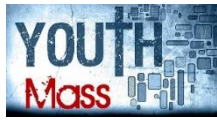
including Dorothy Buckland, Lee Allman, Joy Cahill, Cornelia Bakker, Ken Vivian, John Besselink, Jan Gilmour, Dot Mulquiney, Ivy May, Celie Smith, Maria Alessandrini, Joyce Martin, Marie Howard, Pat O'Mara, Robert Hazelman, Fr Frank Freeman, Carolyn Gleeson, Gary Donchi, Ann Lapuh, Peter Heron, Fr Frank Young.



MONTHLY YOUTH

MASS:

This year we will be celebrating the Year of Youth. One way to do this is to continue having monthly Youth Mass celebrations. We invite children of all ages to be involved and take part in the various ministries. We have something for everyone. Please note the following dates:



Training fun: Thursday 22nd Feb 4.30pm – 5.30pm

(All children Grade 5 and under are required to have a parent present at all training sessions.)

Youth Mass - Sunday 25th Feb 6pm

Please let Jen Hanratty know if you are interested on 0437492349.

FIRST COMMUNION 2018: Preparation for First Communion for our young students in Year 4 will commence early this Term. The meetings will be held at St Gabriel's Primary School. Dates to remember are :-

Weds Feb 21

6:45pm Parent Information Night

Weds Feb 28 4:00pm or 5:30pm. Parent & Child Workshop 1,

Weds Mar 14 4:00pm or 5:30pm Parent & Child Workshop 2.

Sun Mar 18 9:30am Mass

First Communion Celebration (i).

Sat Mar 24 6:00pm Mass

First Communion Celebration (ii)

Catechist sessions: will be held at 4:30pm on Thursday Feb 22, Tuesday Feb 27, Tuesday Mar 06 and Tuesday Mar 13.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP: The CPG meets every Thursday evening at 7:30pm in the Mary MacKillop Room (until the Hall is available for use again).

All are welcome to come and join in! Enquiries to Cathy on 5174 3001.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS INFORMATION

MEETING: We had a great turn up to this meeting on Tuesday. It's amazing how much there is to learn about something we practice all the time. The meeting was informative, instructive, with a wonderful atmosphere of good will. A great opportunity to learn of the changes in procedures and why we do what we do. Sincere thanks to all who came along, and to Susan Luscombe and Julie Fleming for their organization.

INFORMATION MEETINGS for those in ministry as Lectors, Commentators, Welcomers, Sacristans, Money collectors will also be organized in the coming months. Watch this space!

SMY@L – St.Michael's Parish Youth Group

St.Michael's Youth group is for all young people from **Year 5, 6 & lower secondary levels (from any school)**. SMY@L meet in the Mary MacKillop Hall a few times each school term, and run a variety of activities in a safe, friendly environment with leaders from our Parish Community who all have current Working With Children Checks. We meet on a Friday night. Participants are signed in and out at the end of each session. Our leaders all have experience in working with young people.

Friday 2nd March

Croquet & Wet Games Night

Try something new and have fun at the same time! Permission slip (available on the night) required for walk to Croquet Club: wet outdoor games after croquet. Meet at St Michael's Mary MacKillop Hall. 6:30-8:30pm Cost \$3.00. Contact Sally on 0403 282 630 for info.

FINANCE MATTERS:

"After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God..." - Mark 1:14

Do you ever think about how difficult it must have been for Jesus to come into Galilee, knowing that John had just been arrested for teaching the same message that Jesus was proclaiming. It must have taken great love and trust for Jesus to do what the Father had sent Him here on earth to do. In the same way, following a life of stewardship takes great love and trust from us. We must be willing to surrender completely to God, trusting that God will always give us all that we need to fulfill His plan for us.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN:

January Giving

Loose collections

Jan 07	\$1,242.00
Jan 14	\$1,211.00
Jan 21	\$1,368.00
Jan 28	<u>\$1,246.00</u>
	<u>\$5,067.00</u>

Planned Giving

Envelopes	\$6,116.85
Direct Debit	\$5,995.00
Credit Card	<u>\$3,115.00</u>
December total	<u>\$15,226.85</u>
Monthly pledge amount	<u>\$18,328.00</u>

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN:

If you wish to have information about our Planned Giving programme please contact the Parish Office.

Counters:	Feb 18	Burns Team
	Feb 25	Arend Team



Rosters for February 24 & 25 ~ Second Sunday of Lent

Mass	Lector	Commentator	Eucharistic Ministers	Welcomers	Music	Sacristan
6:00pm	Sr Doreen	M Noone	J Scholtes, R Tactor, Volunteers x 2	S Frankland, L Kennedy	Jane	A & M Giddens
9:30am	J Dal Pra	L Van der Velden	W Detering, C Payne, J Cahill, C Mesaric, M Hanratty, Volunteer	C Collis, E Freeman	Jane	G Imhag
6:00pm	Youth Mass	Youth Mass	Volunteers x 4	G Edgar, J Sykes	Youth Mass	C Fernar

- **Altar Cleaning:** February 25 M Tainsh March 04 J Scholtes
- **Church Cleaning:** February St Michael's Team March Hanratty Team
- **Children's Liturgy of the Word:** Marianne and Therese
- **Touring Statue of Our Lady:** February 18 C & C Medhurst February 25 G & S Dorling
Please contact the family before you leave the statue to make sure they are home. Thank you. For further information regarding roster please contact: Marie Moulton 5174 0938 Email: memou_38@bigpond.com
- **Mick's Kitchen:** February 22 Mitchell Team March 01 May Team

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 90:15-16

*When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.*

First Reading Genesis 9:8-15

A reading from the book of Genesis

I will recall the covenant between myself and you... the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 24:4-9. R. see v.10

(R.) Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. **(R.)**
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. **(R.)**

Readings for the 2nd Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Genesis 22:1-2 9-13 15-18

Second Reading: Romans 8:31-34

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

Second Reading

1 Pt 3:18-22

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:4

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!*

Gospel Mk 1: 12-15

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

