



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 vulnerable adults: 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, Chris DiCorleto and Shane Reid on 5174 2060 if you have any concerns.

St Michael's Parish Information

Fr Francis Otobo Parish Priest
Fr Ajin Albarnas IVD Assistant Priest
 Parish Centre 5174 2060
 Priests' Residence: 5174 6765

Deacon Tony Aspinall
 Phone 5174 8167
 Em: deacontony8@gmail.com

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
 PO Box 103, Traralgon 3844

Office hours –
 Tues to Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm
 Parish Secretary: Bev O'Brien
 Email: sec@smpt.org.au
 Sacraments / Youth Jenifer Hanratty
 Email: sacraments@smpt.org.au

After office hours - in case of an emergency please call 0448 529 712 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: Greg Imhagve Chairperson, Fr Francis, Sr Doreen, Lia Di Corleto, Watson Gomez, Jenifer Hanratty, Steve Kimani, Judi McLaughlin, Thomas Mathew, Amanda Reid, Kevin Taylor, Jodie Ware, Ros Joyner, Doug Doherty and 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

A letter from Bishop Greg –

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Walking together in Lent and Covid-19

As Lent commences, I send my prayers to you, mindful of the sorrow so many feel that we are unable to gather for Ash Wednesday due to the restrictions currently in place in the State of Victoria. We commence Lent in the shadow of the epidemic and while we cannot gather for our usual Ash Wednesday Masses and distribution of ashes, may our hearts be well disposed to undertake this journey into the "desert" of this time which prepares us to celebrate the great joy of Easter.

We are thankful for the lifting of the restrictions of the last five days in Victoria, so we will be able to bless and distribute ashes on the first Sunday of Lent, or as prescribed in the Roman Missal with the celebration of the Word and distribution Outside of Mass (pg 236).

We are all mindful of the shared efforts of so many throughout the Covid-19 pandemic who have worked to ensure our safety, care and those who develop our community response. Pope Francis has reflected upon Covid-19 in his book, *Let us Dream – The Path to a Better Future* (2020) and he explores the spiritual and social dimensions of the crisis. He offers his reflection on how he hopes we may emerge from this time working with others for the betterment of the world. Perhaps this something we can take into our prayer during this Lenten period.

There has been discussion in the media about the application of the vaccines now arriving in Australia and soon to be distributed. In December 2020 the Holy See prepared a response which grappled with the questions which had been posed from various pastoral, moral and ethical positions.

In exploring the impact of the crisis, the Holy See identified the terrible suffering of many, the deaths of thousands, the strain on health care professionals and the necessity for nations to seek a way together to fight the virus through the development of vaccines. They reviewed the development of vaccines and determined that those who receive the vaccine are not morally complicit or responsible for the manner of their development which was in response to a world crisis. The advice, mindful of the freedom and rights of individuals, is based upon the principle of the common good. They propose that in choosing to receive the vaccine we in turn participate in the reduction of the spread of the virus and the care of our brothers and sisters. You may wish to read the text by visiting:

https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20201221_nota-vaccini-anticovid_en.html

Similarly the Catholic Bishop's Conference has previously endorsed the distribution of the vaccine to those able to safely receive the vaccine:

<https://mediablog.catholic.au/a-letter-to-the-faithful-regarding-development-of-a-covid-19-vaccine/#more-8597>

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Sunday Mass Times	
Saturday	5:00pm
Sunday	9:00am 10:30am 5:00pm
Attendance numbers at our Masses are limited to 180 people. <u>Please arrive 15 minutes early to register your attendance.</u> Covid safety practices apply	
Weekday Mass Times	
Tues Feb 23	9:30am Mass
Weds Feb 24	11:00am Adoration
	12:00pm Mass
Thurs Feb 25	9:30 am Mass
Fri 26	9:30am Mass
Parishioners attending weekday Masses are asked to <u>arrive 15 minutes before Mass to ensure their attendance is recorded.</u>	

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We remember those who have died recently including John Vellar, George Spalding, Archbishop Philip Wilson (Emeritus of Adelaide) and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including John Zahra, the Saliba family and Gemma Rossl. **Lord, let your perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.**

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK including Maria Alessandrini, Lee Allman, Fr Bernard Buckley, Conceicao Carvalho, Peter Dal Pra, Ann-Maree Daly, Anthony Derham, Gary Donchi, Bill Edgar, Bernadette Formaran, Fr Frank Freeman, Marj Gilbert, Carolyn Gleeson, Robert Hazelman, Imogen Hillier, Marie Howard, Joan Lamont, Peter Lont, Joyce Martin, Ivy May, Deborah McKerchar, Ben Melenhorst, Maree Morris, Joan Quigley, Joan Riggall, Kath Ryan, Jerry Templer, Julie Vaz, Brian Vivian, Celie Smith, Wil Waanders, George Walkan and Roy Ward and all those we hold dear in our hearts.

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Tuesday Feb 23

9:00am Catholic Womens League
Mary MacKillop Room
7:30pm Maintenance Team

Wednesday Feb 24

9:00am Weds am Prayer Group
Mary MacKillop Centre
1:00pm Weds pm Cells Group,
Mary MacKillop Room
7:30pm Risk Management Team
Parish Centre

Thursday Feb 18

10:00am Charismatic Prayer Group
Mary MacKillop Room
7:30pm RCIA, Parish Centre

A letter from Bishop Greg –(continued from page1)

Understandably some people are nervous about the vaccine, while others anticipate with hope its wide distribution. We are asked to trust in the professional skills of our medical professionals and scientists. The freedom of choice to receive the vaccine is ours and we consider the responsibility we have toward others when we make our decision. There are those whose personal health and other issues which should be carefully considered and discussed with their medical advisors.

As the vaccines begin to be distributed, we remain mindful of those front-line health professionals who continue to support the efforts of keeping Australians safe and work toward the eradication of the virus. The Government has outlined the proposed roll-out of the vaccination, and we are mindful that each person who is vaccinated contributes the common good of all Australians, and therefore, our brothers and sisters across the world.

Let us accompany one another throughout these days of Lent and keep our gaze upon Jesus who through his gentle accompaniment transforms our sin, suffering and dying into the promise of life.,

With every peace in Christ,

Bishop Greg Bennet

Bishop of Sale

BAPTISMS: This weekend we welcome for baptism –

Mila Read, daughter of Daniela & John:

Luca Paul Cecchin, son of Nathan & Jessica: and

Vincent Jack and Ruby Claire, children of Mathew & Emily



Congratulations to the families, from us all,

welcome to the Parish family, we look forward to getting to know you better.

The next Baptism Preparation meeting will be held in the Church on **Tuesday March 23 at 7:00pm**. Please contact the Parish office if you are wishing to attend.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: The Parish is planning to celebrate the Stations of the Cross on the Fridays of Lent at 7:00pm in the Church. All are welcome to attend.



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM:

Reconciliation: Our Sacramental Team are busy working diligently to prepare this years Grade 3 students and any students who missed out on this Sacrament last year.

Enrolments for First Reconciliation are now open, if you know of anyone with children in this age bracket, could you please check they are aware of the dates.

First Reconciliation will be celebrated in the Parish on March 16, 17, 18 & 19, covid restrictions allowing.

PROJECT COMPASSION: Lent is once again the time where we ask all to support Project Compassion. In an effort to continue to support the very many worthy causes run by Project Compassion, it is suggested that the best way to do that this year is by going to their website and making your donation there. Project Compassion boxes are available, if you would like one, please come to the Parish Office and we can provide you with one. More news next week, watch this space.

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION:

In this time of pandemic, we need to follow these instructions when receiving Holy Communion.

All worshippers are to wear a face mask throughout the celebration of Mass and the other Sacraments.

The communicant is required –

- To maintain the proper distancing in communion queue.
- To wear a mask
- To engage in the dialogue with the communion minister and receive the host in the hand, while wearing the mask.
- To take two steps to the side, and away from the priest.
- To then remove one side of their mask to place the Host in their mouth with the other hand.
- To re-positions the mask.
- To then return to their seat via a different pathway.



STARTING OUR PARISH UP AGAIN:

As we gratefully return to Masses in our Church, we are again in need of volunteers to help our Parish function and our Masses to be well run and meaningful celebrations:-

We are looking for volunteers in the following areas:-

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Readers | Commentators |
| Ushers | Eucharistic Ministers |
| Youth Ministry Leaders | Church cleaning |
| Money Counters | Banking Team |

All these roles are essential to our Masses and to our Parish, and as the old saying goes, 'many hands make light work'.

So please contact the Office on 5174 2060 or by email to sec@smpt.org.au and advise that you are able to assist in one of these ministries.

We are all the parish of St Michael's, each one of us is responsible for the good stewardship of our buildings and grounds, and for ensuring our Masses are well run and meaningful.

It is wonderful that our Parish Groups are, with certain conditions, able to meet again providing we comply with numbers limits and cleaning protocols.

At this point in time, parish groups who wish to hold meetings during Parish Office hours are welcome to use the Mary MacKillop Room. Groups who usually meet outside of office hours may use the meeting room in the Parish Centre, again in accordance with numbers restrictions and cleaning protocols.

Please contact the office if you are interested in your group using Church premises for meetings. (5174 2060 or sec@smpt.org.au)

We now have a QR code available for parishioners to use to record their attendance at Mass. If you have a smart phone, you only need to scan in the QR code, and register your name via your phone. Your details are recorded directly with the Department of Health and Human Services.

If you do not own a smart phone, then do not fear. You may record your name and phone number on the attendance sheets provided using either your own pen or a 'clean' pen. Please arrive to Mass 15-20 minutes early to ensure your attendance is recorded.

STEWARDSHIP 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.

RCIA NEWS: The Parish is delighted that **Bianca Grundy** and **Rachel Williams-Rankin** are both journeying towards reception into the Church this coming Easter. This Sunday, they will attend the Rite of Election in St Mary's Cathedral, Sale

Please keep them and their families in your prayers, as they make this wondrous journey of faith accompanied by our RCIA Team.



ONLINE LENTEN SERIES – IT'S ALL ABOUT HOPE

Monday afternoons during Lent, 1:00pm-3:30pm

February 22, March 01, 08, 15, 22 & 29.

Presented by Emmaus Spirituality Ministry Facilitators, Theresa Denny and Geraldine Naismith Bookings call 0477 474 848

\$25 per session. All are welcome, don't let costs prevent you from participating, please call. You are also invited to pay for others to participate who may be in financial need.

Rosters for Saturday February 27 & Sunday 28 February, 2021

Mass	Lector	Commentator	Ushers
Sat 5:00pm	A Taylor / C DiCorleto	M Noone	Volunteer required
Sun 9:00am	S Reid / S Reid	L Van der Velden	Volunteer required
Sun 10:30am	T Denny	C McCabe	Volunteer required
Sun 5:00pm	J Panozzo-Tile	Volunteer required	Volunteer required

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 Year B

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.'

