



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: Lia Di Corleto, Chairperson, Fr Aju, Steve Kimani, Greg Imhagwe, Watson Gomez, Jenifer Hanratty, Judi McLaughlin, Thomas Mathew, Amanda Reid, Jodie Ware, Michelle Charlton, and Doug Doherty.

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



SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY by Dianne Bergant CSA

In the first reading, the people of Israel challenge the justice of God. The issue is the question of retribution, the manner in which God rewards righteous living and punishes wicked behaviour. A counter accusation claims that it is not the ways of God that are unfair, but the ways of Israel. Two situations are described – the sin of a righteous person and the repentance of a sinner. God metes out punishment in the first situation and grants a reward in the second. Here we see that the justice of God corresponds to the character of one's present manner of behaviour, to the kind of person one has become. How is this injustice on God's part?

The words 'way' and 'path', found in the psalm response, are associated with the wisdom tradition and refer to a manner of living, specifically the way of righteousness or the way of evil. When used in reference to God it can mean either God's own ways of acting or the ways that God teaches humankind to follow. This psalm seems to allow for both meanings. Understood from God's perspective, it refers to the salvation accomplished by God (v.5), to God's covenantal commitment expressed in covenant language such as 'compassion' and 'lovingkindness', (v.6), and to God's own uprightness, which is shown to both sinners and the 'humble' (v.8). Finally, the psalmist prays: Teach me your ways.

Today's second reading contains one of Christianity's most exalted hymns of praise of Christ. Paul offered this magnificent vision of Christ's self-emptying as a stirring incentive for the Philippians' own attitudes of mind and heart. The message that Paul is preaching here is unity within the church. The basis for Paul's appeal for unity is fourfold: the Christians' common experience of Christ; the love that Christ has shown them; their communion in the Spirit; and the compassion and mercy of Christ. After exhorting the Philippians to live in such unity, Paul offers Christ as their model. He describes Jesus' humiliation (vv. 6-8) and his exaltation by God (vv.9-11). The exaltation of Christ is as glorious as his humiliation was debasing.

Jesus tells a story about two sons. The first one refuses to obey his father, a serious breach in patriarchal kinship behaviour. However, he repents and eventually obeys his father. The second son does not disrespect his father with refusal, but neither does he obey him. Jesus asks his adversaries to interpret the law: Which son did the father's will? Without knowing it, they condemned themselves with their own answer. In a paradoxical fashion, Jesus tells them that sinners will enter the kingdom of God before these who appear to be righteous. The story demonstrates how fidelity to God's will is more than a question of words; it is a matter of deeds. Jesus has tricked his opponents, thereby enhancing his own reputation in the minds of the people.

Sunday Mass Times	
Saturday	5:00pm Mass
Sunday	9:30am Mass 5:00pm Mass
Weekday Mass Times	
Tuesday Oct 03	9:30am Mass
Wednesday Oct 04	11:00am Reconciliation 11:00am Exposition 12:00pm Mass
Thursday Oct 05	9:30am Liturgy 11:00am Liturgy @ Dalkeith
Friday Oct 06	9:30am Mass

***Mass this Thursday will be held here at St Michael's Church. We will return to St Gabriel's next Thursday October 12.**

PLEASE PRAY FOR: those who have died recently including William 'Bill' Edgar, Alfredo Calabro, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Tony Tactor, Sophia Theissling, Russell Patten, Peter O'Malley, Cathy Mesaric, Joseph Maraana, Patricia O'Hara, Margaret Cahill, Nellie Coleman, Dan De Los Angeles, Lulu Aragon, and Bob Bullivant. *Lord, let your perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*



REQUIEM MASS for William 'Bill' Edgar will be held at St Mary's Cathedral Sale on Wednesday October 4th at 1pm. Parishioners are invited to join Bill's family and friends to celebrate his life together on Wednesday. The service will also be livestreamed for those unable to travel to Sale, details can be found at gippslandfuneralservices.com.au. As many would know, Bill and his wife Sheila were both longtime members of our parish who helped in many ways for many, many years. The loss of first Sheila, and now Bill, has been felt throughout our parish and region by many. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Edgar family at this time.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: including Ann-Maree Daly, Gary Donchi, Bernadette Formaran, Fr Frank Freeman, Carolyn Gleeson, Jacqui Granville, Barbara Greaves, Ellen Hammond, Jenny Hansch, Robert Hazelman, Imogen Hillier, Joyce Martin, Ivy May, Deborah Mc Kerchar, Ben Melenhorst, Maree Morris, Henry Polo, Joan Riggall, Theresa Rosello, Jerry Templer, Damiano Tripodi, Sharon Veleff, George Walkan, Roy Ward, Victoria Rohli, Fr John Speekman, James Whitty, Kelly Maher, John Waanders, Peter Dal Pra, Jane Eric, Rose Xuereb and Manuel Xuereb 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. We can also arrange for someone to take communion to those at home or hospital if required.*

FEAST OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI – OCTOBER 04: Francis was born in Umbria in 1181, he died in 1226. He was born to wealthy parents and lived an extravagant life until God spoke to him one day, and Francis listened. Francis ended up renouncing his family and their wealth to follow God with nothing to his name. He lived his life by the Gospel and practiced true equality by showing honour, respect and love to every person, whether they were beggar or pope. Francis is the patron saint of animals, merchants and ecology.

This Week's Events	
Tuesday October 03	
7:30pm	RCIA Meeting, Parish Centre
Wednesday October 04	
11:00am	Reconciliation, St Michael's Church
1:00pm	Church Cleaning, St Michael's Church
Thursday October 05	
10:30am	Charismatic Prayer Group, Mary MacKillop Room
11:00am	Liturgy and Communion, Dalkeith Hostel

BAPTISM: Our next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held on Tuesday **October 17 at 7:00pm** in the church. Please contact the parish office on 51742060 if you are interested in attending or would like some more information.



RCIA- RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS: St Michael's Parish warmly invites anyone interested in discovering more about the Catholic faith to join our Tuesday night RCIA group. If you, or anyone you know may be interested in attending or learning more, please register your details with the parish office.

FIRST COMMUNION: A parent information night will be held in the St Michael's Church on **Wednesday October 25 at 6pm** for all parents whose children have been enrolled in the sacrament of first communion. First Communion will be celebrated at parish masses on the weekend of November 25/26.



YOUTH MINISTRY: Our J-Walkers are enjoying a break over the school holidays and will not be running the coffee cart this weekend. The Coffee Cart will be reopening on Sunday October 08, please come along and join us for coffee in the Mary MacKillop Hall after the 9:30am mass. Our next Youth Mass will be held on Sunday October 29 for the 9:30am Mass.

CHURCH CLEANING: Come along and join us this Wednesday at 1pm to clean and vacuum the church after mass. All are welcome, no previous cleaning experience or history required!



OCTOBER DEVOTION: The month of October is traditionally referred to as the month of Mary. It is especially dedicated to the recitation of the Holy Rosary and the celebration of the feast day of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 07. During this month, join us for daily prayers and Rosary starting half an hour before each mass as well as the following times:

- Saturdays @ 10am: St Michael's Adoration Chapel
- Tuesday Oct 10: 10am -12pm Continuous Rosary, St Michael's Church
- Sunday Oct 22: 11:30am Syro-Malabar Mass and Rosary

“Therefore I will astound these people with wonder upon wonder...”
Isaiah 29:14.



IGNITE CONFERENCE 23:

This weekend Steve and Jen are supporting 9 of our J-Walkers in Sydney for the Ignite Conference. Ignite is an opportunity to experience the Church fully alive in faith, through the dynamic worship and preaching in the rallies, meeting Jesus through the power of the sacraments, inspiring workshops during the day, and the positive experiences of the festival and ministries expo.

The 2023 theme is **“Wonder”**. We hope to see the Church in Australia led by a **wonder-filled generation** ready to transform all around them into colour and light.

The Ignite Conference is run by Ignite Youth, the national youth ministry that springs out of the Emmanuel Community, Brisbane. It has been growing in impact for more than 20 years, reaching thousands of young people and adults across Australia and New Zealand. It draws together a network of high-schoolers, young adults, ministry leaders, families, teachers, priests and religious from around the country, sending them out with a passion for mission and authentic faith in Jesus.

We look forward to our J-Walkers bringing all they learn and experience back to our parish to share with us. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue walking with Jesus.



SYNOD 2021-2024: In a letter addressed to bishops and eparchs around the world, Cardinal Mario Grech, Secretary General of the General Secretariat of the Synod, invites the faithful around the world to participate through prayer to the XVI

Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops that will open in the Vatican on October 04. With this letter, the Secretary General wants to remember that the Synod Assembly is above all a spiritual event, of prayer and listening to the Holy Spirit, the true protagonist of the event. Fifteen people from Australia will be participating in the Synod, and they have asked for the Catholic community’s prayers as they prepare for their important task.

Pope Francis’ Prayer Intention for October- For the Synod

We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DIOCESE:

ST MARY’S BAIRNSDALE - NEW LIFE IN GOD’S SPIRIT:

St Mary’s Parish Bairnsdale is hosting an 8-week seminar to establish and deepen a personal relationship with Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit. Each session includes praise and worship, scripture, prayer, guest speaker and group discussion.



-Fridays from 6:45pm to 8:30pm October 13 – December 01.
 Please register by emailing stm.michelle@gmail.com or by phoning 5152 2942 by October 03. All are welcome.

ST MICHAEL’S BERWICK - COME AND SEE: Bishop Greg has called for the young men of our Parishes of the Diocese to come to St Michael's Parish Support Centre - 121-123 High Street Berwick, on Sunday, 15th October at 2:00pm. Particularly those who sense a call from God to life as a priest. Or, who simply want to come and enquire. It will be an opportunity to meet and greet those living the life, to pray with them and have all your questions answered. And, remember, "the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it" Mt13:45

ST ITA’S DROUIN - GROWING IN CHRIST: Saturday October 21, 10:45am – 4:00pm

All are invited to a one day spiritual renewal program featuring Holy Mass, encouraging and inspiring talks, healing prayers, adoration, praise and worship, and fellowship. Guest speakers include Bishop Greg Bennet and Bro Lalith Pereira, hosted by CCR Sale Diocese. *“Let us grow together in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ” 2 Pet 3:18*



STEWARDSHIP MATTERS:

“Do nothing out of selfishness; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves...”
 (Philippians 2:3)

Pride and ego are hard things to control. We see how others act or dress and think we are superior to them. We idolize our own self-image. But, if we truly believe everything is a gift from God, we recognize all the people that God has put into our lives as gifts! We are grateful for how they enrich our lives. Pray every day for the people in your life: your family, your friends, and those who make you angry.

Rosters for October 07 & 08, 2023		27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A		
	Lector	Commentator	Usher/Welcomer	Musicians
Saturday Oct 07 5:00pm	J Panozzo-Tile	B Purcell	L Kennedy	Jane & Simon
Sunday Oct 08 9:30am	J Dal Pra	M Wilkinson	M Blanchard	Jane & Simon
Sunday Oct 08 5:00pm	E Joseph & M Alex	S Grout	C Hill	Jane & Simon
Church Cleaning:	October 04	Volunteers		
Touring Statue of Our Lady:	October 01	J Mitchell	October 08	S & S Kimani
Mick’s Kitchen:	October 05	St Michael’s Staff	October 12	Hemming Team

First Reading Ez 18:25-28

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 24:4-9. R. v.6

(R.) Remember your mercies, O Lord.

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.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.
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.)**

**Second Reading** Phil 2:1-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross.

But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;

I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 21:28-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

**Next week's Readings:
27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

First Reading:	Isaiah 15:1-7
Second Reading:	Philippians 4:6-9
Gospel:	Matthew 21:33-43