

## **Saints Michael and Gabriel Antiochian Orthodox Church (SMG)**

Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia, New Zealand and the Philippines

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Michal Zghaib

72 Belmore St Ryde NSW 2112

Keep in touch with us: [www.smg.org.au](http://www.smg.org.au) Archdiocesan Website: <https://www.antiochian.org.au>

Facebook: Sts Michael and Gabriel Orthodox Church;

SMG Playgroup Meadowbank; SMG OYYA

Rev Fr Michal Zghaib: 0403 847 690 or [parishpriest@smg.org.au](mailto:parishpriest@smg.org.au)

**Sunday, December 10, 2023; Tone 2 / Eothinon 5 Martyrs Menas, Eugephos & Hermogenes of Alexandria Venerable Thomas Dephourkinos of Bithynia**

### **Welcome to SMG**

Welcome to our parish and please stay after the Divine Liturgy to share in fellowship with us as we would love to get to know you better. During school term, your children are also welcome to join our Church School lessons, which takes place directly after the Divine Liturgy in the Parish house.

You will notice that at SMG we do not pass a plate collection, and that general donations and offerings can be placed in the donation boxes located at the candle stands as you enter the Church. Generally, our parishioners participate in the Financial Stewardship Program based on regular ongoing pledging.

We look forward to meeting you. And please feel free to take this bulletin home.

### **Today's Divine Liturgy**

*Refer p.11 of service book*

#### **Troparion for the Resurrection, in Tone 2**

**When** You O immortal life went down to death You did destroy death by the splendor of Your divinity and when You did raise the dead from the underworld all the powers of heaven cried aloud unto: You O Christ our God, giver of life, glory to You.

#### **Troparion of St Ss. Menas, Eugephos & Hermogenes in tone 8**

**Since** they had slain through their abstinence and struggles the fiery raging and fierce motions of the passions, the staunch Martyrs of Christ God laid hold on the graces to drive off the pains and illnesses of the sick and work wonders both while living and after death. Strange indeed is the miracle: that these bare bones should pour forth such overflowing streams of cures. Glory be to our only God.

#### **Troparion of the Archangels tone 4**

Commanders of the heavenly hosts, we who are unworthy beseech you; by your prayers encompass us under the wings of your incorporeal glory, and faithfully preserve us who fall down and cry out to you; deliver us from all harm, for you are the commanders of the powers on high.

#### **Kontakion of preparation of Christ's nativity in tone three**

**Today** the Virgin comes to the cave to give birth in an ineffable manner to the Word before the ages. Rejoice, therefore, O universe, when you hear, and glorify with the angels and shepherds him shall appear by his own will as a new babe, being God before the ages.

### **The Epistle**

**Prokeimenon:** *The Lord is my strength and my song. With chastisement has the Lord chastened me.*

#### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (6:10-17)**

**Brethren,** be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand, therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the equipment of the gospel of peace; besides all these, taking the shield of faith, with which you can quench all the flaming darts of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

# The Gospel

*Refer p. 14 of service book*

## The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Luke (13: 10-17)

**10 At that time,** Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. **11** And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. **12** And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." **13** And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. **14** But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day." **15** Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrite! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? **16** And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" **17** As Jesus said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

## Important Messages

### Confessions and prayer requests



Father Michal is available to hear confessions and receive prayer requests at any time during the week and weekend.

Please contact Fr Michal via mobile/ SMS on 0403 847 690 or email [parishpriest@smg.org.au](mailto:parishpriest@smg.org.au)

### SMG Financial Stewardship Program



The Financial Stewardship Program at SMG is a simple, practical and a Christian plan aimed at funding the operations of the parish and its ministry programs. Participation encourages us to express our financial commitment in a Christ-centred way as expressed in the scriptures and creates a predictable flow of income. For more information about our Stewardship Program or to start a regular pledge, please speak to SMG Treasurer, Marisa Gazaleh, or contact her via [treasurer@smg.org.au](mailto:treasurer@smg.org.au). New pledging forms can be found at the entry of the Church.

Pledges and/or general donations can be made by EFT to the following bank account: Commonwealth Bank | Name: Sts Michael & Gabriel Orthodox Church | BSB: 062-310 | Account: 1012 8321

### Our Liturgical Calendar and Events



Event details can also be found on our calendar here:

<http://smg.org.au/whats-oncalendar/>

**To join our database, please complete the link below and select your areas of interest.**

<https://antiochian.breezechms.com/form/smg>



### Ladies Auxiliary Bible study

Sessions are held every Monday at 10.30am. after the Paraklesis service. Hosted by Fr Michal.

For more information, please contact Fr Michal or Nouha on 0404 886 964

### Adult Bible study

**Next session:**  
**Fortnightly at parish hall at 7.00 pm**

For more information, please contact

**Lydia Gore;** 0404224060

or

**Nada Saad** |email <accounts@smg.org.au>



### Orthodox Youth and Young Adults (OYYA) Bible Study and Spiritual Talks

Weekly Bible Studies and Spiritual Talks

For more information, please contact

Mary Khoury | [maryhkhoury@gmail.com](mailto:maryhkhoury@gmail.com)

| 0401 399 920

### SMG Under 5's Playgroup



**Playgroup is held every Thursday during school term, 10.30am-12.30pm at Sts Michael & Gabriel Church hall 72 Belmore St Ryde**

The playgroup is an informal gathering for parents and caregivers with children under the age of 5. All children must be supervised by an adult carer.

For more information please contact:

Dr Victoria Khoury on [drvictoriajk@ihug.com.au](mailto:drvictoriajk@ihug.com.au) or 0414 547 842. Facebook: SMG Playgroup Meadowbank.

Church



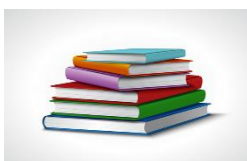
School

**SMG Church School lessons are held in the parish hall after Divine Liturgy during school term. All students are encouraged and welcome to join the children's choir.**

For more information please contact:

Dr Victoria Khoury on [drvictoriajk@ihug.com.au](mailto:drvictoriajk@ihug.com.au) or 0414 547 842.

## SMG Bookshop



Please also note that stock is now permanently located in the new cabinets opposite the kitchen.

**EFPTOS** facility is now available for any purchase at SMG Bookshop.

**NOW SELLING**

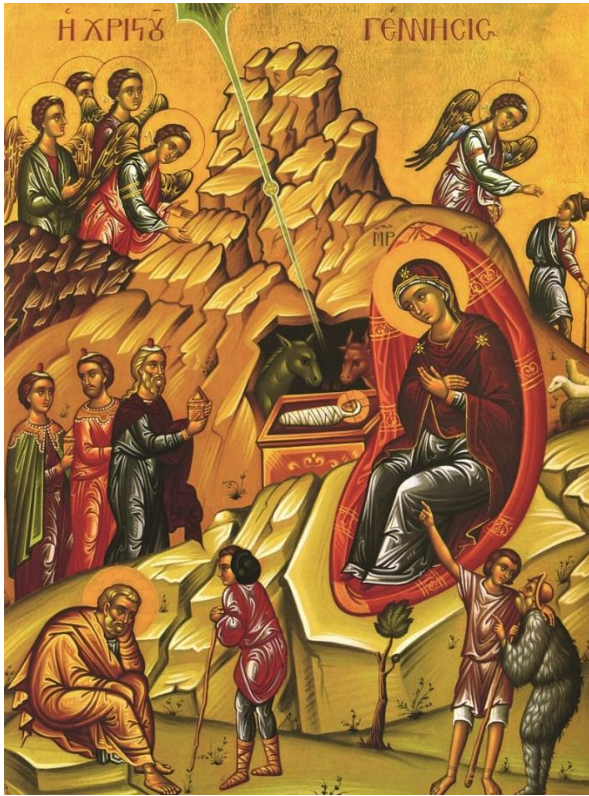
**CDs** "Out of the Mouths of Infants" (Hymns of the Orthodox Great Feasts for Children) \$15

**PENS** "Sts Michael and Gabriel Antiochian Orthodox Church" with **stylus** \$5 each or 5 for \$20

For any further information please see Maria Haddad ([mhaddad391@gmail.com](mailto:mhaddad391@gmail.com)) or Raymond Haddad ([raymondhaddad5@gmail.com](mailto:raymondhaddad5@gmail.com))

- Recent release book titles
- New range of jewellery including handmade crosses, bracelets and prayer ropes

# 2023 Nativity Services



***Friday 22 December***  
**Royal Hours, 9.00 am**

***Saturday 23/12/2023***  
***Great Vespers at 6.00pm***

***Christmas Eve Sunday 24 December***  
***Vespers of the Nativity of our Lord***  
**6.00 pm**

***Christmas Day***  
***Monday 25 December***  
***Feast of the Nativity of our Lord***  
**Matins & Divine Liturgy 9.00 am**

***New Year's Eve***  
***Sunday 31 December***  
**Vespers 6.00pm**

## ***Christ is Born! Glorify Him***