

## **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 17, 2023; Tone 3 / Eothinon 6 Sunday of Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ Prophet Daniel and the Three Holy Youths Ananias, Azarias and Mishael; Dionysios of Zakynthos, the wonderworker**

### **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 3**

**Let** the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, For the Lord has done a mighty act with his own arm. He has trampled death by death and became the first born from the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hades, granting the world the great mercy.

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

**Through** faith, you have justified your ancestors, O Christ our God, and through them, You have espoused in advance the Church of the Gentiles. The saints rejoice in glory because, from the seed of these Ancestors, has come forth the glorious fruit, who gave birth to You without seed. Through their intercessions, O Christ God, save our souls!

#### **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: Blessed are You, O Lord, the God of our Fathers. For You are just in all that You have done for us.**

#### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Colossians. (3:4-11)**

**Brethren**, when Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, freeman, but Christ is all, and in all.

# The Gospel

*Refer p. 14 of service book*

## The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Luke(14:16-24)

16 **The** Lord spoke this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; 17 and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' 18 But, one by one, they all began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' 19 And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' 20 And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' 21 So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' 22 And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' 23 And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. 24 For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

## 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



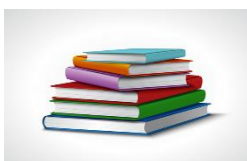
School

**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





# *Nativity Services*

**Friday 22/12/2023 @ 9.00am - Royal Hours**

**Saturday 23/12/2023 @ 6.00pm - Vespers**

**Sunday 24/12/2023 @ 9.00am - Matins & Liturgy**

**Sunday 24/12/2023 @ 6.00pm - Nativity Vespers**

**Monday 25/12/2023 @ 9.00am**

**Nativity Matins & Liturgy**

