

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 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

Sunday, March 31, 2024; Tone 2 / Eothinon 10 Second Sunday of Great Lent Commemoration of Gregory Palamas, archbishop of Thessalonica Hypatios the wonderworker, bishop of Gangra; Prophet Joel

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 of the Resurrection, in the Second Tone

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 Saint Gregory, in the Eighth Tone

O star of Orthodoxy, support of the Church and its teacher, O beauty of ascetics, and incontestable champion of those who speak in theology, Gregory the wonder-worker, the pride of Thessalonica and preacher of grace, implore you constantly for the salvation of 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 for the Sundays in Lent, in the Eighth Tone

O Champion leader, to you I offer thanks of victory, O Theotokos you have delivered me from terror. And as you have invincible power, O Theotokos, you alone can set me free from all danger. Set me free and deliver me that I may cry out to you: hail, O Bride without bridegroom.

The Epistle

Prokeimenon: *O Lord, You will preserve us and keep us from this generation. Save me, O Lord, for the godly man has disappeared.*

The reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews (1:10-2:3)

"In the beginning, You O Lord, did found the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all grow old like a garment, like a mantle you will roll them up, and they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end." But to what angel has he ever said, "Sit at my right hand, till I make your enemies a stool for your feet"? Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to serve, for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation? Therefore, we must pay closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For if the message declared by angels was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him.

The Gospel

Refer p. 14 of service book

The reading from the holy Gospel according to St Mark (2:1-12)

At that time, 1 when Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. 2 And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room for them, not even about the door; and he was preaching the word to them. 3 And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. 4 And when they could not get near Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. 5 And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." 6 Now some of the scribes were sitting there, reasoning in their hearts, 7 "Why does this man speak thus? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" 8 And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus reasoned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you reason thus in your hearts? 9 Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your pallet and walk'? 10 But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins" -- he said to the paralytic -- 11 "I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home." 12 And he rose, and immediately took up the pallet and went out before them all; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

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

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. 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



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

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

Event details can also be found on our calendar here:

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



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 (Friday) 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 | marykhoury@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 or 0414 547 842. Facebook: SMG Playgroup Meadowbank.

Church



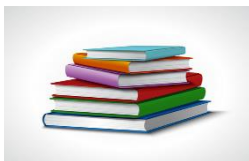
School

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 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) or Raymond Haddad (raymondhaddad5@gmail.com)

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

Theophany house blessings



We wish you a blessed Theophany.

During the days following the Feast of the Theophany (January 6th), it is customary for the Priest to visit the homes of his parishioners, bringing with him the “blessing Water” for the traditional Theophany House Blessing.

To arrange a house blessing following the Feast, please contact Rev Fr Michal via mobile 0403 847 690 or email parishpriest@smg.org.au.

Please also feel free to contact Fr Michal if you know of any families in the area who may like to meet Father and partake in this important event for our community.