

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, February 07, 2021; Tone 2 / Eothinon 2 After-feast of the Presentation (Meeting) of Christ Parthenios, bishop of Lampsakos; Venerable Luke of Hellas; New-martyr George of Crete

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 for the Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ (Tone 1)

Rejoice, you who are full of grace, O Virgin Theotokos, for from you has risen the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, enlightening those in darkness. Rejoice you also, O righteous Elder, as you receive in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, who also grants unto us the Resurrection.

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.

The Kontakion for the presentation of Our Lord tone one

O Christ our God, who by your birth made holy the virgin's womb, and blessed the arms of Simeon, as was fit, who anticipated our need, and now have come to save us, give peace to your people in their struggles, and make strong those rulers whom You have loved, O only Lover of mankind.

The Epistle

Prokeimenon. *The Lord will give strength to His people. Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God; ascribe to the Lord honor and glory.*

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:1-10)

Brethren, working together with Him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For He says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and

behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

The Gospel

Refer p. 14 of service book

The reading from the holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (25:14-30 + Luke 8:8)

The Lord spoke this parable: A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying: "Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master." And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying: "Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master." He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying: "Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." But his master answered him, "You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." As Jesus said these things He cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

Important Messages

Hospitality Sundays



"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." (Hebrews 13:2)

As many of you know, following Sunday Divine Liturgy we gather to enjoy fellowship and a light snack. This is a wonderful time to catch up with fellow parishioners and greet our guests. Hospitality Sundays are hosted by parish volunteers, one of the many service opportunities at Sts. Michael and Gabriel.

Maybe you also want to celebrate a special occasion in your family? Hosting a Hospitality Sunday is a great way to bring that celebration into the church family.

We ask people hosting to please observe fasting guidelines. Please also note that Sts. Michael and Gabriel parish supplies coffee, tea, milk, cups, plates and cutlery.

Please contact Fr Michal with your preferred date.

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.

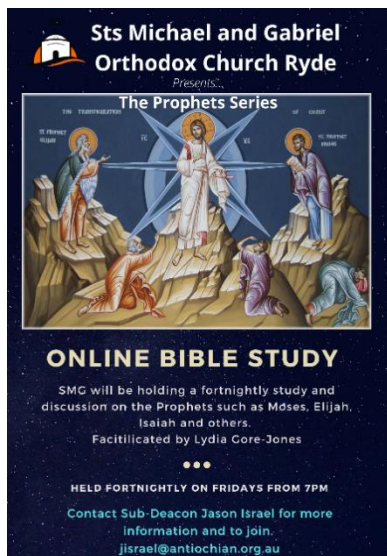
Pledges and/or general donations can be made by EFT to the following bank account: Commonwealth Bank | Name: Sts Michael & Gabriel Orthodox Church | BSB: 062-310 | Account: 1012 8321

Our Liturgical Calendar



Event details can also be found on our calendar here:

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



Adult Bible study

We are holding fortnightly Adult Bible Studies on Fridays at 7pm.

Currently these are held online.

For details and to join contact Sub-Deacon Jason Israel on jisrael@antiochian.org.au

MG Youth and Young Adult Bible Study

We are holding fortnightly Bible Studies for Youth and Young Adults ages 16 to 35.

Currently these are held online.

For details and to join contact Sub-Deacon Jason Israel on jisrael@antiochian.org.au

Ladies Auxiliary Bible study

Every Monday at 6.00 pm. Paraklesis service. Followed by Arabic Bible study Hosted by Fr Michal.

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

SMG Under 5's Playgroup



ST MICHAEL AND GABRIEL
PLAYGROUP
www.smg.org.au

Playgroup is held every Thursday during school term, 10am-12pm at Shepherd's Bay Community Centre, 3a Bay Drive, Meadowbank.

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 via drvictoriajk@ihug.com.au or 0414 547 842. Facebook: SMG Playgroup Meadowbank.

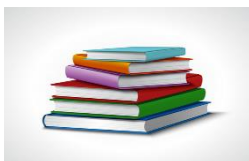
Church School



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

Contact: Christine Ayoub, SMG Church School
Director
0410643685 | cjabbour23@hotmail.com

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.

SPOCE- Semester 2021

Under the Patronage of His Eminence Basilios, we are pleased to announce a new semester 2021 of St Paul's Orthodox Christian Education which offers short courses on the Orthodox Christian Faith.

These Courses are highly recommended for the youth of our Archdiocese, especially Sunday school teachers, choir members, youth leaders and members and anyone else seeking to increase their knowledge of the Orthodox Christian Faith.

Due to Popular demand, we have increased our offering to three units per teaching period. Classes resume February of 2021 and places are limited. To register your interest and for more information visit:

<https://www.antiochian.org.au/departments/education/spoce/>

Divine Lantern Podcast

Under the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Basilios, the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia is proud to announce 'The Divine Lantern', a podcast (audio series) designated to Educate, Empower and Enrich the lives of listeners. Released weekly, The Divine Lantern offers sermons from our clergy, interviews with members of our Archdiocese, readings from the lives of the Saints and plus more. For more information, please visit:

<https://www.antiochian.org.au/resources/books-publications/podcast/>