

# 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)

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, 12 November 2017**

**9am Matins – Orthros | 10am Divine Liturgy (English) | 6pm Divine Liturgy (Arabic)**

**Tone 6 | Eothinon 1 | Eight Sunday of Luke**

Commemorated today: John the Almsgiver, patriarch of Alexandria; Neilos the Faster of Sinai; the myrrh-streaming of the Great Lavra on Athos; Martin the wonderworker, bishop of Tours; New-martyrs Sabbas and Nicholas of Constantinople

## 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 Tone 6**

When Mary stood at Your grave, looking for Your sacred body, angelic powers shone above Your revered tomb and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. You led Hades captive and was not tempted thereby, You did meet the Virgin and did give life to the world, O You who are risen from the dead, O Lord Glory to You.

### **Troparion Of John The Almsgiver, In Tone 8**

In your patience you won your reward, O righteous father. You did persevere unceasingly in prayer; you did love the poor, and did provide for them in all things. Wherefore, intercede with Christ our God, O blessed John the Almsgiver, that our souls be saved.

### **Troparion Of The Archangels, In 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 The Theotokos, In Tone 4**

Protector of Christians, champion undefeated, mediator most sure with our creator, disregard not the voice of prayer of sinners, but come quickly in your goodness, to help us who cry out to you with faith: Be swift to intercede, make hast to supplicate, O Theotokos, protector always of those who honour you.

## The Epistle

*Refer p. 13 of service book*

**Prokeimenon:** *My mouth shall speak of wisdom; and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding. Hear this, all ye people.*

### **The Reading From The Second Epistle Of St Paul To The Corinthians (9:6-11)**

Brethren, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

## The Gospel

Refer p. 14 of service book

### The Reading From The Holy Gospel According To St .Luke (10: 25-37)

At that time, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?" And the lawyer answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself." And he said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live."

But the lawyer, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbour to the man who fell among the robbers?" The lawyer said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

### Reflection On The Gospel Reading\*

#### The Good Samaritan – Eight Sunday of Luke

In the Gospel for this Sunday (Luke 10:25-37), Jesus is asked by a lawyer what he must do to inherit eternal life. Jesus asks him what his interpretation of the commandments is, and the lawyer replies "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind', and 'your neighbour as yourself.'" Jesus replies that this is correct, and the lawyer then asks who is defined as a neighbour.

Jesus replies with the following parable: A man was travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by thieves, who wounded him and left him half-dead on the road. A priest and a Levite both came across the man, but passed him by. A Samaritan, however, had compassion on the man and bandaged his wounds. He then took him to an inn and cared for him there. The next day, before he left, the Samaritan gave two denarii (then equivalent to two days wages) to the innkeeper and told him to look after the man, promising to repay any further expenses. Jesus then asks the lawyer who was the neighbour to the injured man, and the lawyer replies "He who showed mercy on him." Jesus says to him "Go and do likewise."

The Samaritan's actions in this parable would have been surprising to Jesus' Jewish audience, as Jews and Samaritans had a long-standing hatred of each other. Saint Augustine interprets the parable allegorically: the wounded man is Adam, representing humanity, and the thieves who attacked him are Satan and his demons. The inn where the Samaritan brought the man is the Church. And finally, the Samaritan is Christ, who heals our wounds and is a neighbour to us all.

\*Our regular Gospel Reflection contributor, Glenn Gore-Jones, is taking a well-deserved break so we will be re-printing some of the reflections previously shared.

## 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.

To make things easier for our host families, hosting guidelines and calendar of available dates are on our website <http://www.smg.org.au/ministries-community/hospitality-sundays/>. We ask people hosting to please observe fasting guidelines provided. Please also note that Sts. Michael and Gabriel parish supplies coffee, tea, milk, cups, plates and cutlery.

Please email Monica Ibrahim via [monica.ibrahim1@gmail.com](mailto:monica.ibrahim1@gmail.com) 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](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

## Calendar Of Events

### Our Liturgical Calendar



#### Entry of the Theotokos

20 November 2017, 7pm  
Divine Liturgy

#### Nativity Fast

Starts on 15 November. We wish a joyous fast to our parishioners!

#### St Andrew

29 November 2017, 7pm  
Divine Liturgy

#### St Nicholas the Wonderworker

5 December 2017 at 7pm  
Divine Liturgy

#### Royal Hours Service

22 December 2017 at 9am

#### Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ

25 December 2017 at 10am  
Divine Liturgy

### SMG Adult Bible Study



#### Adult Bible study

**17 November at 7.30pm. Topic:** The Dawn of the Protestant Reformation (16th Century).

Sessions are held with Fr Michal's blessing and hosted by Raymond Haddad (Bachelor of Theology, Graduate Diploma in Education, Graduate Diploma of Counselling). Newcomers welcome, registration not required. All sessions conducted in English and are followed by fellowship. For more information contact Raymond Haddad via [raymondhaddad5@gmail.com](mailto:raymondhaddad5@gmail.com)

#### Ladies Auxiliary Bible study

**Session are held on the last Tuesday of the month at 7pm. after the Paraklesis service.** Hosted by Fr Michal.

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

## SMG Church School



**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.**

Welcome back to the final term of Church School for 2017!

-----  
Please note these important dates:

**Sunday 3rd December: St. Nicholas Day Celebrations**

Light lunch followed by visit from St. Nicholas and gift receiving. Gift's will be organised for your children by the church school teachers. We kindly ask you on the day (or preferably before) to make a donation to our chosen charity in participation with our only annual Church School Charity fundraiser. Please see Christine if you have further questions.

**Sunday 10th December: Church School Nativity Play**

All Children are invited to participate. Please attend Church School in the coming weeks to ensure your placement.

**Saturday 16th December: Church School Confession**

Fr Michel will be available for confession from 3:30pm. Refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to Christine 0410643685.

**Sunday 17th December: Nursing Home Visit** - a light lunch will be served after Liturgy and parents are invited to join children as they sing, perform and give gifts to elderly residents. More details to follow.

Contact: Christine Ayoub, SMG Church School Director  
0410643685 | [cjabbour23@hotmail.com](mailto:cjabbour23@hotmail.com)

## SMG Under 5's Playgroup



**ST MICHAEL AND GABRIEL  
PLAYGROUP**  
[www.smg.org.au](http://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.

For more information please contact: Dr Victoria Khoury via [drvictoriajk@ihug.com.au](mailto:drvictoriajk@ihug.com.au) or 0414 547 842, Evelene Safadi via [evelene\\_safadi@hotmail.com](mailto:evelene_safadi@hotmail.com) or 0416 140 378, or Monica Ibrahim via [monica.ibrahimi@gmail.com](mailto:monica.ibrahimi@gmail.com).

Facebook: SMG Playgroup Meadowbank.

## SMG Annual General Meeting Notice



Dear Parishioners,

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of St's Michael & Gabriel Antiochian Orthodox Church will be held on:

**Sunday 26 November 2016 at 11.30am** (following Divine Liturgy), in the Church, 72 Belmore St Ryde, NSW, 2112

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you at our Annual General Meeting.

In Christ,

Very Rev Fr Michal Zghaib and the Parish Council of Sts Michael and Gabriel Antiochian Orthodox Church.