

BE INVOLVED....
MINISTRIES AND ACTIVITIES



ST MICHAEL'S PARISH
UNDER THE CARE OF THE MICHAELITE FATHERS

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Catholic Church in Sydney has been blessed with tremendous growth over nearly 200 years — chiefly through over 140 parishes, in which countless people have come to know and love God.

As Sydney has changed, so Parishes have changed over my lifetime and yours. Although parishes provide the most basic experience of "local church" for most people, it is also true that many people identify with other communities and movements, and often travel out of their neighbourhood to the parish they prefer. In the words of Pope Francis (*Evangelii Gaudium*), 'let us embrace these changes as graced opportunities to rediscover the original source of mission in our contemporary world'.

When I was installed as Archbishop on 12 November 2014, I shared with you my hope for our Church in Sydney – for a Church in which the Gospel is preached with joy, the wisdom of our tradition mined with fidelity, the sacraments celebrated with dignity and welcome, and the seminaries, convents and youth groups teeming with new life; a Church in which our parishes, chaplaincies and educational institutions are true centres of the new evangelisation, our laity theologically literate and spiritually well-formed, our outreach to the needy effective and growing, and God glorified above all.

I have commenced a new pastoral project called 'Parish 2020' with the aim of renewing and strengthening Parishes and communities of the Archdiocese for our future, and I want to hear from you about how our parishes can better collaborate to grow the Church in Sydney. (. . .)

I commend the renewal of the Church of our Archdiocese to your special prayers, as through the Holy Spirit we are united as Church, of one mind and one spirit, working with joy for the growth of God's Kingdom.

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Anthony Fisher OP

LITURGY AND DEVOTIONS

ANNUAL

Special Liturgical Seasons

Advent and Christmas Season

Christmas crib and church decorations

Contact: Mike Amper

Team: Filipino Community

Christmas lights

Contact: Anthony Nguyen

Team: Parishioners

Christmas Party

Contact: Mike Amper, Normalita Padua

Team: Filipino Community

Children's Christmas Liturgy

Coordinator: Therese De Vine

Children's Choir Coordinator: Carmela Gonzaga

LITURGY AND DEVOTIONS

ANNUAL

Lent

The Way of the Cross: Fridays of Lent

Music: Carmela Gonzaga

Lenten Program: Weekly meditation and discussion on the
following Sunday's readings

Covering of Crosses and images by the 5th Sunday of Lent

(crosses uncovered after the Lord's Passion on Good Friday and all images before the Easter Vigil Mass)

Organisers: Bob Hamblion and Willie Jahja

LITURGY AND DEVOTIONS

ANNUAL

Holy Week

Palm Sunday and Paschal Triduum Liturgy

Coordinator: Stefanie Lia

Team: Joe Vaz, Bob Hamblion, Willie Jahja, acolytes, lectors,
musicians, altar servers

Holy Monday Communal Rite of Reconciliation

St Patrick's Church, Kogarah

Holy Thursday Altar of Repose

Organisers: Willie and Yen Jahja

Good Friday Stations of the Cross

Coordinator: Sandra Mak

Music: Endravian Family

Stations decorations: Ethnic Groups

LITURGY AND DEVOTIONS

ANNUAL

Celebrations

Blessed Markiewicz Feast Day (weekend closest to the 30th of January)
liturgical commemoration of the founder of the Michaelites

Coordinator: Office

Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration (week after Easter Sunday)

Coordinator: Valerie Gonzaga

Feast of Corpus Christi Procession

Contact: Sanjay Zanak

St Michael Feast Day (Sunday closest to 29th of September)

Coordinator: Normalita Padua

Team: Filipino Community

Ethnic-Themed Sunday Masses (October and November)

Filipino: Normalita Padua

Chinese: Urey and Elsie Lau, Margaret Tham

Irish:

Indian: Con and Maureen Coutinho

Italian:

LITURGY AND DEVOTIONS

ANNUAL

Retreats

Parish retreat 1: during the Lenten season

Parish retreat 2: in September before the patronal feast of St Michael

Novenas

Novena before the patronal feast of St Michael: 20 – 28 September

Contact: Carmela Gonzaga

Divine Mercy Novena: starts on Good Friday

Contact: Carmela Gonzaga

Planned Monthly Novena to the Divine Mercy: 4th Saturday of the month at 3pm

Contact: Michele Anthony

LITURGY AND DEVOTIONS

MONTHLY

First Friday Mass and Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

This devotion especially recognises the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and through it offers reparation for sins. In the visions of Christ reported by Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque in the 17th century, several promises were made to those people who practice the First Fridays Devotions, one of which is final perseverance. The devotion includes Mass, Adoration and Reconciliation.

First Friday of the month

6.00 pm Adoration and Reconciliation

7.00 pm Holy Mass

Contact: Carmela Gonzaga

First Saturday Devotion to Our Lady of Fatima

To commemorate the 100 years of Fatima apparitions, our parish introduced the First Saturday devotion. It starts with Mass followed by procession of light with the statue of Our Lady of Fatima from the church to the Grotto and recitation of the Holy Rosary. During her July apparition at Fatima, Our Lady said to Lucia, "I shall come to ask... that on the First Saturday of every month, Communions of reparation be made in atonement for the sins of the world."

First Saturday of the month

5.00 pm Holy Mass followed by the Holy Rosary in the church or procession to the grotto

Contact: Valerie Gonzaga (The Legion of Mary)

LITURGY AND DEVOTIONS

MONTHLY

Padre Pio Group

Padre Pio envisioned prayer groups as God's instruments of relief for a suffering world. Alone, he knew he could do little for those who are suffering everywhere, so Padre Pio organized prayer groups which will embrace all who need help in either body or soul. Padre Pio exhorts the members to stand united, never tire in doing good, have respect and be obedient to the Church Hierarchy and be firm and persevere in their commitment.

First Fridays after the 9.15 am Mass in the Church

Annual Gathering on 31 December

Contact: Rosamaria Lia

Elizabeth Jovanovski

Members: Rufina Zarro, Teresa Liu, Ana Hrestak, Celine Bernhardt, Nives Care, Maria Perugina, Lissy Dickson, Maria Braga, Cecilia Pang, Silvia Ferrugia, Antonieta Costantini, Briege Robson, Ira Widjaja, Stefanie Lia, Rosa Severino

Praise and Worship

Every third Sunday of the Month

7 – 7.30 pm

Contact: Ken Endravian

Musicians: Endravian Family

LITURGY AND DEVOTIONS

WEEKLY

Holy Eucharist

The celebration of Mass, as the action of Christ and of the People of God arrayed hierarchically, is the center of the whole of Christian life for the Church both universal and local, as well as for each of the faithful individually. For in it is found the high point both of the action by which God sanctifies the world in Christ and of the worship that the human race offers to the Father, adoring him through Christ, the Son of God, in the Holy Spirit. In it, moreover, during the course of the year, the mysteries of redemption are celebrated so as to be in some way made present. As to the other sacred actions and all the activities of the Christian life, these are bound up with it, flow from it, and are ordered to it.

Vigil Masses: 5.00 pm

6.30 pm (Spanish)

Sunday Masses: 8.00 am, 10.00 am, 6.00 pm

12.15 pm (Mandarin; 1st& 3rd Sundays)

12.00 pm (Cantonese; 4th Sundays)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Those who approach the sacrament of Penance obtain pardon from God's mercy for the offense committed against him, and are, at the same time, reconciled with the Church which they have wounded by their sins and which by charity, by example, and by prayer labours for their conversion.

Every Saturday: after the 9.00 am Mass

before the 5 pm Vigil Mass

LITURGY AND DEVOTIONS

WEEKLY

Perpetual Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

The origin of the novena may be traced to the nine days spent by the apostles in prayer together with Our Lady after the Ascension and before the coming of the Holy Spirit on the tenth day of Pentecost. The Perpetual Novena is so called because the public novena services are held on a specified day each week, such as Saturday, and continue all through the year. Thus, a novena of Saturdays can be begun or concluded at any time during the year. A Private Novena can be undertaken by a family or an individual at any time. Petitions and thanksgiving letters are warmly accepted.

Saturdays after the 9.00 am Mass in the Church

Novena prayers and Benediction

Contact: Carmela Gonzaga

Devotion to St Michael the Archangel and the Angels

We come together as a parish community to pray for the intercession of our patron St Michael and the Angels. The Chaplet of St Michael, prayers of exorcism and Benediction is part of the devotion.

Tuesdays at 7.00 pm in the Church

Contact: Carmela Gonzaga

Altar Setting: Deena and Ria Geol on Monday for Tuesday

Petitions and thanksgiving letters are warmly accepted. Please place them in the box at the front of the Church beside St Michael's statue or email to saintmichaelknights@gmail.com

LITURGY AND DEVOTIONS

WEEKLY

Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle

The Marian Movement of Priests was founded by Fr. Stefano Gobbi in 1972. Cenacle refers to the gathering of the apostles around the Blessed Mother in the Upper Room in which the Last Supper was celebrated and in which they awaited the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In Cenacles of Prayer the laity gather with the clergy, and with our Lady, as they pray for and await the Triumph of the Immaculate Heart. Holy Rosary, cenacle prayers and adoration.

Tuesdays at 6.00 pm in the Church

Contact: Rosamaria Lia

Members: Teresa Liu, Celine Bernhardt, Ana Hrestak, Elizabeth Jovanovski, Ana Hennessy, Nidal Faroj, Lissy Dickson, Ron Butterworth

Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle (Croatian)

Holy Rosary, cenacle prayers and agape

Thursdays at 11.00 am in the Church

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction

This is an extension of the adoration of Jesus in the Eucharist which occurs in every Sacrifice of the Mass: "Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb". It serves to deepen our hunger for Communion with Christ and his Holy Church. Holy Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet and blessing of the Faithful by the ordained minister with the Blessed Sacrament.

Fridays after the morning Mass

LITURGY AND DEVOTIONS

WEEKLY

Pilgrim Statue of our Lady of Fatima

Circulation of the pilgrim statue amongst the families of the parish. The Fatima statue is brought to the host family and the Holy Rosary is prayed. It is then picked up a week later to be taken to another family.

Tuesdays at 7.00 pm (alternative time and day will be organized as requested by the host family)

Coordinator: Legion of Mary (Burton Craig)

Visitation of St Michael

Circulation of the pilgrim statue amongst the families of the parish.

Angels are the constant companions in our lives given to us by God. Each one of us has a guardian angel who protects and guides us and who will lead us to Heaven if we but allow it. Most of us though, go through life oblivious to the presence of these spiritual beings. Therefore, we aim to promote knowledge and devotion to the Holy Angels, especially to St Michael by doing home visitations.

The statue of St Michael (Gargano) visits the homes of our parishioners. Fr Janusz leads the prayers, gives a talk and then blesses the home and the family.

Contact: Carmela Gonzaga

Email: saintmichaelknights@gmail.com

LITURGY AND DEVOTIONS

DAILY

Holy Eucharist

Even though it is on occasion not possible to have the presence and active participation of the faithful, which manifest more clearly the ecclesial nature of the celebration, the celebration of the Eucharist is always endowed with its own efficacy and dignity, since it is the act of Christ and of the Church, in which the Priest fulfills his own principal function and always acts for the sake of the people's salvation. Hence the Priest is recommended to celebrate the Eucharistic Sacrifice, in so far as he can, even daily.

Holy Mass: 6.45 am (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday)

9.15 am or 9.00 am during school breaks (Thursday, Friday)

9.00 am (Saturday)

Prayer of the Church (Divine Office)

The Liturgy of the Hours is the richest single prayer resource of the Church, with prayers, psalms and readings for each of the Hours, changing each day and through the seasons.

Thursday and Fridays at 9.00 am (before Mass)

Holy Rosary: after every weekday Mass

Leaders: Ofelia Santos, Rose Polic, Max and Annie Montecillo

The Rosary helps us keep in mind the principal events in the life of our Saviour Jesus Christ and to give praise and thank God.

LITURGY AND DEVOTIONS

DAILY

Angelus: 12.00 pm at the Parish Office, Bethany College, St Mary Star of the Sea

This is a devotion in honour of the Incarnation prayed at 6 am, midday and 6 pm. Archbishop Fisher encourages the Faithful of Sydney to make the Angelus a prayer of the community at noon.

The "Regina Coeli" (one of four Marian antiphons) is said in place of the Angelus during Eastertide.

Divine Mercy: 3 pm at the Parish Office

The message of The Divine Mercy is simple. It is that God loves us – all of us. And, he wants us to recognize that his mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon him with trust, receive his mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share his joy.

This message and devotion to Jesus as The Divine Mercy is based on the writings of Saint Faustina Kowalska, an uneducated Polish nun who, in obedience to her spiritual director, wrote a diary of about 600 pages recording the revelations she received about God's mercy.

The message and devotional practices proposed in the Diary of Saint Faustina are completely in accordance with the teachings of Church and are firmly rooted in the Gospel message of our Merciful Savior. Properly understood and implemented, they will help us grow as genuine followers of Christ.

MINISTRIES IN LITURGY

Acolytes

The acolyte is instituted to serve at the altar and to assist the priest and deacon. In particular, it is his responsibility to prepare the altar and the sacred vessels and, if necessary, as an extraordinary minister.

Coordinator: John Romanous

Assistant Coordinator: Louis Cheung

Peter McInerney, John Mercer, Pat McGrath, Tony Sakr, Michael Troiano, Lou Maffina, Jermyn Chan, Bob Hamblion, Sanjay Zanak, Ruel Padua, Mike Amper, Anthony Nguyen, Gerard Sarmiento, Nino Soccio, Geoff Tuazon, Gerard Chan, Mark Halavazis, Willie Jahja

Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Assisting in the distribution of Holy Communion during Mass

Coordinator: Pat Hinson

Training Coordinator: Colleen Calopedis

Roster: Teodora Buenviaje

Christina Fitzsimmons, Joan Banks, Patricia Shiel, Rosa Severino, Rosa Puntillo, Sarah Milardi, Elizabeth Vong, Antoinette Zakaria, Dorothy Ryan, Resurreccion Sirborough, Normalita Padua, Michele Anthony, Merle Ynfante, Antonietta Toscano, Rosemary Craven, Teresa Yin, Burton Craig, Grazia D'Amico, Mark Halavazis, Royston Fernandes, Michelle Sarmiento, Shianti Tandiana, Sarah Newman, Catherine Burgess, Barbara Parker, Roslyn Chan, Ana Hennessy, Yen Jahja, Jim Manwaring, TC Mak, Therese Borg, Thanh Nguyen, Teresa Liu, Alma McNally, Maureen Coutinho, Sandra Mak, Linda Ling, Valerie Gonzaga

MINISTRIES IN LITURGY

Lectors

The lector is instituted to proclaim the readings from Sacred Scripture, except for the Gospel. He may also announce the intentions for the Universal Prayer and, in the absence of a psalmist, recite the Psalm between the readings. In the celebration of the Eucharist, the lector has his own proper function, which he himself must carry out. In the absence of an instituted lector, other lay people may be deputed to proclaim the readings from Sacred Scripture, people who are truly suited to carrying out this function and carefully prepared, so that by their hearing the readings from the sacred texts the faithful may conceive in their hearts a sweet and living affection for Sacred Scripture.

Coordinator: Sandra Mak

Training Coordinator: Colleen Calopedis

Roster: Teodora Buenviaje

Christina Fitzsimmons, Joan Banks, Peter McInerney, George Rezcallah, Charbel Rezcallah, Warren Del Grande, Vanessa Fernandes, Jean-Marc Morvan, Betty Leung, Jim Manwaring, Valerie Gonzaga, Elizabeth Vong, Elizabeth Mansfield, Stefanie Lia, Matthew Voysey, Joy Vaz, Normalita Padua, Michele Anthony, Lily Alvarez, Lorraine Zilich, Madeline Murray, Merle Ynfante, Rosemary Craven, Maureen Coutinho, Marcus D'Souza, Royston Fernandes, Jennifer Sayers, Andrea Borges, Kevin Mak, Teresita MontChan, Maria Lorenzo, Chris Schipp, Linda Ling, Pat Hinson, Thanh Nguyen, Rose Polic, Liberty Homeres, Pinky Acevedo, Celine Bernhardt, Annie Montecillo

MINISTRIES IN LITURGY

Music Ministry

Plans the selection of hymns around the theme of the celebration, as well as keeping in mind the parts of the Mass, the feast or the liturgical season and leading the congregation in singing.

Coordinator: Carmela Gonzaga

Assistant Coordinator: Joy Vaz

Groups: God Provides, Endravian Family, St Cecilia, Joy Vaz and Co, Eddie Lising and Co, Young Adults Group, Colleen Calopedis, Carol Hamblion and Fran Long, Gonzaga Family

Children's Liturgy

Teaching children during Liturgy of the Word at the 10.00 am Mass and being involved in the children's Masses throughout the year.

Contact: Therese De Vine

Members: Scarlett and Therese De Vine, Christie and Jennifer Mak, Georgia and Kylie Marks, Nicola Di Napoli

Greeters

Welcome parishioners at the church doors, seat them appropriately and marshal them in procession. They also distribute the parish bulletin and other information sheets.

Members: Joan Banks, Pat, Wi Na, Pat Fong, Evelyn Ciccioiti, Jocelyn and Filipino group, Linda Ling, Pat Hinson, Sandra Mak, Dylan Mak

MINISTRIES IN LITURGY

Altar Servers

Coordinators: Pat McGrath and Tony Sakr

School Liaison: Tony Sartor

Mass Community Representatives (MCR)/Commentators

The commentator, who, if appropriate, provides the faithful briefly with explanations and exhortations so as to direct their attention to the celebration and ensure that they are better disposed for understanding it. The commentator's remarks should be thoroughly prepared and notable for their restraint.

Members: Chris Fitzsimmons, George Rezcallah, Fred Robinson, Normalita Padua, Maureen and Con Coutinho, Rosemary Craven, Sandra Mak, Pat Hinson, Linda Ling

Money Counters

They take up the collections within the Mass and count church collection

Sundays between 9.00 am – 10.00 am on a monthly roster basis

Roster: Teresa Yin

Members: Teresa Yin, Alice Rivera, Lorraine Harrington, Fifi Hutama, Ian Ventura, Gerard Borham, Veronica Callaghan, Bob Hinson, Sarah Milardi, Alan Liow, Tom Carson, Ursula O'Shea, Marlene Kraft, Shianti Hermansjah, Patricia Fong, Zenia Zanak, Grahame Shields, Pat Shields, Tom Sinn, Elizabeth Vong, Pinky Acevedo, Cathy Phan-Tien

SERVICE IN THE PARISH

Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary is a lay Catholic organization whose members voluntarily serve the Church under the guidance of the parish priest in almost every country. The Legion was founded by Frank Duff on 7 September 1921 in Dublin. His vision was to help Catholic laypeople fulfill their baptismal promises and live out their dedication to the Church in an organized structure, supported by fraternity and prayer.

Our work includes: taking Holy Communion to those unable to attend Mass; facilitating the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Confirmation and Extreme Unction as well as catechizing people about these Sacraments; accompanying and instructing those who are enquiring about the Catholic Faith until Initiation; coordinating the Parish Sacramental Program (Confirmation, Holy Communion and Reconciliation) as well as giving catechesis to the parish children; catechizing the children in Hurstville Public School; visiting parishioners in their homes on behalf of the parish priest and organizing/coordinating parish liturgy (Holy Week and other Feast days), devotions (i.e. novenas, rosaries) and parish celebrations.

Wednesdays at 7.30 pm in the Old Church

President: Valerie Gonzaga

Members: Burton Craig, Jim Manwaring, Mark Halavazis, Angelo Soccio, Elizabeth Vong, Therese Borg, Francesca Choi, , Roslyn Chan, Linda Ling, TC Mak, Henry Chandrajaya, Maribel Villanueva, Ana Hennessy, Maria Lorenzo

SERVICE IN THE PARISH

Parish Pastoral Council

The Church exists for a solitary goal and that is to carry forward the work of Christ under the lead of the befriending Spirit. And Christ came into this world to witness to the truth, to rescue and not to sit in judgement, to serve and not to be served. – Second Vatican Council.

Wherever the Church gathers in its local forms the mission to carry on the work of Christ remains the same. By virtue of our baptism we become part of the Church. The parish is where the Church lives.

The Parish Pastoral Council exists to ensure that the parish community has every opportunity to carry forward the mission of Christ. It seeks to:

- *enrich the quality of parish life*
- *provide opportunities for parishioners*
 - a) *to grow in holiness*
 - b) *to discover and live out a personal and community call to mission to live as Catholics who effectively transform society.*

The PPC is ideally a representative group of the parish community.

Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of the month, 4x/year (February, May, August, November) at 7.00 pm at the Presbytery Meeting Room

President: Vacant

Secretary: Patricia Whelan

Members: Rev Dr Janusz Bieniek (Parish Priest), Principal of St Mary Star of the Sea: Stephen Darcy (Ex-Officio), Principal of Bethany College: Robyn Rodwell (Ex-Officio), Teresa Yin, Normalita Padua, Carmela Gonzaga, Valerie Fernandes, Mike Amper, Sanjay Zanak, Bijith Varghese

SERVICE IN THE PARISH

Parish Finance Committee

The Code of Canon Law provides that every person who administers temporal goods on behalf of a group is to consult with that group in carrying out the administration. For parishes, can. 537 makes it obligatory that there be a finance committee to advise the parish priest.

The parish priest is the administrator of the assets of the parish and a finance committee acts only in an advisory capacity. At the same time the priest is asked to remember that it is the parishioners who have provided the assets.

Through the finance committee the parishioners are to seek to lessen the burden of the parish priest in administering parish finances, in maintaining parish properties, in planning for future capital works, in raising the necessary finances and in establishing a framework for greater shared responsibility within parish life.

Meets when the need arises.

Parish Priest: Rev Dr Janusz Bieniek

Members: Teresa Yin, Louis Cheung, Valerie Gonzaga, Michael Troiano

SERVICE IN THE PARISH

Church Library

Books, CDs and videos available for borrowing after weekend Masses.

Contact: Teodora Buenviaje, David Fong

Pious Goods Store

Provides a selection of prayer books, holy pictures and other religious items after each Mass on weekends

Contact: Parish Office during office hours

Contact (weekends): Yen Jahja, Bruce and Diane Ritchie, Pat Fong, Amy Cheung

Altar Society

Care of the Sanctuary, sacred vessels, linen and flowers

Members: Yen Jahja, Antonietta Tuscano, Deena Geol

Flower Arrangement

Care of the flowers in the church

Contact: Antoinette Zakaria

CATECHESIS

Sacramental Program

A collaboration between St Michael's Parish, St Mary Star of the Sea Primary School and Hurstville Public School.

Program of instruction for all parish children for the Sacraments of Confirmation, Holy Communion and Reconciliation.

Coordinator: Valerie Gonzaga

Team: Carmela Gonzaga, Elizabeth Vong, Meliani Djuari, Pinky Acevedo, Therese Borg, Tom Sinn

Catechism at Hurstville Public School

Teaching children from kindergarten to year six every Wednesday of the school year.

Coordinator: Margaret Tham

Assistant Coordinator: Valerie Gonzaga

Team: Fred Robinson, Tony Sakr, Louis Cheung, Valerie Gonzaga, Teresita Montchan, Teresa Chow, Evelyn Ciccioti, Elizabeth Vong, Mimi Lui, Crystal Foon

CATECHESIS

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

For non-Catholics who want to know more about the Catholic Faith.

Starts July till the Easter Triduum

Tuesdays at 7.45 pm (after the St Michael Devotion) at the Presbytery Meeting Room

Coordinator: Valerie Gonzaga

RCIA (Cantonese)

Contact: Margaret Tham

RCIA (Mandarin)

Contact: Elsie and Urey Lau

Sr Agnes Wang

Baptism Preparation for Children

First Wednesdays of the month at 7.30 pm

Coordinator: Royston Fernandes

Contact: Parish Office

MISSIONS/SOCIAL JUSTICE

Knights of Saint Michael the Archangel

A Catholic religious movement established in Poland under the initiative of the Congregation of St Michael the Archangel in 1994 with the approval by the Holy See's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. St Michael the Archangel is the patron of the Knights, the biblical warrior whose name in Hebrew means "who is like God".

Its mission is to offer expiation to God for the sins of mankind, to pray for the conversion of sinners and to proclaim the victory of Jesus Christ over Satan. The Knights actively support the apostolate of the Congregation of St Michael in their work with youth, fostering vocations and aiding missionary causes.

The members of the Knighthood are confirmed Catholics who are open to the Holy Spirit and willing to give of themselves to Christ. They commit themselves to the daily recitation of a simple prayer of exorcism to keep and drive away evil spirits from oneself, the Church and the whole world and in particular from those that are tempted and possessed by the devil as well as monthly attendance of prayer meetings called a Host of Adoration.

Second Tuesday of the month at 7 pm

Contact: Michaelite Priests

MISSIONS/SOCIAL JUSTICE

The Confraternity of the Scapular of St Michael the Archangel

The scapular of St Michael is a visible sign of entrusting oneself to St Michael the Archangel and of belonging to the Michaelite family. Wearing it reminds us of our Christian responsibilities and the certainty of St Michael's intercession on our behalf with God. Those who have been invested with the scapular share in the spiritual goods of the Congregation of St Michael the Archangel. The first scapular of St Michael was approved by Pope Leo XIII in the nineteenth century. The present form of the scapular was approved on 1 March 2013 by the decree of the Superior General of the Congregation of St Michael the Archangel. Pope Benedict XVI in the "letter to Michaelites" wrote: The motives of the receiving of the scapular in its present form should serve as a reminder to the wearer that he/she is experiencing an effective assistance of the mighty Defender, discovering in oneself the majesty, goodness and love of God, and to realize that there is no greater value, or any other equally great good outside of God – the Creator and Lord of all living things.

*Offer Mass on second Tuesday of the month for devotees of St Michael

*Display the Register containing the names of parishioners invested with the scapular of St Michael

*Organise 9 candles signifying the Nine Choirs of Angels on the Altar

Contacts: Colleen Calopedis, Teodora Buenviaje, Thanh Nguyen

MISSIONS/SOCIAL JUSTICE

Saint Michael Mission Society

This was set up in Sydney back in 1996 to raise awareness and funds for the Michaelite missions in Papua New Guinea and to help support the priests working there and to educate the seminarians. It is affiliated with and approved by the Archdiocese of Sydney. In 1998 it was incorporated and granted the status of an Association by the NSW Department of Fair Trading. Since May 2000, the Society has been registered with the Australian Taxation Office and has been allocated with an ABN (Australian Business Number). As stated in its Constitution, the St Michael Mission Society aims to "alleviate illiteracy and promote education in the spirit of Christian ideals". Hence funds are raised to be used for students who are educated in PNG and brought to Australia for higher education; for construction of buildings such as schoolhouses and churches; and to assist in the provision of medical aid, education and development of job skills in PNG.

You become a member by filling in the registration form and paying an annual membership fee.

Spiritual Director: Rev Dr Janusz Bieniek CSMA

MISSIONS/SOCIAL JUSTICE

St Vincent Society

The St Vincent de Paul Society is a lay Catholic organization that aspires to live the gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy, and by working to shape a more just and compassionate society. The Society advocates on several pressing social justice issues such as homelessness, poverty and asylum seekers. It aspires to be recognized as a caring Catholic charity offering “a hand up” to people in need. We do this by respecting their dignity, sharing our hope, and encouraging them to take control of their own destiny.

Contact: Patricia Whelan

Members: Monica Langatuki, Catherine Burgess

Mini Vini Society

Bethany College

Contact:

Australian Family Association

Founded in 1980, the Australian Family Association is a not-for-profit, voluntary, and (non-party) political organisation which has been formed to provide a forum and a vehicle for those individuals and organisations in the community concerned with the strengthening and support of the family.

1st Thursdays of the month at 8.00 pm

Contact: David Sofatzis

MEETINGS

Theology Bible Studies

Thursdays at 7.30 pm (venue TBA)

Contact: Ruel Padua

Bible Studies

Fridays at 7.00 pm at the Corroboree Room (fortnightly)

Contact: Sanjay Zanak, Jude Pereira

Cantonese Prayer and Bible Study Groups

Saturdays (except 2nd Saturday) from 10 am – 12 pm at the Church Meeting Room: Women's Group

Contact: Margaret Tham

4th Sundays from 2 pm – 4 pm at the Church Meeting Room: Men's Group

Contact: Raymond Hung

Meditation Group

Saturdays at 8.00 am at the Back Meeting Room

Contact: Willie Jahja

Young Adults Prayer Group

4th Sunday of the month at 7.00 pm

Contact: David Sofatzis

CARE OF THE SICK

When the Church cares for the sick it serves Christ himself in the suffering members of his Mystical Body. The Church shows solicitude not only by visiting those who are in poor health but also by raising them up through the sacrament of anointing and by nourishing them with the Eucharist during their illness and when they are in danger of death.

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion (EoMofHC) take Holy Communion to the sick and elderly in their homes, nursing homes and hospitals.

The parish priest (or any other priest-in-residence) may always be called upon to administer the rite of the Anointing of the Sick (Extreme Unction).

Hospitals

St George Hospital

St George Private

Waratah Hospital

Nursing Homes

Homewood – EoMofHC: John Mercer, Pat Hinson

Bupa – EoMofHC: Legion of Mary

Botany Gardens – EoMofHC: Legion of Mary

Home Visits and Holy Communion to Housebound

Legion of Mary

EoMofHC

PARISH SCHOOLS

Bethany College 02 8566 0711

Principal: Robyn Rodwell

Religious Coordinator: Diane Kennaugh

St Mary Star of the Sea Primary School 02 9587 2358

Principal: Stephen Darcy

Religious Coordinator: Tony Sartor

Family and Faith Liaison Officer: Maria Boyd

Sacramental Coordinator: Valerie Gonzaga

Priest: Reconciliation – Wednesdays

Class Masses – Fridays and on special occasions

Class visits – Wednesdays

Hurstville Public School

Catechist Coordinator: Margaret Tham

Catechist Assistant Coordinator: Valerie Gonzaga

ADMINISTRATION

Parish Office

Secretary: Leena Langatuki (3 days/week, Mon, Tue, Fri)

Secretary: David Sofatzis (2 days/week, Wed, Thu)

Bookkeeping: Maria Awad (0.5 day/week)

Office help: Teodora Buenviaje (2 days/week; volunteer)

Banking: Tom Carson, Joe Grima, Leena Langatuki (weekly; volunteers)

Accountant: Lou Maffina (as needed; volunteer)

Other volunteers: Colleen Calopedis, Elizabeth Vong, Monica Langatuki, Evelyn Ciccioiti

Sacramental Office

Sacramental and RCIA Coordinator: Valerie Gonzaga (volunteer)

Child Safeguarding Officer: Valerie Gonzaga (volunteer)

Maintenance

Church, presbytery and grounds: Pawel Nowak and Alicia Nowak

Lights and sound system: Anthony Nguyen (volunteer)

Plumbing: George Craven

CLERGY/RELIGIOUS

Presbytery

Parish Priest: Rev Dr Janusz Bieniek CSMA

Visiting Priests:

Michaelite Priests including Rev Kenneth Kaimalan CSMA, Rev Isaac Koi MSC, Rev Maciej Hulas, Rev Bogdan Skupien, PNG Missionaries

Chaplains

Spanish: Rev Tomas Ruiz Miranda CS

Mandarin: Rev Andrew Fong

Cantonese: Rev Lucas Leung OFM

Religious

Our Lady of China: Sr Agnes, Sr Assunta and others

Scalabrini Sisters

Volunteers: Colleen Calopedis, Therese Allen, Teresa Liu and Roslyn Chan (supplier of yummy food!)

MEDIA AND PUBLICATIONS

Parish Webpage and Facebook Site

Valerie Gonzaga, Leena Langatuki, David Sofatzis

Parish Bulletin

Leena Langatuki, Fr Janusz

Quarterly Newsletter – In Honour of the Angels

Fr Janusz, Caterina Raccosta

Be Involved – Ministries and Activities at St Michael's Parish

Parish Ministry Guidelines

Fr Janusz, Valerie Gonzaga

Sunday Liturgy Power Point Presentation

Teresa Yin, Michael Burke, Julie Ebejer, Endravian Family

Liturgy Booklets

Valerie Gonzaga



Our Vision

We at St. Michael's are committed to calling each other by name, making God present among us, and being the hands of the Mystical Body of Christ.

Our Mission

We celebrate Liturgy as a community. We support and care for each other, accepting and valuing diversity. We share responsibility for the life of our Parish by giving of our time, talent and resources and by being continually open to renewal.