



St Michael the Archangel,
A Warrior for Today

In Honour of the Angels

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The CONGREGATION of SAINT MICHAEL the ARCHANGEL (CSMA)



PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil; may God rebuke him, we humbly pray and do you, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

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*Glory to God in the
Highest and Peace
to people on earth!*

Dear Friends,

Christmas is the season where our eyes, ears and hearts are focusing on the Holy Family. We see the Infant Child Jesus, in the centre with Mary, the angels and the ox and ass and then somewhere in the background and often unnoticed is St. Joseph. Although, the scripture says he was a humble man, nevertheless, he was a man of strong faith in God and a sound protector of Jesus and Mary, listening and being guided by the plan of God.

The importance of his role in the history of salvation was acknowledged by our Holy Father, Pope Francis, who decreed, that the name of St Joseph be included in the Canon of the Mass and mentioned daily.

For us devotees of St Michael, St Joseph is a great example of someone who is attuned to the inspirations coming from God through the ministry of His Angels. His heart did not doubt, question or hesitate but rather, he acted immediately and obediently at the prompting of the Angel.

We may not have the same clear vision that St Joseph had of the Angels, but we know that God gives each and everyone of us an Angel to be our guardian, to protect and

lead us on the path of salvation. Let us stay attuned to their presence in our lives and at this time of Christmas, let's join the Hosts of Heavenly Angels, in the great hymn of praise when God's Word became flesh in the person of our Lord Jesus.

*Wishing all a happy Christmas and
many Blessings for the New Year.*

Fr Janusz Bienick CSMA



DID YOU KNOW?



The word "Christmas" comes from "Christ's Mass" meaning the Mass of Christ, which we can find in writings dated 1038. The word "holiday" comes from Holy Day, as hundreds of years ago Holy Days (celebrating various Saints) were days free from hard work.

Many Christmas decorations are Christian symbols eg the star and the bell. Hundreds of years ago, bells were rung in towns on Sundays to remind the population of what they needed to do!

Christmas has become for many people, a time of gift-receiving and materialism, however, the best gifts are those not bought with money but given freely.

As Christians, we see Christmas as especially a time of giving because *God so loved the world that He gave His only Son so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but may have eternal life.* John 3:16
God gave first. Jesus is the greatest gift because he is the world's One and only Saviour.

Welcome new Bishops



Archbishop Anthony Fisher, Installation in Sydney -12 Nov 2014

Almost all Michaelite priests working in the Sydney Archdiocese were present together with 100's of priests from Sydney and Parramatta Archdiocese.

There was a huge crowd of numerous Sydney Catholics, dignitaries, friends and family that were present on the night of his installation. It was a beautiful liturgy with music and prayers.

For the record: Archbishop Anthony is a priest from the Order of Preachers (Dominicans)

2003 - Ordained Bishop and appointed Auxillary Bishop of Sydney

2010: Appointed 3rd Bishop of Parramatta

18 September 2014—Appointed 9th Archbishop of Sydney

There are four Michaelites parishes in the Archdiocese of Sydney with 9 priests working in pastoral care, education and hospital chaplaincy.

The first ordination to the priesthood that Bishop Anthony celebrated was our own, Fr George Gorzkowski csma in 2007.



Bishop Peter Comensoli, Broken Bay Diocese

We are all very pleased to receive the announcement of newly appointed Bishop Peter Comensoli as the new Bishop of Broken Bay - 3rd Bishop of the diocese.

Installation - 12 December 2014 in Cathedral at Waitara.

For the record: Bishop Peter is a priest from the Wollongong diocese.

8 June 2011 - Ordained to the Episcopate and appointed Auxillary Bishop of Sydney

27 February 2014—Appointed as Apostolic Administrator of the Archdiocese of Sydney

20 November 2014—Appointed as the Bishop Broken Bay Diocese.

Michaelites have been working in the Broken Bay Diocese since 2002. First in the parish of Wyoming and then in Terrigal. At the moment, there are 2 priests working there and we are looking forward to developing a more permanent presence in the diocese.

Chronicles

Trivia for Michaelite Mission



Our trivia evening on the 8 Nov was a fun filled parish event! We had 115 enthusiastic competitors including our retired parishioners young adults from the school community and a table of our school-teachers! Many dressed up in their chosen theme - we had the Mexican standoff table - a table of coloured crazy wigs - called the Ashley and Martin Who? table, gone Tropo, Go for gold, 7 up, in the Pink etc. It was a colourful, loud and successful parish event to support Michaelite Mission projects: The Divine Mercy Chapel in PNG, the new Library in PNG and a donation to Fr Kris Poswiata csma in Belarus. Our school principal Robert Peers was our wonderful Master of Ceremonies - this was his first year in the role and we have already booked him for next year. We raised an amazing \$4,750 dollars for our Michaelite Mission! We had games, pick-a-box, auctions, raffles and shared some knowledge with friends and the parish family. Thank you to all who supported the evening with your presence and enthusiasm and to our sponsors with donations for the prizes. I was so proud of our parish community.

Janette Merriotsy, Terrigal

Hurstville celebrates Feast of St Michael

St Michael is the patron of the Hurstville parish and his feast was an occasion for the parish community to come together and celebrate. Leading up to the feast a novena was held every night. The high Mass was held in Bethany school hall and was attended by about 800 people. Devotions to St Michael were recited after Mass and a procession followed by a Eucharistic procession back to the church.

A very generous lunch was provided by parishioners including a Philipino style roasted pig on the spit. Compliments to the parish council who coordinated this event!

New Assistant priest at Horsley Park

On Sunday 30th November, parish priest, Fr Dominik Karnas was happy to introduce to his parishioners the new assistant priest, Fr Peter Kaupa. In addition to his pastoral work, Fr Peter is also enrolled at ACU studying for a degree in Theology. We wish him many blessings in his pastoral and academic work.

Clovelly Christmas Luncheon

Many parishioners gathered to celebrate Christmas over lunch. Everyone brought delicious food to share and it was a great opportunity to catch up with parishioners who have recently retired away from the parish. A Certificate of Appreciation was given by Parish Priest, Fr Pawel Kopczynski to Tony and Elenora MacDonald for their 47 years of faithful commitment and service to the parish of St Anthony's.

Artes Christi visit North Ryde for Christmas

The young singing members of the Artes Christi choir visited the parish of North Ryde, singing Carols at the Sunday 6pm Mass and then afterwards, entertaining parishioners with biblical reflections and carol singing that exulted the soul and heart. Their tour will take them as far as Brisbane, Gold Coast, Lismore, our own Michaelite parish—Terrigal and then returning back to Sydney. All donations given go towards the St Vincent de Paul Christmas appeal.



Knights of St Michael The Archangel



This is a lay Catholic Religious Movement whose members under the banner of St Michael are set on a mission to proclaim the victory of Christ over Satan, to obtain the conversion of sinners and to expiate for the sins of humankind.

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In Honour of the Angels Quarterly Newsletter

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St Michael Mission Society (SMMS)

Supporting the missions in PNG and Michaelite missionaries. If you would like to become a member or make a donation contact:
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Our PNG & Australian Seminarians

PNG Seminarians: We consider it a blessing to have three local seminarians studying for the priesthood. They just successfully completed their next academic year. Bernard Saka his fourth year in Good Shepherd Seminary, Fatima; Gabriel Kangil his second year in St Charles Borromeo Vanimo; John Wain the preparatory year for theological studies in Madang.

As from last year, Fr Jozef Pekala is responsible for the formation program of candidates to our Congregation. Every school break he offered a program "Come & See" which was attended by almost 20 young men. Five of these young men were accepted in the seminary to begin next year.

We are grateful to all our St Michael Mission Society members and benefactors for all their ongoing support which enables us to foster these vocations. Our prayers are with you and may the blessings of the Lord be your reward for your generous assistance to the future labourers of His Vineyard.



Paul Gorzkowski professing his religious vows at the hands of Michaelite Local Superior Fr Stan Kluk.

Australian Seminarian Paul Gorzkowski, completed another year of studies at Catholic Institute of Sydney. For the last 2 years he has been residing at the Good Shepherd Seminary in Homebush where he is taking part in the formation program offered for the candidates to priesthood. On the feast of St Michael he renewed his temporary religious vows during the ceremony in Hurstville parish. More recently, in his home parish in Melbourne he was admitted to the office of Acolyte. During the summer break, he will continue studying the Italian language in Rome.

SMMS Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Saint Michael Mission Society Inc was held on 30 September 2014 at Holy Spirit Parish, North Ryde. As well as members from North Ryde, representatives from Hurstville, our new Michaelite parish, were also present. Apologies were received from Terrigal, Clovelly and Chatswood parishes. The Chaplain, Fr Janusz welcomed everyone and brought us up to date with the work of the Michaelites in Australia and in PNG. He also mentioned a recent fundraising effort that took place in his parish in Hurstville, where \$14,000 was raised with the running of a Fashion Parade, coordinated by Margaret Vella. With the treasurer's report we saw, once again, the wonderful work that our fundraising efforts can achieve, like the upkeep of the monas-

tery in Mt Hagen, renovations in Kasap, funding expenses in Kuli parish, seminarians study fees and accommodation, subsidising the cost of the canonical visit in February this year, fares for the seminarians and so on. Our president, Jason Hodges reported that a further two containers are almost ready to be shipped to PNG. These containers will once again benefit hospitals and clinics with medical supplies and other much needed goods for our own Michaelite missions as well as other missions. We had a very interesting report from John O'Brien, an architect working on the cathedral in Mt Hagen, who has also volunteered his expertise in the progress of the Divine Mercy Chapel being built in Kuli.

Nadia Caravello, Treasurer/Public Officer