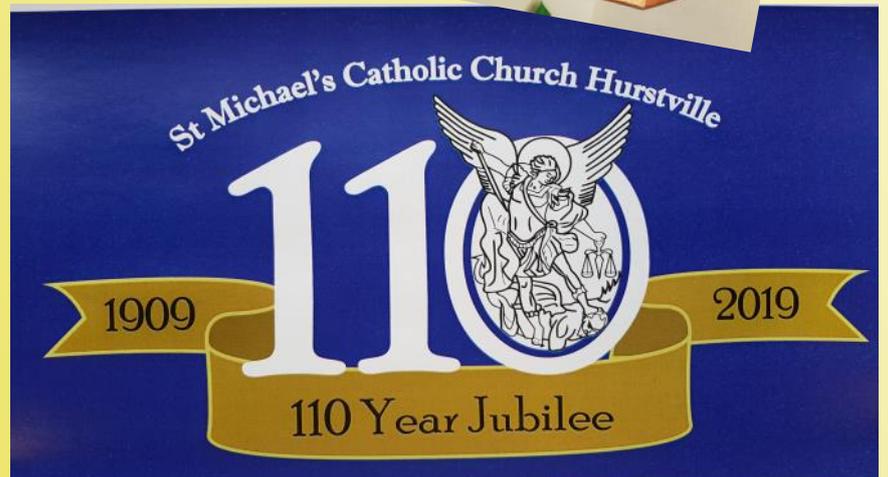


St Michael's Church Hurstville

110 Years Jubilee

Part 2: 2009—2019



*His Disciples remembered that it was written:
"Zeal for your house will consume me." John 2:17*

Devotions to St Michael & Holy Angels



Weekly Devotions

With the arrival of the Michaelites Fathers to the parish the emphasis was put on promoting the devotion to St Michael the Archangel the patron of the parish and the Congregation, as well as promoting the teaching of the Church of the angelology and the importance of the Angels in our spiritual journey. A regular devotion to St Michael the Archangel and the Angels started in October 2013 and initially was held every first Tuesday of the month. A proper booklet with the order of devotion, which includes prayers, songs and Benediction (with the Adoration Prayer of Blessed Fr Bronisław Markiewicz) was drafted and approved for use. In February 2014, Cardinal Pell Blessed the Statue of St Michael received

from the Shrine at Gargano, Italy; the site of apparition of St Michael. Around that time, the decision was made to hold the devotion on a weekly basis. Every second Tuesday of the month in addition to the regular prayers the Litany to St Michael is recited and there is a teaching or sharing. Afterwards there is a social meeting held in the presbytery. A leadership team was formed and a committed music ministry helps to conduct the devotion. To encourage attendance, parishioners were placed under the patronage of one of the nine Choirs of Angels, with a specific month dedicated to them. With time, some visual elements like candles, flowers and pictures, holy cards were added to enhance the beauty of the devotion. About 20 to 30 people regularly attend.





Novena to St Michael the Archangel and Celebration of St Michael's Feast Day

Since the Michaelites took over the pastoral care of the parish, we have had the Novena to St Michael using a Novena Booklet and a program especially compiled by some parishioners. About 20



people attend the Novena. The Feast Day which is celebrated on a Sunday is well attended, sometimes the Mass was held in the school hall due to the number of people. The high Mass is celebrated at 10am with the devotion prayers recited. After the church service,



there is a festive social gathering for parishioners and guests with food shared by various parish ethnic groups. There is plenty of opportunity for parishioners to catch up with each other. Music for dancing and singing is provided by the Spanish community.



Feast day of St Michael





St Michael's Home Visitation and Blessing

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 St Michael Shrine (inserted photo) was commissioned to Saverio Raccosta by Fr Janusz, who skillfully crafted the small capella (chapel) to house St Michael and to make it suitable for home visits. Saverio's design was inspired and modelled from the St Michael Shrine in Gargano, Italy.

Fr Janusz with the help of St Michael devotees who accompany him on his visits has developed a program and a weekly timetable. The visit takes the form of a prayer meeting lasting about an hour and includes praying the Chaplet of Saint Michael and prayers to the angels, consecration of the family and blessing of the home. To arrange a visit please email: saintmichaelknights@gmail.com or ring Carmela on 0407 103 538.



Confraternity of the Scapular of St Michael

In September 2017, Fr Janusz initiated in the parish the Scapular of St Michael. He translated the Statutes of the Confraternity, Handbook of Confraternity and other texts connected with receiving the Scapular and the spiritual growth of the Members of the Confraternity. The Book of the Confraternity was established and at present the number of enrolments has reached 200. Contact persons are Colleen Calopedis and Thanh Nguyen



St Michael Mission Society

Supporting the missions in PNG and Michaelite missionaries

On the arrival of the Michaelites in the parish, the works of the *St Michael Mission Society* (SMMS) were introduced. Parishioners were very supportive and many became members of the Society and made contributions to assist the Michaelite Missions in PNG and other projects supported by the Society. There were two very successful fundraising dinners with a fashion show and auction held in the parish in 2014 and 2015. Later, we were blessed with a very generous donation of wine which was used for raising a substantial amount for Michaelite and the Presentation Sisters missions in PNG. It was a major effort visiting many parishes, on the weekends in the Sydney area, over a period of 18 months. We are very grateful to Margaret Vella and volunteers from our parish. St Michael's has always generously donated goods, money and work to the project of shipping containers heading to PNG. Thank you also to all the regular members for their annual membership and special donations. If you would like to become a member or make a donation contact:

St Michael Mission Society (SMMS)

Michaelites Sydney:
PO Box 6094,
North Ryde 2113



In Honour of the Angels Newsletter

The Parish of St Michael's is the location of the editorial office of the quarterly Newsletter; *In Honour of the Angels* edited by Fr Janusz and Caterina Raccosta. It was produced to help support the *St Michael Mission Society*, to report on the works of the Society and missionary work in PNG. It assists to help promote devotions to St Michael and the *Confraternity of the Scapular*. It also includes reports from Michaelite parishes in Australia and Papua New Guinea.