

# INTERSECTION

APRIL 2010

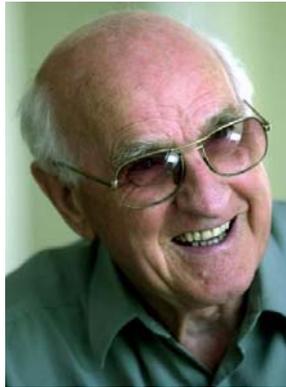
By Alana Pryor

## SIR LLOYD GEERING AT ST MICHAEL'S

Presents SAGE on Friday 23 April 2010 at 11 am \$15 (inc lunch)

Guest Speaker during Sunday Service on Sunday 25 April 2010—10 am

Sir Lloyd Geering has been at the forefront of religious debate for many years. Questioning the staid and dogmatic view of traditional Christianity he has spent many years searching for a spirituality that has evolved to respond to the new challenges that have arisen out of modernity. Throughout his search he has met with obstacles, but he also found support and encouragement.



During his high-profile trial in 1967 he was charged and acquitted of heresy for his controversial proposal of a complete overhaul of the

Christian faith. From this moment Sir Lloyd Geering continued to express his ground-breaking views on Theology.

An Emeritus Professor of Victoria University of Wellington, where he taught Religious Studies for many years, he is also a Companion of the British Empire and was admitted to the Order of New Zealand in 2007.

He has written a number of books, responding to the concerns of contemporary religion, *Christianity*

*Without God, Wrestling with God* and his latest *Coming Back to Earth*. He continues to be a leading voice in the International Scholars of the Jesus Seminar.

St Michael's is pleased to invite Sir Lloyd Geering to speak at SAGE on Friday 23 April and during Service on Sunday 25 April.

There is much that can be learnt from his expansive thinking and many life experiences, and we hope you can take this opportunity to attend and find the opportunity to meet and hear Sir Lloyd Geering speak during his visit.

## A CANADIAN VOICE

We are pleased to announce a special guest to St Michael's in May. Rev Dr Malcolm Sinclair of Metropolitan United Church Toronto, Canada, will be visiting and taking Sunday service for three weeks from 16 May. This is a visit that he is as excited about as we are.

Dr Sinclair has served four Toronto congregations over forty years and was called to the pulpit of the Metropolitan Church in 1988. After ten years the congregation invited him to serve further in an Intentional

Long-Term Ministry.

He has been invited to preach across his home country Canada and over the world, and has lectured on *Imagination in Preaching* at the Toronto School of Theology. Recently he has been a contributor to *Feasting on the Word*, a multi-volume lectionary for preachers.

His congregation in Toronto is, like St Michael's, progressive,



filled with bright, well-read, well-travelled members who value diversity. The Metropolitan works with other churches and people of other religions, celebrating difference and encouraging movement towards peace, justice and humanity.

St Michael's looks forward to hearing such a forward thinker and excellent speaker. Malcolm has sent a hearty 'hello' to St Michael's that can be viewed at:

[www.stmichaels.org.au](http://www.stmichaels.org.au)

## REMEMBERING ROSEMARY

Dr Rosemary Milne, a member of St Michael's, died in March this year. Diagnosed with Ovarian cancer and given a prognosis of three months to live, she carried on for another year.

Those who knew her recall a wonderful person ready to smile and laugh. She was a part of the regular Basso's lunch group who lunched after Sunday service. The Sunday after her passing her friends from the group honoured her memory during their lunch. Sandra Foster had written a few words that recall the

wonderful person that many will miss. *Rosemary's acceptance...was inspirational...she'd had a wonderful life, and...she was content with this and at peace. She was known as a whimsical lady who charmed us all.*

Dr Rosemary Milne was a Developmental Psychologist who was a teacher of preschool and primary school children, and an educator of teachers and parents. She wrote radio and television scripts for ABC preschool and school programs. In July 2003, The Monash University

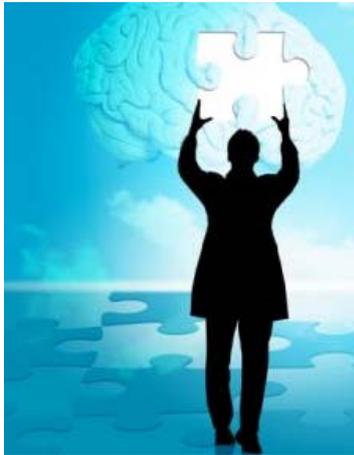
Faculty Board in the Department of Education at Clayton Campus awarded Dr Rosemary Milne an honorary appointment as an Associate of the Faculty.

It is sad that Rosemary will not see her new book *There's a Goat in my Coat* published this May, however as Sandra beautifully said of the book, *it will be a wonderful addition to our libraries for our grandchildren, and somehow I think we will hear Rosemary's voice, as she goes on being a part of our lives and those of our grandchildren.*

## CREATING SUCCESSFUL LIFE EVENTS

The CSLE program is a fun, interactive program that teaches participants to apply positive strategies to their daily lives. Within a small, supportive, group environment, people are given the opportunity to explore different themes and aspects of their personal development. Some attendees choose to participate actively in the discussions, whilst others prefer to simply listen and absorb the information provided.

The groups are facilitated by Dr Lynette Kramer, psychologist and Manager of Mingary. This year, she is assisted by Camilo Martinez, a psychologist from Colombia and the 2010 recipient of



the John Waters Memorial Scholarship. Camilo is currently studying at Cairnmillar and working at the Mingary Counselling Service.

During 2010, these monthly sessions will cover themes such as the power of first experiences, adapting to the end of relationships, managing jealousy, coping with failure, and increasing empathy in social relationships.

*The CSLE program is conducted one Friday each month from 11.00 am to 12.30 pm in the Waratah Room. The cost is \$10.00 and includes refreshments and notes. No bookings required.*

### CSLE PROGRAM 2010 TOPICS

**14 May**

*Take care of yourself while taking care of others.*

Do you find yourself struggling to balance your needs with those of others? Learn to manage more effectively.

**11 June**

*What jealousy teaches you about yourself.*

**9 July**

*Growing apart: An adaptation guide.*

**13 August**

*Falling better.*

**17 September**

*"Mirror, mirror..." Do you see yourself as others see you?*

**15 October**

*The convergence of minds: increasing empathy in social relationships.*

**12 November**

*Change (and the art of staying the same).*

**mingary**  
COUNSELLING SERVICE

Professional, confidential counselling for a broad range of personal issues.

Low cost service

**\$30 Initial Consultation \$20 Subsequent Consultation**

Monday - Friday: 9 am-5 pm

St Michael's Centre 120 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000

## FOOTPRINTS THAT MATTER

A new St Michael's program, Things That Matter (TTM 2010) commenced in March with some 70 enthusiastic participants. This lively, interactive program is focused on things that matter to all of us, here and now. We ask the question: What on earth could religion in the 21st century possibly contribute to our contemporary concerns? Our aim is to explore views, visions and ideas to challenge our assumptions, disturb our complacency and stimulate creative thinking and constructive action.

At our first session, we watched footage of Neil Armstrong taking those famous steps for humankind and imagined ourselves transported to the moon. From that wider perspective, we considered the state of our planet. We produced key messages for planet earth to create

our 'sermon on the moon', as we viewed spectacular images of earth filmed from high above.

Participants then considered what individual and collective action they will take, what 'footprints' they intend to leave behind. These



messages to earth and personal 'footprint' commitments were written on card board cut-out feet. All were very keen to share these with the

wider St Michaels' community.

The various 'footprint' commitments included 'walking the talk' to protect our environment through constructive action such as recycling, composting, using low energy globes and prioritising renewable resources. Along with leaving 'light footprints' on the earth, participants also pledged to leave 'soft and gentle footprints' of peace, justice and harmony in their relationships with others. A complete compilation of the TTM participants' messages to earth and footprint commitments will be available at our next session on Sunday 11th April. We will continue our exploration of things that matter with the topic: Imagine: a Buddhist Monk for Prime Minister!! Probing the root causes behind the separation of enlightenment and state. Everyone is welcome to join us!

*by Julie Hall,*

*TTM 2010 Program facilitator*

## WEDDINGS AT ST MICHAEL'S

The weekends of the St Michael's summer months are extremely busy. The promise of warm days, no rain and perfect photo opportunities entice happy couples into a summer wedding and into St Michael's for their ceremony. And why wouldn't they?

St Michael's has the makings of a dream wedding. The church is unique. It has history, beauty and a city location. But what draws many couples to have their ceremony here is that they are



welcome. They are not excluded because of their beliefs but valued and recognised as friends of St Michael's. They come to this church to share one of their most precious moments and we want to make this happen.

To be married at St Michael's is an easy, welcoming process. You are not required to prove your denomination or take any classes. A ceremony can be booked with our Wedding Co-ordinator and includes the use of

the church, the Minister; the Verger (assistant to the minister); internationally known organist; church flowers; the carillon (ringing of the bells); rehearsal and administration. Many couples live in distant places but often return for important occasions such as their anniversaries, some even choosing to baptize their children here.

To be married at St Michael's is to become a part of the church's history and community.

Do you have any further questions about a wedding ceremony at St Michael's?

Please contact our Weddings Co-ordinator at the St Michael's Administration Office on 9654 5120 or [weddings@stmichaels.org.au](mailto:weddings@stmichaels.org.au)

## WHAT YOU CAN DO AT ST MICHAEL'S? PROGRAMS 2010

### Walking Group

Different walks are organised throughout the year. Get active and meet new people.

### Dinner Group

Meets at various locations for an evening of good food and conversation.

### Discussion Space

Discuss your views of the Sunday service. Every Sunday after service.

### Meditation

Take 15 minutes for yourself. Every Sunday after Service.

### Womenspace

Explore issues of wellness and positive living for women.

The last Sunday of each month from 11.45 am.

### Poetry Group

Share your favourite poem or perhaps write your own.

The third Sunday of each month.

### Sunday Lunch Group

Meet for lunch after Sunday service. See Sue Robinson after service in the library.

### Arts for Rights

Discover different facets of the arts, meet others who share your interests and raise money for various human rights programs.

### Things That Matter

A program that focuses on things that matter to all of us, here and now.

The second Sunday of each month after service.

### Men's Group

Discuss a wide range of topics and issues relevant to today's society.

The second Sunday of each month after service

*Visit the St Michael's website or check the Order of Service for details of latest groups and activities.*

## TURN OFF THE LIGHT

At 8.30 pm on Saturday 27 March, St Michael's joined millions of people, from 126 countries and switched off the lights for an hour. Usually a bright light on the corner of Collins and Russell Streets, the church dimmed demonstrating our support for take action on climate change the need for long term sustainability for our planet.

## WHO SPEAKS FOR LIFE?

On Sunday 7 March, Len Halprin and George Galanis gave an informative presentation addressing our prospects for life into the future as species on this planet. The talk was well attended and garnered much interest and enjoyment. If you would like to hear an excerpt of the event go to: [www.stmichaels.org.au](http://www.stmichaels.org.au)

## A THEOLOGY OF BEAUTY

5 ESSAYS

ON SALE SOON!

\$10.00\*

Sunstar image by Paul Adams

\*plus 1.65 postage and packaging per book.

Five essays from the St Michael's *Theology of Beauty* essay competition have been selected and will be printed in a Special edition booklet.

We are currently taking presale orders. Order forms can be picked up and placed at the Bookshop, Level 1 of the Administration building or, contact the Administration office during business hours.

## ST MICHAEL'S EASTER

Easter is a time that symbolises new life and rebirth. It's a perfect moment to consider your life and explore what might enhance your enjoyment in life. Look at new ideas, new commitments, new hobbies and be truthful about whether or not they may improve your living. Dr Macnab's addresses during Easter touched on these themes - focusing



on finding the resources to resurrect the soul, taking a moment to regroup and rejuvenate.

Easter chocolates were handed out at the services – a small indulgence and a reminder that it's not just the big, grand moments that make a positive difference in life. Small acts, small ideas, small thoughts – they all grow to make a large difference.

## ST MICHAEL'S

ON COLLINS - MELBOURNE

120 Collins St, Melbourne 3000

P: 9654 5120

F: 9650 3863

E: [office@stmichaels.org.au](mailto:office@stmichaels.org.au)

W: [www.stmichaels.org.au](http://www.stmichaels.org.au)

### MISSED EASTER AT ST MICHAEL'S?

A special Easter DVD has been released.

This contains the three Easter Addresses: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday) and is available for only \$20.00.

Please enquire in the Hall after Sunday service or contact the St Michael's office during business hours.