

INTERSECTION

JUNE 2010

By Alana Pryor

NEW COLOUR FOR THE CHURCH

St Michael's brings much colour and beauty to people who are searching for it. It can be found in the stained glass windows upstairs and the Bicentennial Windows below. The tranquillity and respite felt in the garden surrounding the church and in Mingary, the Quiet Place can make any person's day clearer while the breathtaking magnificence of the church's architecture and furnishings has made many exclaim out loud. At St Michael's we are surrounded by beauty and the opportunity to discover more in life.

In June we will introduce new colour into the church. A tapestry, based on the painting by artist Lara Merrett under the inspiration of a poem by

Dr Francis Macnab "The Tapestry Greets the Traveller" will soon adorn the church wall.

This new tapestry will bring a very modern and expressive experience to those visiting the church. It is bold, fresh and modern and encapsulates the experience of St Michael's. It celebrates and embraces those who look upon it. In it you can find joy, life and a positive searching.

The tapestry welcomes the traveller, conveying a sense of energy and spiritual uplift.

It is another part of St Michael's in which a positive message can be found and vital energies renewed.

The new tapestry entitled

"Celebrated Light" is to be unveiled by Dr Jonathon Welch on Sunday 20 June at St Michael's Church commencing 10 am.

We invite you celebrate with us this wonderful new part of St Michael's Church. Hear the poem. See the painting. Stand beside the Tapestry. Sing the hymn to the Tapestry.



REV DR MALCOLM SINCLAIR

Over the past three Sundays we were fortunate to have Rev Dr Malcolm Sinclair of the Metropolitan United Church in Toronto, Canada visit and preside over Sunday service. His insight and humour was much appreciated. His talk after Sunday service was also well received – the room full with people keen to hear his ideas on "Tasty Ways of Being the Church."

Dr Sinclair enjoyed his time at St Michael's (while discovering Melbourne and surrounds). He

thought the congregation here an intelligent and progressive group of people whose open philosophy and beliefs were similar to those of the



congregation in Toronto.

If you missed Rev Dr Malcolm Sinclair's visit, or would like to hear his addresses again, they can be ordered on a special DVD.

DVD - 3 Addresses for \$20.00

Single address DVDs for \$10.00 are also available - with bonus excerpts before and after the address.

Please enquire at the Recordings Table in the Hall after service or the St Michael's Office.

WORLD REFUGEE SUNDAY

For most, home is a safe place. But what if you were forced to leave your home and your country and begin again in a new country? Could you even think ahead about your future?

St Michael's commemorates World Refugee Day on Sunday 13

June for which the global theme is *Home*. The statement, *They took my home but they can't take my future* highlights the plight of refugees and their courage to keep going in the face of fear and trauma.

Millions of people around the world, are forced to leave their home and into uncertain futures - not knowing



where they will be the next day or where the next meal might come from. Despite these hardships, people survive and dream of a better future.

This day encourages awareness of the difficulties and dangers refugees face and the unstable future that lies ahead when they leave their countries. It is to impress upon us their strength and resilience to keep moving forward to make a life and future in a new place.

It is up to those of us with means to further help the refugees and ensure that life to help these people and offer them resources to make a good future for themselves.

GRADUATION!

On Wednesday 9 June Cairnmillar students celebrate the culmination of their study and hard work at the Cairnmillar Institute Graduation ceremony at St Michael's. Guest speaker Fleur Bonnin will give the keynote address *The Full Circle - Iran America Australia. My Journey as a psychologist and a Sufi*.

Bonnin was a staff member at Cairnmillar who made a strong impact on the institute during the years she was there. Originally from Iran and later California, she has made several visits to Iran in recent times. She is a leader of Sufi religion and its relationship to psychotherapy.

Ceremony starts at 7.00 pm

St Michael's Uniting Church.

Refreshments served after ceremony.
Please RSVP Cairnmillar 9813 3400

BRINGING NOTICE TO ST MICHAEL'S

In an exciting venture, St Michael's will participate in the Melbourne Open House event this year.

Opening its doors on the afternoon of Sunday 25 July, St Michael's can expect a large number

of visitors to enter and discover this remarkable piece of Melbourne history.

The Melbourne Open House is a not-for-profit association who, over two



years, have provided the public a free and rare opportunity to discover the often hidden wealth of architecture and engineering treasure within the city. The event continues to grow – last year there were almost 51 000 visits to the 32 open buildings.

With numbers sure to equal those of last year – this will be a fabulous

opportunity to meet the curious visitors and help them discover the beauty and history of St Michael's.

This is definitely an event we are looking forward to. Being a part of such a popular event will allow many visitors an opportunity to see a treasure at their door.

MELBOURNE OPEN HOUSE

24 & 25 July 2010

St Michael's will be open
on Sunday 25 July
Free Entry.

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

For appointments call (03) 9654 5120

www.mingarycounselling.com.au

HELPING CAMBODIAN CHILDREN

On Sunday 16 May, St Michael's was host to a variety of performing arts in aid of a good cause.

After Sunday service, people were treated to a Cambodian Dance display while sampling tasty Cambodian fare. The elegant dance and elaborate costumes were a definite crowd pleaser. This was followed by a wonderful choral performance by The Trinity College Choir, Melbourne which impressed the large audience.

The aim of these events was not only to provide a pleasurable experience and an

Photos by Ken Goshell



afternoon out but also to raise funds for the Save the Cambodian Children Fund (STCCF). The organisation aims to bring security and safety to children orphaned in Cambodia.



Thanks to the generous support the proceeds from the concert totalled \$2070.00.

This amount was combined with the \$2570.85 proceeds of the very successful Market Stall held in St Michael's Walk on Friday 7 May. (Who could resist all those delicious home-made goods?)



We are happy to announce a total of \$4640.85 was raised and will go towards helping with the education of under-privileged children in Cambodia.

PROCESSIONAL STAFF OF ST MICHAEL'S

There are many elements that make Sunday at St Michael's special. The processional staff, is one of these features. A beautiful piece of art, it adds ceremony to the service.

Atop the orb sits a depiction of the Mingary cleft rock, the wing of the dove, which reminds us of new beginnings and of hopeful transcendence. Set around the orb is a mosaic of coloured fragments reflecting the colours of the St Michael's windows and the exuberance of life. While the head of the staff evokes the orb of the world and all humanity together, the waves

and ripples of silver beneath depict upward streams of consciousness: the searching, positive human spirit, the togetherness of people and the flowing circle of life. A silver cord binds the different aspects (this is also seen on the chancel furnishings) to symbolise the binding of all. Set in this silver cord are several amethysts to remind us that our "bindings" can have special and sacred moments.

The processional staff reflects aspects of St Michael's we



enjoy: the togetherness, the sharing of special moments and the freedom experienced being part of such a unique church.

What makes it even more special is that the staff is for everyone. Each Sunday you can see it carried into the church and, if you wish, you could be the person to carry it.

If you would like to volunteer to carry the processional staff one Sunday, please contact David Ward on 0447 595 639.

TRIO ANIMA MUNDI - THE GHOST
 Niels GADE Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART Ludwig van BEETHOVEN
When: 13 June 2010 at 2 pm **Where:** St Michael's Uniting Church
Tickets: \$30/\$15 please call 5368 2325
 Proceeds support *the Cairnmillar Institute*

SAGE

SUCCESSFUL AGEING, GROWTH AND ENJOYMENT

with Dr Francis Macnab

FRIDAY 18 June

MY 8 PRINCIPLES OF SUCCESSFUL AGEING.



Time: 11 am to 1 pm
Where: St Michael's Hall
 120 Collins St,
 Melbourne 3000.
Cost: \$15 inc. Lunch

For more information please
 call Cairnmillar on 9813 3400

Please note that Friday 18 June
 is the 3rd Friday of the month.

The Mingary Counselling service
 has a new website. Take a look:
www.mingarycounselling.com.au

WINDOW SHIELDS

It was with disappointment and shock when we discovered several of the stained glass windows damaged by vandals in April last year.

Fortunately the efforts of Geoffrey Wallace and his team repaired the damage quickly and precisely. This month they have been at the church again, installing clear shields to the windows, so as to prevent any future damage. These shields will not affect the windows and still let in the light.



The new shields are a Perspex plastic and will be able to protect our beautiful stained glass without affecting the amount of light coming into the church and the colours from the inside. They will ensure we keep our stained glass for years to come.

SIDS AND KIDS

On Friday 29 June, *Sids and Kids* will hold their annual remembering Service at St Michael's which begins at 10.30 am. The service is a chance for families to come together and remember their children who have died unexpectedly.

NEW MEMBERS

Are you interested in becoming part of a positive community? Please join as at the three New Members meetings to be held on Sunday 4, 11 and 18 July. Any queries, please go to the Information Table after Sunday service.



WANT TO BE A WEEK DAY TOUR GUIDE?

We welcome you to a Morning Tea and Information Exchange.
 Ask questions and hear experiences of those
 who already do this fulfilling job.

Sunday 13 June 2010 after Morning service in the Waratah Room

ST MICHAEL'S

ON COLLINS - MELBOURNE

120 Collins St, Melbourne 3000

PHONE: (03) 9654 5120 FAX: (03) 9650 3863 EMAIL: office@stmichaels.org.au WEB: www.stmichaels.org.au