

INTERSECTION

MAY 2011

By Shona Vistarini

THE MONTH OF MAHLER

Gustave Mahler composed some of our greatest classical music. He led an inspiring life of trauma and triumph and for the month of May, Dr Macnab will share the influence of Mahler with the church.

Born in 1860, Mahler became a well-known conductor and performed at some of the world's most famous opera houses. In contrast, his own compositions did not gain significant popularity until well after his death in 1911. Since his music was discovered by a new generation of listeners in 1945,



Mahler has become one of the most frequently performed and recorded of all composers. He composed nine breath-taking symphonies and became famous for the unequalled amount of expression and ardour with which he wrote his music. Today, we listen to Mahler's music in awe and realise that he did indeed "embrace everything." In his works,

we hear turbulent storms, heavenly peace and roaring thunder. In his brazen melodies and lush harmonies, we hear the work of a genius. With his groundbreaking innovations and techniques, Mahler heralded the end of Romanticism and the arrival of the Modern Era of classical music. Dr Macnab invites you to join him as he speaks "about the Mahler who

May 8 - Multiple losses. Yet "wearing the living garment of God". Something killed him too soon.

May 15 - Step into a different world. Hoping to find "a precious moment".

May 22 - His frailties and his fantasies. Yet touching greatness in all us.

May 29 - We all have a dreamer in us somewhere. Why I wish I had met this dreamer.

has inspired me [...] his impact on religion. His significance to psychoanalysis. His disturbing insights into life."

NATIONAL WHITE WREATH DAY

From 1pm on Sunday 29th May 2011, National White Wreath Day will be held in Melbourne. The steps of Parliament House will warmly welcome friends and fellow survivors of suicide who understand the pain and isolation that this kind of grief brings.

A memorial service will commence at 1.30pm, and afterwards attendees will be invited to acknowledge their

loved one by contributing a photo, flowers, poem or something that has meaning or significance to the 'Memory and Support Display.'

Highlights of the day will include music, guest speakers, words of hope, comfort and healing, a prayer and a 'letting go' bubble blowing ceremony at the conclusion of the service.

For more information of any questions that you may have, or for

donations, sponsorship or volunteer enquiries, please contact Susan Shegog on 0458 939 474 or email susangail7@hotmail.com



TRINITY CHOIR PERFORMS

On Sunday 22nd May, the Choir of Trinity College Melbourne, will make a welcome return to St Michael's. With music director Michael Leighton Jones and featuring soprano singer, Siobhan Stagg, this promises to be a spectacular event!

Modelled on the choirs at Cambridge and Oxford, the Choir of Trinity College consists of twenty four choral scholars. The choir is considered to be Australia's leading collegiate chapel choir, and their singing has been described as 'a truly magical experience.'

Wherever the Trinity Choir performs, they are met with enthusiastic responses from their audiences. They have performed across the world and received international acclaim. They have a reputation for fine singing of traditional Anglican Cathedral music, and undertake a busy schedule of broadcasts, recording and public performances.

Tickets will be available at the door for \$15.00 and \$10.00 for concession, and all proceeds will go towards the work of Mèdecins sans Frontières.



TRIPLE R - REVIEW, REFLECT & RESPOND

At the beginning of May a new program was introduced to the St Michael's Sunday Programs. *Triple R: Review, Reflect & Respond*, is a program that meets after Sunday morning service and invites discussion regarding the morning's address.

However, it is not just for those who attend the Sunday morning service to

participate. A summary of the discussion will be posted in the "Have Your Say" section of the St Michael's website. We want you to respond by sending in your comments, even if you did not have the opportunity to attend. Keep the discussion alive!

www.stmichaels.org.au/have-your-say

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY TALK

On Sunday 5th June Ecologist, Renata Officer will give a talk at St Michaels for World Environment Day.

World Environment Day is an annual event that is aimed at being the biggest and most widely celebrated global day for positive



environmental action.

Renata joined the St Michael's Womenspace last year, and presented an inspirational and memorable talk. She is a delightful storyteller and takes her listeners into another realm through her stories.

Creating Successful
Life Events (CSLE)

mingary
WORKSHOP PROGRAM

These interactive small group workshops are for people who want to create their own happiness and enjoy a brighter future.

Next workshop: Friday 17th June

'The pursuit of perfection.'

Dr Lynette Kramer, Director of the Mingary Counselling Service, will conduct this interactive workshop. The session will explore the misery of perfectionism and optimal ways to think about failure and success. The workshop will include strategies for overcoming the burden of unrealistic goals, learning to live with mistakes, and coping with perfectionism in others.

These are some of the upcoming titles;

Fri 15 July - But I'm delightful, so how could they not like me?

Fri 12 Aug - Self-administered psychological acupuncture.

Fri 9 Sept - Healthy obsession. When is fixation okay?

Cost: 10.00 per session (includes materials and refreshments)

Time: 11.00 am to 12.30 pm

Location: Waratah Hall, 1st Floor, St Michael's Place, 120 Collins Street.

Contact: Dr Lynette Kramer

THE MAN WHO PLANTED TREES

On Sunday 29th May, a choir of 70 from Eltham East Primary School will present a performance at St Michael's. With Ann Williams as music director and Nic Buc on piano, the choir will also be accompanied by a string quartet.

The performance, entitled 'The Man Who Planted Trees,' tells the story of a shepherd's singlehanded, long and successful effort to re-forest a desolate valley.

The choir recently performed at the inauguration of Victoria's new Governor, former Supreme Court judge and Melbourne University

Chancellor Alex Chernov, and has long been acknowledged as one of Australia's foremost children's choirs.

The concert commemorates the UN International Year of Forest, and proceeds will go towards Wildlife Victoria. It will begin at 12.15pm – 12.45pm, and entry will be a gold coin donation.



WHEELCHAIRS FOR KIDS CONCERT

Last month, St Michael's hosted a concert that raised money towards wheelchairs for kids; an organisation that helps supply children in third world countries with wheelchairs. Tony Gould and Emma Guilmartin performed a riveting concert, and none were left disappointed.

It was an excellent turn out and donations on the day were \$1,550 and Global Concerns boosted this total by \$450 making a grand total of \$2,000.

A special thanks to Pam Smart for all her hard work in organising this event.

PROGRAMS AT ST MICHAEL'S

MEDITATION

Sundays - immediately after service

POETRY GROUP

Every 3rd Sunday - after service

WOMENSPACE

The last Sunday of the month - after service (except April and September)

MENS GROUP

The last Sunday of the month - after service (except April and September)

FREE ORGAN RECITALS

Thursdays at 1 pm

GLOBAL CONCERNS

Sundays - after service

ARTS FOR RIGHTS

Activities held monthly at various locations.

WALKING GROUP

Walking at various locations throughout the year.

HUMAN RIGHTS

Various events through out the year.

TRIPLE R - REVIEW, REFLECT, RESPOND

Discussion group. Every Sunday, after morning service.

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

WHAT IS KFOG?

The Kindergarten Field Officers Group, or KFOG, is a group of field officers who meet fortnightly with Dr Macnab.

The group consists of Preschool Field Officers and Early Childhood Intervention professionals who work in a variety of children's services supporting children, parents and staff.

These field officers visit over 200 kindergartens across Melbourne, and are called to make visits when a

child, the parents or the kindergarten staff are having difficulties in meeting the needs of a child.

In these meetings they discuss their casework and explore different perspectives on the problems that they encounter in their work. Past discussions have included 'Parents in denial regarding the needs of their child,' and 'the different and varied characteristics of grief of parents of a damaged child.' KFOG encourages participants to reflect on their own

professional identity and their own aspirations and stresses in the workplace.

It is a dynamic, informative and thought provoking peer supervision experience, providing valuable professional development.

KFOG is facilitated by Dr Francis Macnab and is fully sponsored by St Michael's Uniting Church.

It is your contributions on Sunday that help keep great programs like this running!

SAGE

SUCCESSFUL AGEING, GROWTH AND ENHANCEMENT

FRIDAY 27TH MAY

The U.S Army now teach their soldiers a course called Comprehensive Soldier Fitness. SAGE in May will provide its course of STRENGTHENING THE HUMAN SPIRIT.



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

BAPTISMS

Baptisms at St Michael's Uniting Church are held on the second Sunday of each month. We conduct baptisms for both children and adults, and family and friends are invited to be part of this special occasion. It is the choice of the parents to select your godparents or perhaps select other responsible adults to participate. Child Care facilities are available,



and we encourage children to attend the crèche or youth group; after the baptismal part of the service

St Michael's provides an accepting environment that welcomes everyone regardless of their denomination.

If you know anyone who is wanting to have their children baptised, or be baptised themselves, why not refer them to St Michaels?

MAGICAL MUSICAL MORNINGS

Join Johathon Welch AM for his fourth concert in the 'Magical Musical Mornings' series at St Michael's Uniting Church on Tuesday 17th May at 11.00am.

This month he will present a performance entitled 'Here's a

Howdy Do!' From the pen of Gilbert and Sullivan and the great Operetta composers, Strauss and Kahlmann, this concert will leave you waltzing out the door! Tickets are available at the door, or email musicforthepeople@hotmail.com.

mingary

COUNSELLING SERVICE

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

Low cost service

Female and male counsellors
Monday - Friday: 9 am - 5 pm

Due to popular demand,
free memory testing continues
to be available.

Consultations by appointment only.

Please call 9654 5120

www.mingarycounselling.com.au

St Michael's Place

120 Collins St, Melbourne 3000



EVENTS TO WATCH OUT FOR AT ST MICHAEL'S!

Friday 13th May

CSLE - Creating Successful Life Events.

Tuesday 17th May

Magical Musical Mornings
'Here's a Howdy Do!'

Sunday 22nd May

Trinity College Choir

Sunday 29th May

Eltham East Primary School 'The Man Who Planted Trees.'

For more details please see the events page of our website.

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