

# INTERSECTION

SEPTEMBER 2009

By Alana Pryor

## CELEBRATE ST MICHAEL

The last Sunday of September is St Michael a day where many things happen. With great food, music, guest speakers and ceremony there is much to tempt those hungry for fun and looking for more.

We invite you join us on Sunday 27 September to celebrate St Michael and its vital place within the community.

St Michael positive community, encouraging compassion, strength and understanding. It

minds and great ideas to take a stand against violence and destruction. It does this through ideology, and the services and various programs that are offered at St Michael .

St Michael all for embodying these ideas and values. The colourful events and exceptional guest speakers reflect all these healthy values. They have been selected to inspire and demonstrate the power of positive change.

At the extremely popular St Michael

Day Breakfast is guest speaker Lyn Allison, President of Dying With Dignity Victoria. She is committed to fighting for tough issues where there is public support but much objection from parliamentarians.

end our lives as and when we see fit aided by the health system and with appropriate safeguards, is an issue Lyn feels strongly about, which is why she is part of Dying with Dignity. The decision she says is a concept of being fully human

Her talk at breakfast, while helping us to appreciate how fortunate we are to be enjoying such a great breakfast with friends and family, will also be an intriguing eye-opener.

After breakfast, we move into a celebration of colour in the garden before service begins at 10 am. As always, the highlight will be the presentation of the St Michael Medallions. Reflecting St Michael values, our recipients set a fine example of the good that people are capable of.

The recipients of 2009 are commended for their life changing work - bringing colour and hope to young children in need. Acting where many don have taken an active part in providing these kids a new and positive future.

A display of the passion and power of the Flamenco will provide a glamorous conclusion to the day. There is much to discover on this significant day. Join us and find inspiration, entertainment and a positive outlook at life.



## HOPE BRINGERS

Our 2009 St Michael recipients are both to be commended for their work which has positively changed the lives of many children and families. Wendy Marshall and Seda Douglas have fought hard to bring orphan

children from overseas to loving families in Australia.

There are many families, who for various genuine reasons wanted to adopt. These families had found themselves continuously faced with obstacles through out the process., and for some it looked like their dreams were going to be shattered.

Wendy and Seda had fought through the trails and traumas that hindered so many dreams enabling the go ahead of adoptions so that both families and children could start a new and good life together.

Their compassionate work has given new hope for which many families are truly grateful.

## MELODIC PERFORMERS

The cello is a stirring instrument its rich, velvet tones work deep into the soul to soothe the anxieties and stresses we carry with us. Its smooth sound is a perfect instrument to enhance the calming effect St Michael on many. Which is why we are pleased to see one of Australia's leading performing cellists David Pareira join with St Michael Amir Farid and Rhys Boak in concert on Sunday 20 September.



The beautiful program includes moving pieces by Bach, Paganini, Debussy, Maroufi, Edwards and Hindson and will be an elegant start to the St Michael Week celebrations. Proceeds from this lovely event go towards *Wheelchairs for Kids*.

As their name suggests, the organisation makes wheelchairs for children in 60 under-developed countries.

## CELLO CONCERT

David Pareira  
Bonnie Smart  
Amir Farid  
Rhys Boak

When: Sunday 20 September 2009  
at 12.15 pm

Where: St Michael's Uniting Church  
120 Collins Street, MELB

Tickets: \$15/\$10 (pensioner & students)  
Available at the door.

Enquiries: 9654 5120

Enjoy a concert that can ease your mind and the life of another.

## WHO AM I? CONVERSATION IN CYBER SPACE

We are living in a time when technology is forefront. It influences how we live, how we communicate and how we interact with each other. We wonder how this affects who we are and how we are perceived in the world. Is our heightened use of (and dependency on) technology beginning to affect our spirituality and identity?

St Michael World Religions invite you to a riveting talk on Monday 21

September 2009, with Dr Francis Macnab and Mandy Salomon: What is cyberspace doing to people spirituality?



Francis Macnab is executive minister at St Michael Executive Director and psychotherapist at Cairnmillar Institute and a renowned public speaker. Mandy

Salomon, leads the Swinburne University Smart Services CRC social research and is a well known

When: Monday 21 September 2009  
at 6 pm

Where: St Michael's Uniting Church  
120 Collins Street,  
MELBOURNE 3000

Bookings: 9654 5120 or  
reception@stmichaels.org.au

Light refreshments (tea and coffee)  
will be provided from 5.30 pm.

No Charge.

speaker and writer on a variety of related issues. Both exceptional speakers will bring their insightful knowledge and experiences to the forefront in this stimulating dialogue.

## GOLDEN VOICES

Just back from the success of their European Tour in July, the Australian Chamber Choir will perform at St Michael on Wednesday 23 September.

Under the direction of Douglas Lawrence, this inspirational and dynamic young ensemble, have made

a lasting impression upon its audiences here and across the world.

We invite you to listen and let the pressures of the day melt through the beauty of song.



## AUSTRALIAN CHAMBER CHOIR

When: Wednesday 22 September  
2009

Where: St Michael's Uniting Church  
120 Collins Street,  
MELBOURNE 3000

Enquiries: 9654 5120

No Charge.

## TALKING THE NEW FAITH

It is a topic inciting conversation across Melbourne, Australia and the world. St Michael

As more people become aware of St Michael's faith and its values, we want them to feel included as St Michael's

path. We know it is necessary to keep people up-to-date with what is happening and help them continue their search. On Tuesday 22 September Dr Macnab will give his second New Faith Lecture of the year:



*of New Faith in 2009.* This will provide a further exploration of the New Faith, a higher spiritual intelligence, where being different, creative and enjoying life is pertinent.

We invite those who are still keen to learn more, those who are still on their own spiritual pursuit, or those who feel they want to know more.

This lecture is for those who want further understanding of St Michael and its new direction into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

**ST MICHAEL**

are scheduled for the following dates after morning service:  
 13 September Dr Macnab discusses Robert Funk's 20 Points of Belief  
 October 4 (Gifts Session 3)  
 22 November

## IT

There is always something different at Sunday service. Each experience has a unique element that makes it truly special to that day.

On Sunday 30 August, attendees were presented with a musical experience unlike any other, when



the church was filled with members of the Melbourne Philharmonic Chinese Orchestra. This colourful and large orchestra (and only a third of which were present on Sunday)

entertained us with three evocative and descriptive Chinese pieces.

The orchestra is a newly founded group and is led by Mr Paneng Shen, a celebrated Erhu soloist.

Since its debut concert in 2004, the orchestra has quickly established its reputation among the local communities and has been invited to play on numerous occasions.

*Photo by Ken Gosbel*

## SCREENING DR MACNAB

Sometimes people find it difficult to attend every Sunday service though for many it is a highlight of their week.

They find support from the philosophy, theology and psychotherapy within each of Dr Macnab's Sunday services. Some, Sunday service is a time to recover from the daily trials encountered throughout the week or prepare for their week ahead.

We do not have the experience, so St Michael is screening some of Dr Macnab's popular addresses in the church during September.

Each Monday and Wednesday at 12.30 pm and 1.30 pm, we invite you to stop by, find peace and calm in the hub of the city and find some food for thought that can help you survive the busy week.

*m i n g a r y*



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 \$20 Subsequent Consultation  
 Monday-Friday: 9 am-5 pm

ST MICHAEL'S CENTRE  
 120 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000  
 T (03) 9654 5120 F (03) 9650 3863

## SAGE

SUCCESSFUL  
AGEING, GROWTH  
AND ENHANCEMENT

THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER

HOW YOUR BRAIN  
HELPS YOU SURVIVE  
THE HAZARDS AS YOU  
GET OLDER



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

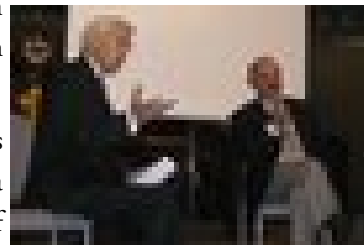
For more information  
please call Margaret Karafilowska  
at Cairnmillar on 9813 3400

Please note the change of day.  
SAGE will be on Thursday not  
Friday due to travel disruptions  
from the Grand Final Parade.

## THE MIRACLE OF LIFE

Science, Theology and the New Faith came together on Sunday 18 August when Dr Macnab joined Prof Graham Jenkin to discuss the role of a moral compass in science, using stem cells as a model.

The dialogue was preceded with a presentation by Prof Jenkin, the Deputy Director of Monash Immunology and Stem Cell Laboratories. Through this presentation, Jenkin was able to explain some basics of Stem Cells and dispel some of the myths and untruths



people have assumed when forming opinions about this controversial topic.

The conversation was based on the theme of

does life begin? large crowd present found it informative and very interesting as they discussed stem cell research, the ethics involved, faith and

science.

It is wonderful to note that those in attendance made a positive impression on Prof Jenkin who also enjoyed the meeting.

## IN MEMORY MORRIS WERNER

A gentle man who cared about those he knew and had a faith that stretched beyond himself and those around him. He loyally supported St Michael searching for an honest religion.

Morris died on Thursday 20 August and his memorial service was held at St Michael 2009. In attendance were the those members of the church whom he had quietly got to know and the people from his working life who warmly respected him.

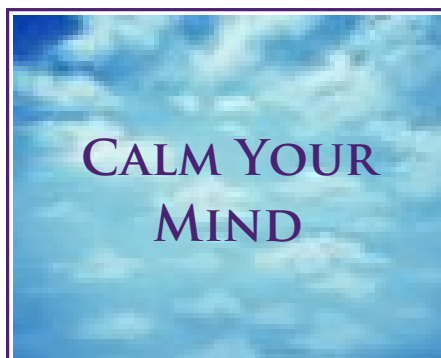
During his time at St Michael was a member of the church

body, the Diaconate, and in 1970 wrote a blue print for the church vision forwards. It was adopted, and that set the line from which the race over the next 40 years would be run. He saw the need for a new approach for a new era and he pursued it. He helped make changes to St Michael strongly advocating the Bicentennial windows and taking over the concept of the Week Day Church Tours setting up the program that is still in place today.

Morris Werner was a man of faith, a man respected by those whose lives were touched by his good presence.

## ST MICHAEL

ON COLLINS - MELBOURNE  
120 Collins St, Melbourne 3000  
P: 9654 5120  
F: 9650 3863  
E: office@stmichaels.org.au  
W: www.stmichaels.org.au



LEARN TO MEDITATE  
Six one-hour sessions  
7 September – 19 October  
Time 1 pm - 2 pm  
Where: St Michael's Centre  
Cost: \$70 includes comprehensive notes  
Bookings St Michael's 9654 5120  
Queries: Barry Fox