



ST. PAUL'S ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

66 Junction Street, WOOLLOONGABBA Qld 4102

OCTOBER NEWS LETTER 2011

SAINT PAUL'S CALENDAR 2012

Our Archdiocese Calendar is the guide for our spiritual celebrations, Feasts, fasts...It also reminds us of the dates when the Church forbids Matrimonial service, and provides you with the addresses of all the churches and Missions and the contact numbers of our clergy in Australia, New Zealand and the Philippines. Generous donation would be most appreciated for covering the expenses and supporting the contributions of the Church.

CHRISTMAS FAST

We Fast 40 days before the Great Feast of Christ Nativity as spiritual preparation. **CHRISTMAS FAST** begins on 15 November and lasts until 24 December. Abstinence from food every day from midnight till midday except Saturday. Persons who are sick or pregnant and children under 9 are exempted. Forty days abstinence from meat and animal products. Fish, wine and oil are allowed from 15 November till 11 December. Abstinence from Fish is recommended from 12 to 24 December, and during this period also as during Holy Week and before every Holy Communion, abstinence from matrimonial sexual relations. The Church, every year, forbids Matrimony (wedding) Services from 20 December to 7 January.

ORTHODOX FAMILY DAY ON SUNDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2011

Sunday before Christmas-Fasting is observed by Fr John as a celebration Day in Brisbane for the Orthodox family of Saint Paul's Parish and the Feast Day of St. Michael and Gabriel. **It is our 4th Orthodox family day in Brisbane, and also the 3rd Annual Talent Show.**

- 1) Divine Liturgy at 10.00 am and Spiritual message will be given at Church for all.
- 2) The Talent Show will be held afterwards at the church-hall for this occasion.
- 3) Lunch (BBQ or Meat / Chicken on rice and salad with drink and sweet) will be available. Generous Donation would be most appreciated for the Church.
- 4) Fr John, every year, appoints our Youth Society SPOYS to be in charge for this particular activity. All Children and Families are called out to come and share. Many thanks to our Youth.

THREE CHURCHES CHRISTMAS EVENING:

"Voice of Charity" together with St. Maroun Maronite Catholic Church, St. Clement Melkite Catholic Church and St. Paul Antiochian Orthodox Church, in Brisbane, will be celebrating **Christmas event On Sunday evening, 4th of December 2011** at The Australian Hellenic Sports Centre Goodwin Park, 50 Cansdale Street, Yeronga, QLD. **Each church will be selling its tickets as self Fund Raising.** Special Thanks to **Simon Haddad** who established and is organising this event.

SAINT PAUL'S CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Fr. John, the Youth Society and the Sunday school children of Saint Paul have much pleasure in inviting you to **Saint Paul's Christmas Celebrations on Sunday, 11 December 2011 at Saint Paul's Church-Brisbane.**

- a. **Divine Liturgy** (10.00 am - 11.00 am),
- b. **Short Christmas Play** (11.15 am – 11.30 pm),
- c. **Carols,**
- d. **Santa Claus** will be coming to give out **Presents to Children.** Parents are called to **provide Santa with presents** for their children, by placing them beforehand under the Christmas tree.
- e. **Fasting Lunch**, possibly "Mjaddarah, Salad, Ftayer and Sweet" prepared by parents (12.30 pm – 01.00 pm)
- f. **Donations are most appreciated).**

NATIVITY OF JESUS CHRIST

a. **Christmas Matins** will be held on Saturday evening 24 December 2011 at 7.00 pm.

b. **Solemn Christmas Divine Liturgy** at 8.00 pm. then Christmas Greetings.

c. **Second Christmas Divine Liturgy** on Sunday 25 December at 10.00 am. Christmas Greetings and drawing for a **CHRISTMAS BASKET** at the hall of the Church.

THEOPHANY 06/01/2012

The Great Feast of the Appearance of God on the River Jordan and the Blessing of Water will be celebrated in **Brisbane this year on Sunday the 8th of January 2012.**

We pray that the baptized Christ bestows His blessing upon you and upon the devoted 'Adel Joubran family' who, every year, offer the bottles of water adorned with the Theophany icon.

ON THE BEGINNING OF SCHOOLS 2012

All Saint Paul's families are called out to come to church Divine Liturgy on Sunday January 29, 2012 for special Benediction and receiving the Holy Communion, asking the blessing of God to be bestowed upon all our children, Sunday school teachers and parents.

SAINT PAUL'S YOUTH MONTH

It is still observed by his Eminence Metropolitan Paul that February is our Youth Month. Father John prays David Novic the president together with his Youth Society to organise the activities of this month, such as the Youth Function, the staff of every Sunday Readings, Addressing Sermons, Collecting and Counting the Offerings, cleaning the Altar, the Altar boys uniform, the church garden, doing some restorations and some preparations for Lent and Easter Seasons.

CHURCH BOOKSTALL

A Bookstall is set by our Youth Society at the Church Hall for Orthodox Books, Icons and other ecclesiastical items. Some of the Orthodox Books are available. The Orthodox Study Bible of the Old and New Testament was already sold out. Fr John is still ordering more books. David Novic (07/ 3206 0277) is the Bookstall Keeper on behalf of the Youth.

Fr
John,

Fr. Dn. Elia, Wives,

St. Paul's Council, Ladies Auxiliary
Committee, Youth Society and
Sunday School Staff

WISH YOU A MERRY
CHRISTMAS AND A
VERY HAPPY NEW
YEAR

PASTORAL VISIT 2012

After celebrating Theophany, Fr. John will start his Annual Pastoral Visit and Blessing our homes with Holy Water. We look forward to this God's Blessing and Visitation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Education starts from childhood but even from babyhood. Parents are called to bring their Children along every Sunday to Church. Teachers, parents and children are asked to attend the Divine Liturgy, then after the Holy communion they go down stairs for learning. Fr. John pray every other person that when the Sunday school is held, to keep the hall silent for them.

SAINT PAUL'S BRISBANE WEB SITE

Our New Website Address
www.stpaulbrisbane.org.au and the Face Book.
Special thanks to Elie Fr. Michael Khouri our
Webmaster & Editor who established Saint
Paul's extensive Orthodox Church website
and the weekly Sunday bulletin. We do
appreciate his great and
votive work.