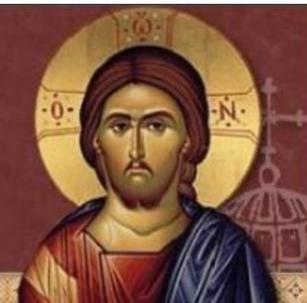


THE SPIRIT

NEW YEARS EDITION

JANUARY 2013



UPCOMING EVENTS

FIFA 13 Competition

Kicks off :
Sunday 10th February
Mark | 0401 127 586

Fishing Trip

Saturday 16th February
Michel | 0434 210 733

Youth Night

Every Thursday 7pm
Misha | 0403 277 488

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

If this is to be a Happy New Year, a year of usefulness, a year in which we shall live to make this earth better, it is because God will direct our pathway. How important then, to feel our dependence upon Him!

Matthew Simpson

BLACK AND YELLOW

Yellow stilettos. Black suits. A tiger costume?

“Yea, you know what it is...”

Saint Nicholas' Black and Yellow youth party!

On Friday the 11th of January, our youth decked out in black and yellow for a night of support and fun at the Grand Royale! From fluoro yellow suspenders, to creepy yellow contact lenses, the youth created a spectacle that would've impressed Wiz Khalifa himself!

To kick off the night, a live Arabic band got the young folks off their feet and shimmying in their bright coloured clothing. A photo booth was also kept at bay to capture our guests' fun and goofy moments! And it wouldn't be a black and yellow party without Wiz Khalifa's 'Black and yellow' song blasting from the speakers! It's fair to say our guests went home with the song ringing in their ears!

The moment that had everyone at the edge of their seats came at the end of the night. Raffle time! Prizes ranged from a Wii U, a return flight to Queensland, gift packs, beauty and petrol vouchers. Congratulations to all our winners!

Thanks to everyone's generosity, Saint Nicholas made a profit of over seven thousand dollars!

We would like to thank our sponsors for their kind donations and everyone who attended and purchased raffle tickets for their support!

We hope you had a great night!

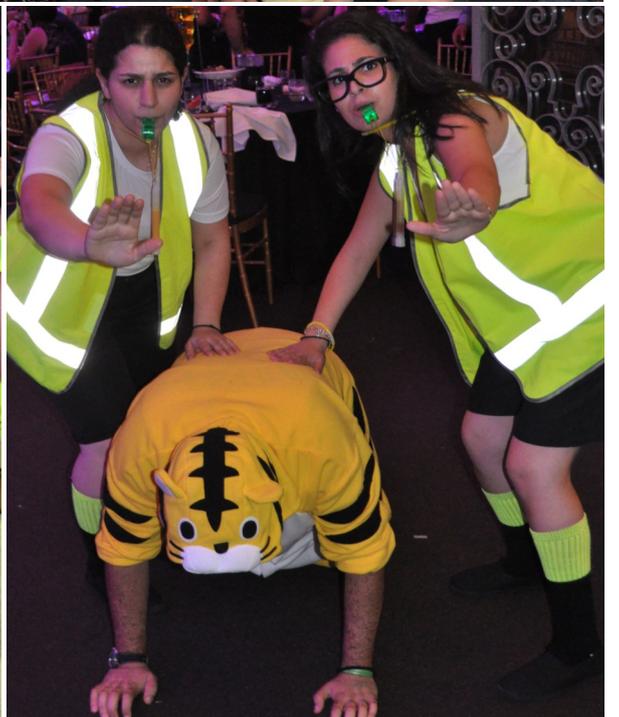
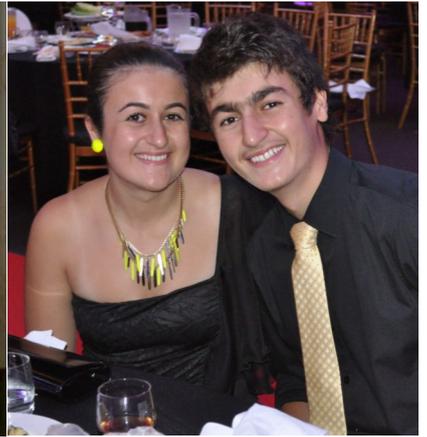
To view photos from the night, please visit: www.stnicholaspunchbowl.org.au

Ruperta Daher

A NEW YEARS PRAYER

May this year be a time of deep spiritual growth for us,
A time of welcoming Your graces and gifts,
A time for forgiving freely and unconditionally,
A time for growing in virtue and goodness,
Come Holy Spirit, be with us today and always.
Amen

**BLACK AND YELLOW
PHOTOS**



THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR

As the month of December approaches, the shopping centre blares the catchy tune "It's the most wonderful time of the year". And oh how right they are! Put aside the presents, the commercialism and the anticipating thought of eating your mum's amazing Wara2 Enib on Christmas Day. Instead, think of the priceless smiles your actions could put on the faces of over 200 elderly at St Basil's Greek Orthodox Nursing Home. That's exactly what 25 + of our own St Nicholas Youth did on the 16th December. Oh and what a wonderful feeling that was!

Through the laughter, smiles and tears, our youth beautifully (or very poorly, but that's entirely subjective!) chanted several Christmas carols and hymns varying in English, Arabic AND Greek! In the eyes of St Basil's elderly, our youth were simply a pack of angels following in the actions of our church's Patron Saint, St Nicholas. Distributing the hand-made Christmas baubles epitomised the true essence of Christmas, that is, the gift of giving and sharing love.

Some clapped along, some danced and some even sang!



But I think it's fair to say that the simple smile on each of their face was enough to bring the feeling of Christmas into our hearts and remind us that it is truly 'the most wonderful time of the year'.

Kala Kristiyenna. Kel eid wo ento b'khair. Merry Christmas to all!

Samantha Antoun

ANNUAL SAINT NICHOLAS CARNIVAL



As many of you know, the feast of St Nicholas is celebrated on the 6th of December and one way to celebrate is by having a carnival!

The Ladies and Youth committees organised a carnival for the kids and a lunch for the parents on Sunday the 9th of December. The kids could not wait to run out of Sunday School to Fairy Floss, Dodgem Cars, a Mechanic Bull and many other activities that gave a great carnival feel. The day ran very smoothly thanks to our community's help. The weather was chilly, but the rain held off until it was home time.

Special thanks to our Bishop His

Eminence Paul Saliba for his presence. We were delighted to show him our scouts' hard work, our church committees' efforts and the communal involvement.

Well done everyone!

Jomana Daher



Blessed Saint Nicholas,
we honour you for your acts of
kindness,
goodwill and charity to those on
the margins of life.
Inspire us with your desire for
justice and joy for all people;
help us learn from you what
faith and action means,
and make us aware of those
around us.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

A young man had just graduated from Oxford. He returned to say goodbye to his favourite professor, who invited him in and asked him to take a seat.

"What are your plans, young man?" he asked. "I'm going into law," replied the young man.

"That's fine, and what then?"

"I hope to advance to the presidency of our firm."

"Excellent! And what then?"

"Then I hope to be elected to Parliament and become a member of the House of Lords."

"That's excellent. And after that, what then?"

"Well I have some very excellent ideas for England and I hope to present them to the legislature."

"Wonderful! What then?"

"Well, I haven't thought too much beyond that. I suppose I'll retire."

"Yes, and what then?"

"I'll enjoy myself for a few years, I suppose."

"Fine, and then what?"

"Well, I don't know. I suppose I'll die."

"Yes. What then?"

"Well, I haven't given that any thought at all. I don't know."

"Young man, you are a fool! Go home, and think life through."

A lot of people in this world, both young and old, fit into that same category. We have never really thought life through, have we? Taken a long look at life and what God has in store for us? Abandoned ourselves to His will just like the saints have done, so that we might one day be numbered among those saints?

GETTING TO KNOW YOU-TH

Name: Michael 'Mish' Dayoub

Favourite Colour: Green

Favourite quote / bible reference:

"Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy upon me, a sinner"

If you could change one thing in the world, what would it be?

That no one would ever go hungry.

Where do you call home? Where ever I'm being fed! Jokes... Campbelltown.

Greatest piece of advice you would give to young people?

Always THINK first before you act, talk... pretty much anything you do.

Most memorable moment of your life:

The day I met my wife Nelly ('Nelz').



READY, AIM, FIRE!



On the 15th of December, St Nicholas Sports Committee organised a day out at the Heartbreak Ridge Paintball Skirmish facility with youth from different churches. Our strong group of 30 strapped on their overalls, replenished their paintball supplies, and headed onto the field for a great day of fun and adventure.

The whistle blew to mark the start of the game and it is literally 'fight or flight!' Some players chose to set up tactical teams, flanking left and right until the opposition was in sight. Others decided to go Rambo style; ducking, and weaving their way to the other side (which was more fun to watch). The highlight of the day had to be the 'Free For All'. There were no teams in this round, instead it was 'every man for himself'... Except in Diana Helou's case, it was 'every woman for herself'. From the spectator's view, it looked like she had gone on a simple 'target practice' routine, crowning her the MVP of the day.

Thank you to all the people who helped and participated on the day. Until next time, stay safe! And, as a disclaimer to this report, we do not condone the use of firearms or paintball guns! All activities completed on the day were done so under professional supervision and protective equipment was worn at all times!

Michel Nahas