

**Coorparoo
& Heritage Group
Districts**

Invites you to hear

**Very Rev. Fr. Gabriel Makarov
& Constantine Drozdovskii**

Speak about

"Centenary of the St. Nicholas Cathedral"

In 2023 Australia's first Russian Orthodox Parish celebrated its Centenary. The community flourished, established a purpose built church, the now historic Heritage Listed St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Cathedral on Vulture St. Kangaroo Point. This meeting will give members and guests an excellent opportunity to learn about the little known piece of Brisbane's history.

The Very Rev. Fr. Gabriel Makarov was born on March 7, 1958 in Hailar (Manchuria, China). In 1962, the Makarov family moved to Australia and settled in Sydney (New South Wales). Graduated from the New South Wales Institute of Technology with a degree in civil engineering. In 1980 he entered the Holy Trinity Theological Seminary in Jordanville (USA), from which he graduated in 1984. While studying at the seminary, in 1981, he married Irina (nee Lugovoy) in Australia. (In the Orthodox church priests cannot be married but married men can become priests). On July 3, 1983, he was ordained a deacon, and after graduating from the seminary, on June 11, 1984, a priest. He returned to Australia in September 1984 and was sent to serve in the church in honour of the icon of the Mother of God "Joy of All Who Sorrow" in Geelong (Victoria, Australia) in the jurisdiction of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia (ROCOR). He took an active part in the work of the Council of Ethnic Communities of Geelong, where he represented the interests of the Russian community. On December 20, 1998 he was transferred to the Cathedral of St. St. Nicholas the Wonderworker in the Woolloongabba area in Brisbane (Queensland, Australia). Archpriest (1998). Delegate of the IV All-Diaspora Council of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia (May 2006). Vice-Chairman of the Council. He spoke at the Council with a report on "Youth Problems and the Path to Their Solution."

Constantine (Con.) Drozdovskii, was born in the far north of China (Manchuria) of Russian/Greek parentage. His family arrived in Brisbane in August 1953 and settled in Woolloongabba, as did many Russian speaking immigrants of the time. Con grew up in the area, attended East Brisbane State School, Dutton Park State School, Brisbane State High and went on to study at University of Queensland.

Constantine took on the role of the Secretary of the Parish Council of St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Cathedral and was the founding member of the Canon Garland Memorial Society.

Con's work was recognized by the Russian Community when he was awarded the medal "For Diligence" and then by Brisbane's general community in the Lord Mayor's Australia Day Achievement Award for 2018 and the Griffith Australia Day Award for 2020.

Come along and listen to Fr. Gabriel and Con speak about the centenary of St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Cathedral and its presence in Woolloongabba.

A brief Annual General Meeting will precede this talk.

Where? **St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Cathedral
344 Vulture St.
Woolloongabba**

When? Saturday **3 February 2024** at 2.00 pm

Non-members are welcome, but why not join our group? A small donation to offset hiring charges would be appreciated.

Contact President Ron Baker OAM 0412 944 095 Vice President Richard Jeffreys OAM 0411 511 369

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