



Ormonde
dental centre

Integrity & care

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Mr Zap



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Immaculate Heart
of Mary
Pray for us.

Mr Zap



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COME JOIN US ALL AND LEARN MORE ABOUT THE GOOD WORK VINNIES DOES IN ST GEORGE



Sunday November 30

Vinnies
Community
Celebration

Start 1.30pm

St Declans Church
92 Penshurst Street
PENShurst

Many people think that Vinnies is just a string of Op shops
Vinnies provides emergency relief within the community for those in hardship home visitation for those who need material aid or spiritual fulfillment. They have breakfast vans that run all year round Night Patrol women's and children refuges men's Shelters art classes cooking classes living skills counselling services, drug and alcohol counselling the list goes on

Come and get involved!

Please let us know if you will be attending
Name: _____ How many people: _____

You can let us know by phoning the Hurstville Community Support Centre on 9580 2459
You can email us at janem@sydneyvinnies.org Or you can post the return slip to St Vincent de Paul Society 183C Forest Rd Hurstville NSW 2220 Hurstville Community Support Centre 9580 2459



Entrance antiphon
How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.
First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-12. 15-17
You, my flock, I judge between sheep and sheep.

Psalm: Ps 22:1-3. 5-6
R: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. R.

Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. R.
You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. R.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. R.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26. 28
He will hand over the kingdom to God the Father, so that God may be all in all.

Gospel Acclamation: John 15:4. 5
Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46
He will take his seat on his throne of glory, and he will separate men one from another.

Communion antiphon:
The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

GOSPEL COMMENTARY by Greg Sunter

This week's gospel is the final passage in Matthew's gospel before the passion narrative – the death and resurrection of Jesus. As such, it provides a powerful end point to the teaching ministry section of the gospel. In many ways this passage can be seen as a summary of Jesus' vision for the Kingdom – a world in which the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked and the imprisoned are treated with respect and dignity as a child of God. This is exactly what Jesus himself did throughout his ministry and it is what all Christian people are called to do.

Like the virtuous people of the passage, there are many times when we do not know the good work that we do. There are many times when our positive interaction with another person can be the difference between hope and despair for that person – and we may never know the difference we have made in their life. The challenge presented by Jesus is that whenever we see a person in need our response to them should be as if we were responding to Jesus himself.

But what of the times we fail to respond to the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked and the imprisoned? Who are they for us? ...That irritating person who we've never been able to get along with? ...That person who's just arrived in the country and can't speak the language properly? ...That kid who always looks dirty and nobody talks to? ...That girl who's no good at relating to other people and everyone avoids her? ...The homeless man in the street who asks for money? ...The asylum seeker fleeing their country who didn't go through all the right channels to immigrate? ...Lord, when did we see you, and not come to your help?

This week's gospel passage comes as the third in a sequence of passages that make up Matthew Chapter 25. The chapter addresses the gospel's intended audience who were caught in a time of uncertainty. Many had expected the promised return of the Lord within their lifetime and had seen the fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of the Temple by the Romans in 70 CE as a sign that the end of days was approaching. The three gospel passages speak of continuing to prepare for the coming of the Kingdom and the need to act in a way that works to bring about the reign of God in the world.

This week's liturgy marks the end of the liturgical cycle. Next week begins the new year with the season of Advent. The liturgy is celebrated as the Feast of Christ the King – reminding us of a very imperial model of church and theology that reflected the structure of the Roman Empire and later, Feudal Europe. To have this reading on the feast of Christ the King is a powerful reminder of how Jesus envisaged the Kingdom of God. For Jesus, the Kingdom was not a rule of power and status but a rule of justice and peace for even the lowliest. It is an apt conclusion to the liturgical year.

Often referred to as 'The Final Judgment', this gospel presents an understanding of judgment and punishment that reflects the theology and culture of the first century. It is an image that has continued to dominate Christian art and theology for most of its history: the idea of God sitting in judgment on the final day and weighing up each individual's actions. It is often applied very literally and it is a dominant image of God represented in the media – TV sit-coms and movies often draw on the image. It is a literalist image of God that needs to be challenged. We must remember that the focus of the gospel passage is on the call to action for justice.

UNITED IN FAITH, GUIDED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT NOURISHED BY THE EUCHARIST, COMMITTED TO PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL. WE STRIVE TO LIVE AS GOD ASKS
"to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8)

MASS TIMES this week		
	Mater Dei	St. Raphael's
Saturday	6.15pm	5.00pm
Sunday	10.00am	8.30am
Tuesday	8.00am	
Wednesday	8.00am	
Thursday		9.15am
Friday	8am	9.00am
RECONCILIATION: (also by appointment)		
Saturday		4.30pm
EXPOSITION		
Saturday	from	4.00pm
Legions of Mary		
MD: Meets 10am every Monday morning in the Piety Stall at Mater Dei. St R's Rosary and Meeting every Friday at 9:30 am downstairs in the Hall.		
St Vincent de Paul Society		
Meets second Tuesday of each month in the Kennedy Centre at Mater Dei at 7.30 pm.		

HOME ROSARY
St Raphael's Parish - Mondays 7.30pm
 24 November - Ralph & Grace Monserrat
 5 / 77-79 Flora St, Kirrawee
 1 December - Akram & Nana Mourad
 54 Greenacre Rd, South Hurstville
Mater Dei Parish - Tuesdays
 25 November - Cheddar Street Nursing Home 11am
 2 December - Nives Care
 33 Church St., Blakehurst 8pm
ALL WELCOME

Please pray for the work of this Council which has been set up as part of the Church's response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. Please pray especially, too, for the victims of child sexual abuse by clergy, religious and Church employees.

Please pray for
Deceased: Melita Formosa, Les Woodward, Giuseppe Ramaci
Sick: Michael Busby, Ingolf Leuschner, Cath Spongberg, Paul Gilmore, Wally Wells, Beryl Harrington, Maria Nguyen, Evelyn Williams, Rina Ricco, Morrell, Angelo Panzarino, Hennie Smith, Sue McDermott, Margaret Hopkinson, Sr Vianney Hatton, Mary Krone, Ann, Sr Maree Henderson, rsc, Blaza Kursar, Howard Courtney, Ann Davies, Joanne McRea, Patrick & Sidney Yenson, Matthew Tuffin, Joanne Martin, Jack & Sylvia Wood.

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND		
TYPE	StR	MD
First	512	376
Second: loose	344	547
Envelopes	484	782

Both Churches have a hearing loop installed: switch your hearing aid to "T-coil".

HOLY HOUR AT ST RAPHAEL'S
 Continues Fridays, between 8pm and 9pm. When we enter the Church, Jesus will be waiting there for each one of us, exposed on the Altar surrounded by beautiful candles. This will be a very special and very quiet peaceful time that we will be able to spend with Our Lord. Please come and spend this hour with Our Lord and invite friends to come along - everyone is welcome !!

Farewell to the Principal
 Mrs Jenni Payne is leaving Mater Dei School and parishioners are invited to attend a celebration of her work in our community. Please join in farewelling our Principal on Wednesday 3 December: Mass 9.15am, Morning Tea, School Assembly at 11.30am - 1 pm. RSVP Friday 31 October via <http://goo.gl/l14Yun> or by phoning 9546 7298.

Mater Dei— Fresh Flowers request
 It would be lovely to have fresh flowers in the Church more often, but they are very expensive purchased from a florist. If anyone goes to the Flemington markets sometimes, would they be willing to buy some flowers (and be reimbursed)? Contact the Parish Office if you are willing to do this sometimes.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS
 Are now available for next year. They are \$10 each and are available from the Piety Stall at Mater Dei or from Br Ben at St Raphael's.

ST RAPHAEL'S CHRISTMAS PARTY
 Saturday 29 November (Next Weekend)
 FOR YOUR DIARY! St Raphael's Christmas Party Everyone invited to bring a plate to contribute to the big table and also to bring their own drinks. A small donation is requested to go towards the fundraising efforts of the parish. We are also asking some of you individually or as a small group to contribute a gift of substantial value towards the Raffle - 4-5 gifts. There will be Karaoke on the night and a visit from Santa

A Reflection Weekend for Women
 "The Treasure Within, and the Masks we Wear" will be held at Hartzler Park Friday 28 - Sunday 30 November. Cost \$180 Enquiries: Pat Cudmore 0407 438 699; Trish Crystal 9526 6316; Fr John Sullivan 9521 6172

Be A Compeer Volunteer. Change A Life! Compeer is the St Vincent de Paul Society's friendship program which trains volunteers to be matched with someone who is lonely and experiencing mental illness in their local community. Compeer volunteers provide friendship to their new friend by catching up regularly for simple social activities, such as having a cuppa, going for a walk or attending a community

event. They currently need male and female volunteers aged 30 - 70 across Sydney. Training and ongoing support is provided, as well as the opportunity to connect with like-minded people at social events. An hour a week of your friendship can have a big impact on your new friend's quality of life. To find out more call 9568 0295, email Alexandra.Irving@vinnies.org.au or visit www.compeer.org.au

RCIA The topic this week is "The Mass" 7.30pm at St Raphael's on this coming Wednesday. All welcome. For more info contact Graeme Dorahy on 9546 6032.

SCRIPTURE PRAYER GROUP
 The Heartbeat Program restarts for Advent. There will be a **MEN ONLY** group on Thursday evenings 8pm-9pm in the old St Raphael's Hall starting **THIS WEEK** (for more information phone Carl on 0418 672 394). If you would like to run a group yourself please contact the Parish Office.

Saturday Afternoon Event for Fathers and Grandfathers
 The Parramatta Diocese Family & Life Office and menALIVE are hosting an Saturday afternoon event on the critical importance of Fathering. The afternoon will include discussion on the importance of the Role of Fathers and Grandfathers and will include some practical insights and information on Intentional Fathering. The afternoon will conclude with a launch of the book, "The Father Factor" by Peter O'Shea and Robert Falzon Date: Saturday, November 29. Time: 1:30 - 4pm Place: St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta RSVP: Contact Ben Smith on 8838 3440 or at smith@parra.catholic.org.au.

Ministry 22 & 23 November	St Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	Acolytes/SS	Greg	Br Ben	Br Michael
EMHC	Shirley Ellen	Kath, Sophia Henriette		Marguerite
Readers	Cath Napo	Fernandes Family	Sonia R Fiona	John Jo
Altar Servers	Isabelle, Jared, Cheryl, Kudzaisha, Gabriela	Brianna Sienna	Luke Emma	Amy, Bianca, Gabrielle
Music	Niko	Julia	Jan	Marion
Altar Society			Sharon & Nathan	
Children's Liturgy	Mary		Joumana	

Ministry 29/30 November	St Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	Acolytes/SS	Greg	Br Ben	Ray L
EMHC	Ellen M	Kathy		Marguerite
Readers	Juan P Carl P	Crosby Family	Debra A Trish A	Wendy E Fiona D
Altar Servers	Marcus C, Nevin, Elroy Edward D	Melissa Crystal Ruz	Emma	Amy, Bianca, Gabrielle
Music	Michele	Julia	Jan	Kim
Altar Society			Grace & Angela	
Children's Liturgy	Diana			

St Francis Xavier is considered one of the church's greatest missionaries and a co-founder of the Society of Jesus or the Jesuit order (our present Holy Father is a Jesuit). Francis Xavier was born in Spain in 1506 in a noble family. In 1525, the ambitious and worldly Francis Xavier went to study at the University of Paris, where he met Ignatius of Loyola. For three years Ignatius patiently encouraged Francis to look at his life differently. "What profits a man," Ignatius asked Francis, "if he gains the whole world and loses his soul?"



Francis Xavier was ordained in 1537. In 1541 King John of Portugal asked Ignatius for priests to send to the missions in India. Francis arrived in Goa in 1542 and for 3 years he preached to the people of Goa, where he came to be admired for his ability to live and work side by side with the poor. He travelled to Sri Lanka, Malay Peninsula and Japan preaching and baptising. His last stop on his travels was to be China. However, illness prevented him, and he died on the island (Shangchuan) without having reached mainland China on December 3, 1552. His body was taken to Goa and his remains are in the church of Bom Jesu in Goa. His feast day is celebrated on 3 December.

Prepared by Monica Fernandes

Regular contributions will be coming from St Raphael's with stories about saints who inspire people. This is an initiative of the Pastoral Council.

4 Funny While out on visitation a priest knocked several times at a house where it was obvious that someone was home but no one came to the door. Finally, he took out his card and wrote "Revelations 3:20" on the back of it, and stuck it in the door. {Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him and him with me.} The next Sunday, the card turned up on the plate. Below the priest's message was the written "Genesis 3:10. {I heard your voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.}

REDEEM Copies of this little book of Advent reflections are in the Churches and are "free to a good home"

At the 10am Mass this weekend Caitlin Fitzpatrick, Kiara Mercuri, Natalia Mezei, Alessia & Gabriele Care, Rosabella Walujo, Peter Kohalmi, Ethan Rowlands, Rory Coughlan, Owen Anketell, Angelina Ared, Angelina Dupesovski, Biaggio Signorelli, Grace Martin, Ella Martin, and Neave Keenan will receive Jesus in the eucharist for the first time. Please pray for them all.

Last Morning Tea for the Year at Mater Dei!
 Everyone is invited to come to Morning Tea at Mater Dei this weekend after the 10AM Mass! Michael and Wendy will make the coffee but there is no "host" for the day so everyone is invited to pitch in!



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 (Chaplain to the French)
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 Principal: Mrs Jenni Payne
St Raphael's Primary 9546 4898
 Principal: Mrs Annette McKenzie