

This is me, a sinner on whom the Lord has turned his gaze. And this is what I said when they asked me if I would accept my election as pontiff. I am a sinner, but I trust in the infinite mercy and patience of our Lord Jesus Christ, and I accept in a spirit of penance.
Pope Francis

MASS TIMES		
	Mater Dei	St. Raphael
Saturday	6.15pm	5.00pm
Sunday	10.00am	8.30am
Tuesday	8.00am	-
Wednesday	8.00am	-
Thursday	-	9.15am
Friday	8.00am	9.00am
RECONCILIATION: (also by appointment)		
Saturday	-	4.30pm
EXPOSITION		
Friday	-	7:30 pm — 8:30 pm
Saturday	-	4pm — 4:45pm

Please Pray for:
Recently Deceased: Robyn Mattem, Roger Elsworthly, Rita Carmela Testa, Elias Haddad, Anne-Maree Raleigh, Philip Whelan, Bessie Murray, Maria Terzito Rizzuto, Graham Hampden Murphy, Paul Tien, Fr William Davis, Pasquale Spagnolo, Roslyn Marmez, Jamila Safar, Betty Danvers, Josephine Binding, Wilhemina Sims, Ursula Therese Wambeek, Georges Antoine, Max Sullivan Benny Virgona, Sr Jean Marie Brennan (RSC), Trevor Haney, Peter Lynch, Margaret Moran
Also pray for: Hong Nguyen, Members of Kursar Family, Jose Oliveira, Fernando, Conseisao, Jose, Maria, Albine Alvarez, Sam Greco, Domenico Portolesi, Tony Gonzalez, Maria Angeles, Francine Kidd, Ron Brooks, Antonieta Mayorga, All souls in Purgatory
Mass Offered: Jeffrey George Bishop, Mary El Khouri & Karam El Khouri, Felice & Josephine DeFina
Sick: Tim Birch, John Viera, Sr Carol Pedersen (RSC), Orlando Casas, Adriana, Brian & Barbara Waterman, Paul McCann, Mary Foar, Maria Turiano, Zora Jurcevic, Kate Paulis, Michael Higgins, Ian Crawford, George & Therese Mir, Sydney Yenson, Joanne McRea, Sue McDermott, Residents of Cheddar Street Nursing Home

Home Rosary St Raphael Monday 7:30pm	
13-02-2017	No Host
20-02-2017	Joey & Sonia Maggily 16 Lynwood St, Blakehurst
27-02-2017	Orly & Tina Macaraeg 13/18-20 Kairawa St, Sth Hurstville



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Mater Dei Church
MORNING TEA
 There will be Morning Tea after the 10am mass today 29 Jan 17

A THANK YOU MASS
 Sunday 5th Feb 2017
 8:30am at St Raphael's Church followed by Morning Tea.
 We would like to say thank you to the past and present parishioners of St Raphael's Parish for their unfailing efforts toward the wellbeing of the parish.

FEAST DAY MASSES
 Parishioners are warmly invited to attend special weekday masses:
2nd Feb (Thursday)—Feast of "The Presentation of the Lord". There will be blessing of Candles (Candlemas) (9:15am St Raphael)
3rd Feb (Friday) Feast of St Blaise. Father will be giving the traditional blessing of the throat. (8:00am MD, 9:00am SR)

Mater Dei and St Raphael's Parishes Calendar 2017		
23 Feb	MD Pastoral Council Meeting	MD Hall
16 Mar	SR Pastoral Council Meeting	SR Hall
31 May	SR Confirmation @ 7pm (Wed) by Msgr Anthony Randazzo	SR Church
01 Jun	MD Confirmation @ 7pm by Archbishop Anthony Fisher	MD Church

	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5.00pm V	8.30am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Ministry 28th & 29th Jan 2017 (5th Sun)				
Acolytes / SS	Carl Pavia	Luke Auciello	Tony Oscuro	Graeme Dorahy
EMHC	Susie Fabbro	Kathy, Rosemary, Florence		Marguerite Derrig
Readers	Rosie, George Saab	Crosby Family	Anne-Marie Berry, Fiona D	Debra Amerio, Trish Alonso
Altar Servers	Volunteers	Volunteers		
Children's Liturgy				
Ministry 4th & 5th Feb 2017 (1st Sun)				
Acolytes / SS	Greg Driver	Max Montecillo	Tony Oscuro	Paul Watson
EMHC	Moya, Susi	Annie, Rosie		Marguerite Derrig
Readers	Lovat Family	Yenson Family	Sonia Magpilly, Maureen Wells	Gail, Angela H, Luisa Galea
Altar Servers	Volunteers	Volunteers		
Children's Liturgy				
Music	CD music	Julia Martin	Kim Laffan	Kim Laffan

Please arrange for a replacement if you are unable to serve in your ministry - Michael Fernandes 0437517758

PARISH DIRECTORY
PARISH PRIEST: FR. ISIDORE ANANTHARAJ
MATER DEI CATHOLIC CHURCH
 1008 King Georges Road, Blakehurst 2221, NSW
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Mater Dei Primary School: (02) 95467298
 Principal: Mr. Peter Cranney
St. Raphael Primary School: (02) 95464898
 Principal: Mrs. Annette McKenzie

A warm welcome to our **Welcome!** teachers, students and parents to a new academic year. We hope that you all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer and are looking forward to starting the new term with joy and enthusiasm. We extend a special welcome to the parents/guardians of our new students.

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND		
TYPE	St Raphael's	Mater Dei
First	403.25	212.50
Second: loose	266.90	308.25
Envelopes	490.00	457.00

FUNNY
 On Holiday in rural Scotland, Joel and Maxine went to a nearby farm to buy milk and butter. Joel asked the owner what he thought the weather would be like that day. The farmer gazed up at the sky and looked at the far horizon.
 "It'll be fine". He replied. "How can you tell?" Asked Joel intrigued by the man's understanding of the nature.
 "it said so on the radio."



Parishes of Mater Dei Blakehurst & St Raphael's South Hurstville
 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary
 Time—Year A
BULLETIN
 29th Jan 2017

Entrance Antiphon: Ps 105:47
 Save us, O Lord our God!
 And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

First Reading: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13
 In your midst I will leave a humble and a lowly people.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 145:7-10. R. Mt 5:3
(R.) Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

- It is the Lord who keeps faith forever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)
- It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan. (R.)
- It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign forever, Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)


Second Reading: 1 Cor 1:26-31
 God has chosen what is weak by human reckoning.

Gospel Acclamation: Mt 5:12
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Rejoice and be glad; Your reward will be great in heaven.
 Alleluia!

Gospel: Mt 5:1-12
 Happy are the poor in Spirit.

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Ps 30:17-18
 Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate
 Jesus doesn't start in a fantasy dream world of perfection. Jesus looks at the world as it often is for many people, perhaps for most people around the world: 'the poor in spirit', 'those who mourn', 'those who are gentle', 'those who hunger and thirst for justice'. Jesus astonishes the crowd by saying that such people are 'Blessed'. How can this be? The answer lies in our Lord's emphasis on the new community he is establishing under the reign of God: what he calls 'the Kingdom of God'. Those in such wretched circumstances will have things set right, but only if followers of Jesus do everything possible to lift the poor out of the poverty which crushes their spirit, do everything possible to comfort those who mourn, do everything possible to make sure the gentle share the earth's resources, do everything possible to satisfy the craving for justice. We could pause for a moment to pray the 'Our Father' pledging ourselves to help construct this new society where the Beatitudes can come true: 'Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.'



Saint of the Week: St John Bosco was the youngest son of a peasant farmer in the town of Turin, Northern Italy. Soon after his ordination in 1841 he began his life's work of educating poor and orphaned children. He had an extraordinary gift for handling difficult youths without punishment, but with gentle and effective firmness. Inspired by St Francis de Sales, Don Bosco called his helpers "Salesians", who were formally recognised by the church in 1874. July 1767. On account of his famous levitations he has been chosen the Patron Saint of aviators not without a touch of humour!

Living the Gospel – Be-attitudes One way to read the Beatitudes is that Jesus was commending and blessing the various people who found themselves in those sorts of conditions. Another, is as a list of qualities that all people should strive to exhibit. It's not just some people who happen to be economically poor who are blessed. Rather, we must all have a poverty of spirit – a humility about our need for God's merciful action in our lives. All are called to hunger and thirst for justice and all are called to be merciful. The Beatitudes are not a menu to select from, but rather an essential list of ingredients.

Prayer after Communion
 Nourished by these redeeming gifts, we pray, O Lord, that through this help to eternal salvation true faith may ever increase.

Next Sunday's Readings
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary
 Time—Year A
 Is 58:7-10; Ps 111:4-89. R. v.4; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Jn 8:12; Mt 5:13-16

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