



Parishes of Mater Dei Blakehurst & St Raphael's South Hurstville

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Bulletin 17th Oct 2021

Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Ps 16:6,8

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; Turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

First Reading: Is 53:10-11

If he offers his life in atonement, he shall see his heirs, and have long life.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22. R. v.22

(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

1. The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love.

(R.)

2. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love. to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. (R.)

3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. (R.)

Second Reading: Heb 4:14-16

Let us be confident in approaching the throne of grace.

Gospel Acclamation : Mk 10:45

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Son of Man came to serve and to give his life as a ransom for all.

Alleluia!

Gospel : Mk 10:35-45

The Son of Man came to give his life as a ransom for all.

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Ps 32:18-19

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

James and John are effectively calling 'shotgun' on the best seats at the table! When they ask to sit at the left and right hand of Jesus, they are asking Jesus to name them as his deputies. They're looking to secure for themselves positions of power and authority. The only problem is that they have a completely messed up idea of what it means for Jesus to enter into his glory. For several weeks now, we have been exploring a theme from the Gospel of Mark that follows a physical journey towards Jerusalem as well as a symbolic and theological journey towards what is going to occur in Jerusalem – Jesus' arrest, crucifixion and resurrection.

Throughout this journey, Jesus has been trying to prepare the disciples for what is to come and educate them about what it really means to be a disciple of his. Three times Jesus tells the disciples explicitly what lies ahead. Each time the disciples fail to grasp what Jesus tells them. Despite occasional glimpses of insight, the disciples still believe that Jesus is going to rise up as a political or military figure. In a complete dismissal of this sort of thinking, Jesus declares quite forcefully that leadership of this sort is not what he intends for himself, nor for those who follow him.

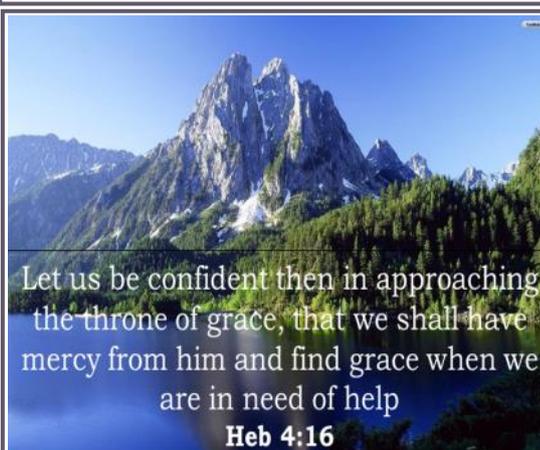
Leadership in the Jesus model is about being of service to others; it is not about prestige and acclamation. Many of the best leaders are those who do not have any title of leadership or authority. Their leadership and authority come from what they do and how they do it. They inspire others to follow their example. They don't demand it; they don't bully; they don't play power games. People simply want to follow their example.

Living the Gospel – Servant Leadership

What does it really mean to practise servant leadership? It means placing the needs of others before your own desires for prestige or authority. We've all known people who have been given a position of leadership and they really only wanted the job as recognition of their popularity; a thank you for previous work done; an opportunity to demonstrate their strength of will or cleverness with words. Servant leadership is about collaborating; it's about empowering people to do their best; it's about trusting others and about rolling up your sleeves and getting on with the job.

Have you thought? Integrity

Who do you really admire? Who would you really like to be like? Aside from sports stars, models and actors whose particular skills you might admire or even envy; who is a person who lives their life in a way that you would like to emulate? Perhaps it's not that you want to do exactly what they have done but rather it's the way they've gone about living their life. I would bet that there is a close match between what they hold to be true and the way they live their life – integrity!



Let us be confident then in approaching the throne of grace, that we shall have mercy from him and find grace when we are in need of help

Heb 4:16

We thank God that our parishes will open soon, and we can worship in church.

We pray for those in our midst, who are experiencing sickness, loneliness and loss of any kind. We know that God is close to us, and we can turn to Him in all our needs. May we continue to experience His love and mercy in our lives.

Have a blessed week and stay safe!

"So your strength is failing you? Why don't you tell your mother about it?...Mother! Call her with a loud voice. She is listening to you; she sees you in danger, perhaps, and she--your holy mother Mary--offers you, along with the grace of her son, the refuge of her arms, the tenderness of her embrace...and you will find yourself with added strength for the new battle." - Saint Josemaria Escriva

COVID—Easing of restrictions Message from Archdiocese

STAGE ONE – WHEN 70% ARE VACCINATED – 11 OCTOBER

We will patiently wait the estimated two further weeks until we reach 80% fully vaccinated before re-opening our churches to the public, and conducting public Masses etc.

STAGE TWO – WHEN 80% ARE FULLY VACCINATED – ESTIMATED DATE 25 OCTOBER

Churches will be opened to “mixed” congregations (fully vaccinated, partially vaccinated and as yet unvaccinated); the 4 sqm rule will apply, and masks must be worn indoors with No congregational singing.

STAGE THREE – WHEN 90% ARE EXPECTED TO BE FULLY VACCINATED – 1 DECEMBER 2021 – “THE NEW NORMAL”

The Government has advised that from 1 December there will be no difference between the Covid safety requirements for all NSW citizens, whether fully vaccinated, partially vaccinated or unvaccinated. The key requirement for churches will be the 2sqm rule at all indoor religious gatherings, including weddings and funerals. There will be no limit on the numbers at outdoor events. Masks will not be required inside a church (though some people may wish to wear a mask for added protection).

Pray for good health of : Norma Gum, Giselle Oscuro, John and Shirley Wakefield, Yin Kwan Tsang.

Mass Offered: Fr Isidore Anantharaj, Elias Haddad, Jeffrey Bishop

Also pray for: Holy Souls in Purgatory

ANNUAL GALONG DIVINE WILL RETREAT ONLINE

This year the Annual Galong Divine Will retreat on **30 & 31 October**, will be going online due to Covid.

This retreat is free, however donations for the work of Frs. Emil and Hugh are welcome. If you wish to make a donation, this can be done via the Eventbrite website when you register or through an electronic transfer direct to a bank account – the details of which will be provided with the online meeting details closer to the date. The link is <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/retreat-into-the-divine-will-tickets-178386708447> or search the Eventbrite website by entering ‘Divine Will Emil’ . Register by 19th Oct.



Catholic Mission is seeking applications for a **Donor Relations Officer** role. Full-time or Part-Time, the role is based in North Sydney in NSW and incorporates supporting Catholic Dioceses in NSW & ACT. This is an exceptional opportunity to join the international mission agency of the Catholic Church in Australia, which supports children, communities and church leaders both in Australia and overseas.

For more information, please visit <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/jobs-at-catholic-mission>

Opening of Churches

Mater Dei and St Raphael Churches will open for mass from 26th October 2021. Week day mass times will be advertised next week.

October IS World Mission Month

Next week Catholic Mission will invite you to partner with Sister Chalaad and the Good Shepherd Sisters in Thailand as they reach out to vulnerable mothers, like Churai*, and their babies, who would have nowhere to turn when they need support, love and kindness the most.

However if you wish to donate now The link is www.catholicmission.org.au/thailand



PRAYING FOR FOOD

As my five-year-old son and I were heading to McDonald's one day, we passed a car accident. Usually when we see something terrible like that, we say a prayer for whoever might be hurt, so I pointed and said to my son, "We should pray."

From the back seat I heard his earnest voice: "Dear God, please don't let those cars block the entrance to McDonald's."



Children's Liturgy via zoom

The Children's liturgy is on every Sunday 11:30am—12:00noon. Please make use of this lovely opportunity for your children or grand children. Please contact Cecilia 0413 673 669

PARISH DIRECTORY

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MATER DEI CATHOLIC CHURCH

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ST. RAPHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Website: <https://www.materdei-straphael.org.au/>

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Email: admin@materdei-straphael.org.au

Parish Ministry Coordinator & Safeguarding Officer
Michael Fernandes

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Pastoral Ministry Coordinator: Br. Ben Krupowicz

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Fr. Jan Chrzczonowicz : Phone: 0412 786 245

Safeguarding Children

The Safeguarding and Child Protection documents can be found on our website at <https://www.materdei-straphael.org.au/safeguarding/>