



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

Thirty-Third Sunday in
Ordinary Time—Year B

Bulletin

14th Nov 2021

Entrance Antiphon: Jer 29:11,12,14

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

First Reading: Dn 12:1-3

When that time comes your own people will be spared.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 15:5. 8-11.
R.v.1

(R.) Keep me safe, O God:
you are my hope.

1. O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; it is you yourself who are my prize. I keep the Lord ever in my sight: since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. (R.)
2. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; even my body shall rest in safety. For you will not leave my soul among the dead, nor let your beloved know decay. (R.)
3. You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, at your right hand happiness forever. (R.)

Second Reading: Heb 10:11-14, 18

By a single offering he has achieved the eternal perfection of those who are sanctified.

Gospel Acclamation : Lk 21:36

Alleluia, alleluia!
Be watchful, and pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man.
Alleluia!

Gospel : Mk 13:24-32

He shall gather his elect from the four winds.

Communion Antiphon: Ps 72:28

To be near God is my happiness,
to place my hope in God the Lord.

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

The whole of chapter 13 in the Gospel of Mark is devoted to a discourse about the future. In the section preceding this week's passage, Jesus has foretold the destruction of the Temple and the fall of Jerusalem. He has also predicted war on a massive scale and the persecution of his followers. Now, in this passage, Jesus predicts the return of the Son of Man and the fulfilment of the kingdom of God.

Why does the gospel include such an extended description of the collapse of the world as it was? Because that's exactly what was going on around the community of this gospel writer! This gospel is understood to have been written somewhere in the period 70-75 CE. In the year 70 CE the city of Jerusalem was besieged by Roman troops who stormed the city and destroyed it. As a sign of complete disdain for the people of Jerusalem and a mark of overwhelming victory, the Romans burnt and completely destroyed the Temple in the heart of Jerusalem. For the entire Jewish community, this was absolute devastation. The destruction of the Temple surely marked the coming of the end times – the day of judgment and completion of this world. The community gathered around this gospel writer were no less affected. On top of this, the Roman Emperors were reaching new heights (or depths) in their persecution of the followers of Jesus.

In the midst of this despair and fear, the followers of Jesus are challenged to remember the teachings of the one they follow. This passage is written for them as an encouragement to not give up in the face of what appears to be overwhelming odds. It is a call to hope. Although we can understand the context in which it was originally written, we are also challenged to apply its message of hope and perseverance to our own lives.

Historical Context – 70 CE

In 66 CE a Jewish revolt against Roman occupation began in Caesarea and soon spread to most of the country. By the year 68 the sheer weight of Roman numbers had stamped out a lot of the rebellion. The leaders of the revolt rallied again in Jerusalem and in the year 70 the Roman armies laid siege to the city for several months. Finally, Titus, the emperor Vespasian's son, led an assault on the city and the Romans ransacked and burnt the entire city. The treasures of the Temple were looted and the Temple itself – the very centre of Jewish religion – was destroyed.

Living the Gospel – People of Hope

Whilst the community who were the intended audience of the Gospel of Mark were expecting the return of Jesus and the end times to occur during their lifetimes, nearly two thousand years later we realise that wasn't the case. Today, as in Mark's time, many people approach the future and change with fear and apprehension. As Christian people we are called to be optimistic and hopeful as we approach the future. We know that God is good, that God loves us unconditionally and that God has a dream for us. That is the simple basis of Christian hope.

COVID—Easing of restrictions

STAGE THREE – AS 90% ARE FULLY VACCINATED – FROM 8th NOV 2021

Churches will be opened to "mixed" congregations (fully vaccinated, partially vaccinated and as yet unvaccinated); the 2 sqm rule will apply, and masks must be worn indoors.

**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 our God" (Micah 6:8)

Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, producing varied fruits with coloured flowers and herbs. Francis of Assisi

MASS TIMES

	St Raphael Church	Mater Dei Church
Tuesday		9:15am Mass
Wednesday		8:45am Rosary, Novena 9:15am Mass
Thursday	9:15am Mass is only for school children. Due to Covid regulations parishioners cannot mix with school children	
Friday	7:30pm Adoration	8:45am Adoration 9:15am Mass
Saturday	Reconciliation 4:30pm 5:00pm Vigil Mass	6:15pm Vigil Mass
Sunday	8:30am Mass 6:00pm Croatian Mass	10:00am Mass

Fr Hugh Thomas' retreat

Date: Saturday 20th November 2021
Start: 9am **Finish:** 11.30am.
Location: Mater Dei Catholic Church Blakehurst.
 Please bring along a bottle of water.
 (There will be no morning tea due to COVID)
 (For further info contact Gary Cartmer 0418 781 777)

Theme of talk

"He turns all things into good for those who love Him."

Having a time of deprivation of Holy Communion, Confession and Live Mass could mean a greater appreciation of these gifts of God when they are available.

Start	Details
0900am	Mass
0935am	Father Hugh talk
1015am	Commence Holy Hour – Confession available
1130am	Finish



Ministry 13th/14th Nov (2nd Sun)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5.00pm	8.30am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Acolytes	Greg Driver	Michael B Minh N	Ray Low	Volunteer
Readers	Saab Family	Lappen Family	Louise Tapp	Joan Hanson Jean Dorahy
Ministry 20th/21st Nov (3rd Sun)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5.00pm	8.30am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Acolytes	Greg Driver	Earl, Carl	Michael B	Volunteer
Readers	Rosie Gould Volunteer	Sophie JP	Br Michael Nina Milazzo	Jolly Jose Wendy Eather

Please arrange for a replacement if you are unable to serve - Michael Fernandes 0437 517 758

Pray for good health of : 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

Ecumenical Remembering Service



Each year we have an opportunity to gather with our friends at St Mark's South Hurstville to give thanks, light a candle, and remember those we have loved and

lost. This year the Remembering Service will be held at St Raphael Church on Sunday 5 December at 2.30pm. Afternoon tea will follow. All are welcome.

November Mass Envelopes

If you'd like to offer Mass for the Holy Souls of your loved ones during November, you may pick the envelope kept in the foyer of the Church. Do write names clearly. The names appear in the *Book of Remembrance* kept near the Altar. Thank you.

Rosary before Mass

Rosary will be recited at 9:30am before the Sunday 10am Mass at Mater Dei Church. All are welcome.



World War II Airbn

Not so very long ago, an old German man was feeling guilty about something he had done, so he decided to go to Confession.

He said, "Bless me, Father, for I have sinned, I feel terrible because during World War II I had a refugee in my attic."

The priest said, "But that's not a sin! I wouldn't feel bad about that if I were you!". "But I made him agree to pay me 50 Marks for every week, he stayed."

The priest said, "Well, I admit that certainly wasn't the most noble thing to do, charging the man to save his life—but you did save his life, after all, and that is a good thing. Don't worry about it too much; God forgives."

The man said, "Oh thank you, Father, that eases my mind. I have only one more question to ask you—Do I have to tell him the war is over?"



RCIA RCIA commences on Wed 17th Nov 2021 at 7:30pm At St Raphael's Church, 82 George St South Hurstville at 7:30pm. Topic: Importance of being a Christian in our society. Contact: Graeme Dorahy 0421420497

PARISH DIRECTORY

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Thomas Alukka

M: 0469 236 118 E: tomyalukka@gmail.com

MATER DEI CATHOLIC CHURCH

1008 King Georges Road, Blakehurst 2221, NSW

ST. RAPHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

84 George Street, South Hurstville

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

Parish Secretary: Juliana Widjaja

Office hours: Tues & Wed 9:30am - 2:30pm

Phone: 9546 2605 - Fax: 9547 2323

Email: admin@materdei-straphael.org.au

Parish Ministry Coordinator & Safeguarding Officer

Michael Fernandes

Office hours: Tues, Wed & Fri 10am – 2pm

M: 0437 517 758 E: mc@materdei-straphael.org.au

Pastoral Ministry Coordinator: Br. Ben Krupowicz

Phone: 02 95462544 Email: strsh@outlook.com

Fr. Jan Chrzczonowicz : Phone: 0412 786 245

Children's Liturgy online

Via Zoom on Saturdays 4:00pm—4:30pm

Contact Cecilia 0413 673 669

