



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

6th Sunday in Ordinary time Year C *Bulletin* 13th Feb 2022

Entrance Antiphon : Cf. Ps 30:3-4

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

First Reading: Jer 17:5-8

A curse on those who trust in humanity; a blessing on those who trust in the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:

(R.) Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

1. Happy indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked; nor lingers in the way of sinners nor sits in the company of scorners, but whose delight is the law of the Lord and who ponders his law day and night. (R.)
2. He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters, that yields its fruit in due season and whose leaves shall never fade; and all that he does shall prosper. (R.)
3. Not so are the wicked, not so! For they like winnowed chaff shall be driven away by the wind. For the Lord guards the way of the just but the way of the wicked leads to doom. (R.)

Second Reading: 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20

If Christ is not raised from the dead, your faith is in vain.

Gospel Acclamation : Lk 6: 23

Alleluia, alleluia!
Rejoice and be glad;
your reward is great in heaven.
Alleluia!

Gospel : Lk 6:17, 20-26

Happy are the poor. Woe to the rich!

Communion Antiphon:

They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

We are perhaps more familiar with the Beatitudes from the Gospel of Matthew in which the kingdom of heaven is promised to those who are 'blessed' because of their afflictions. Rather than the Sermon on the Mount from the Gospel of Matthew, the Gospel of Luke presents the same event and teaching as the sermon on the plain as it occurs on 'a piece of level ground'. This version may appear a little more confronting than the Matthew version. Rather than the afflicted being 'blessed', they are to be 'happy'. It seems odd that anybody should be happy to be poor, hungry, mourning or reviled and we would certainly regard these as states of sadness and difficulty; not times for rejoicing at our good fortune! However, this gospel in particular frequently reminds us that God does not think, feel and behave as we might expect. God's actions are frequently contrary to the expectations of society. The Gospel of Luke makes it plain that the reign of God will upend the structures of society. The lowly will be raised and the mighty will be brought low. It is in this context that the poor, the hungry and the outcast are regarded as happy. Their happiness comes from the reassurance that although they are rejected and dismissed by society, they are indeed the most favoured of God. Whatever the world dishes up to such as these, they can rejoice in the knowledge that in the reign of God their fortunes will be reversed and they will be favoured. However, just as the fortunes of the poor and afflicted will be reversed for the better, those who are rich, well fed, happy and well regarded will also have their fortunes reversed. Alas to them! Their comfort and joy leaves no room for the generosity of God!

Scriptural context – Message for all

Throughout the Gospel of Luke, the author is keen to demonstrate that the message of Jesus is for all people – not just the Jews, but for the Gentiles and Pagans as well. We can see this message revealed in the gathering of people who listened to Jesus' sermon on the plain. We're told there were people from all parts of Judea (all Jews) as well as people from the pagan lands of Tyre and Sidon. The first audiences of this gospel would immediately have recognised the significance of people from Tyre and Sidon standing alongside Jews from Judea.

Gospel Focus – Treated as the prophets

As part of his sermon, Jesus announces, 'Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man... This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets.' The prophets of the Old Testament were the chosen spokesmen of God. Their message was often unpopular and they were often threatened and berated for challenging the social order. To be treated in this way is in fact something of an affirmation that one's words and actions are reflecting the message of God. The Word of God is confronting and challenging!

Support the Archdiocese of Sydney appeal for Tonga

The Tongan Catholic Chaplaincy is coordinating an appeal to help families left displaced by last month's tsunami disaster.

Find out more about the appeal including donation details [here](#)

Parishes are also invited to share [this tile](#) to promote the appeal on their social media platforms

**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)

"I do not promise you happiness in this world, but in the next." - Our Lady of Lourdes

MASS TIMES			Ministry 12th/ 13th Feb (2nd Sun)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	St Raphael Church	Mater Dei Church		5.00pm	8.30am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Tuesday		9:15am Mass	Acolytes	Greg Driver	Minh N.	Volunteer	Volunteer
Wednesday		8:45am Rosary, Novena 9:15am Mass		Readers	Barry Lovat	Rounds Family	Volunteer
Thursday	9:15am (School and Parish Mass)		Ministry 19th/ 20th Feb (3rd Sun)		St. Raphael's		Mater Dei
Friday	Adoration 7:30pm	8:45am Adoration 9:15am Mass	5.00pm	8.30am	6.15pm V	10.00am	
Saturday	Reconciliation 4:30pm 5:00pm Vigil Mass	6:15pm Vigil Mass	Acolytes	Greg Driver	Earl, Carl	Ray Low	Volunteer
Sunday	8:30am Mass 6:00pm Croatian Mass	10:00am Mass	Readers	Rosie G Volunteer	Minh JP	Family Mass	Jolly Jose Wendy E

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

Pray for good health of : Judy Lee, John and Shirley Wakefield, Yin Kwan Tsang.

Mass Offered: Fr Isidore, Elias Haddad, Jeffrey Bishop

Also pray for: Holy Souls in Purgatory

LENTEN PROGRAM 2022

COME BACK TO ME: Mercy and Healing Await

Starting on **Thursday 3rd of March** – the parish is offering the opportunity to make space for time with God in prayer and community over **6 weeks** in preparation for Easter 2022.

Please come and join as we read, ponder, pray and contemplate each of the Sunday Gospels up to Palm Sunday using the Go Make Disciples Lenten Companion booklets which will be supplied.

You can either join face to face or via Zoom. Registration Sheets are also on the desks at Mater Dei and St. Raphael churches (please indicate which meeting option and put your name and contact details).

TIME	Thurs 7:30pm-8:30pm
Meetings in Person	St Raphael's School Meeting Room
Led by	Carl and Susan Fabbro 0418 672 394 cpavshome@gmail.com
Meeting via Zoom link	https://zoom.us/j/9577646626?pwd=UjZscTFZRXZhZXI2RzYcnd3dVlrUT09
Led by	Monica and Michael Fernandes 0437 517 758 mc@materdei-straphael.org.au



ALPHA 2022

We are excited to run ALPHA again in our parish after a successful year.

Please click on the following 2022 Alpha Registration Link to register

<https://forms.gle/gcgAGuMDhs7y4ziQ9>

Home Rosary Mater Dei

15-2-2022 Nives Care 33 Church Street
Blakehurst. 11:00 AM
22-2-2022 Nives Care 33 Church Street
Blakehurst. 11:00 AM
Everyone welcome

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND

TYPE	St Raphael's	Mater Dei
First	289.30	227.95
Second: loose	439.10	297.30
Envelopes	532.35	660.00



A man joined a strict contemplative order. During the three-year novitiate they are permitted to say only two words a year. At the end of the first year he meets with the novice master and says, "Food bad." At the end of the second year, he meets with the novice master and says, "Bed hard." At the end of the third year, he meets with the novice master and says, "I quit." The novice master says, "I'm not surprised. You've done nothing but complain since you got here!"

This week the Catholic Church of Mater Dei, Blakehurst warmly welcomes
Aria Astrid Delnawaz
(d/o Arash and Lorenza), &
Amelia Lanza
(d/o Daniel and Gemma)
Congratulations to the families!

Lent commences on 2nd March 2022
(Ash Wednesday)

Mater Dei Pastoral Council meeting
Tues 15th Feb 2022 7:00PM. M K Centre

Mater Dei School Family Mass will be held
on Sat 19th Feb 6:15pm. School will have
their own readers.

PULPIT POINTS 13 FEBRUARY 2022

- State of fear - Police raid Perth churches
- 'Bring others to faith': i4Give week
- The low-down on the Plenary
- Gods dumb ox
- Movie review: *Death on the Nile*
- I'm to give back: Bridget Sakr

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

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

Mater Dei Primary School: (02) 9546 7298

Principal: Mrs Melanie Headley

St. Raphael Primary School: (02) 9546 4898

Principal: Mrs Annette McKenzie