



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

Thirteenth Sunday  
in Ordinary time Year C

Bulletin

26th June 2022

**Entrance Antiphon :** Ps 46:2

All peoples, clap your hands.  
Cry to God with shouts of joy!

**First Reading:** 1 Kgs 19:16. 19-21

Elisha rose and followed Elijah and became his servant.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 15:1-2. 5. 7-11.

R. cf. v.5

(R.) You are my inheritance, O Lord.

1. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you. I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.' O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; it is you yourself who are my prize. (R.)
2. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel, who even at night directs my heart. I keep the Lord ever in my sight: since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. (R.)
3. 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.)
4. You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, at your right hand happiness for ever. (R.)

**Second Reading:** Gal 5:1. 13-18

My brothers, you were called to freedom.

**Gospel Acclamation** 1 Sm 3:9; Jn 6:68

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Speak, O Lord, your servant is listening; you have the words of everlasting life.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel :** Lk 9:51-162

Jesus resolutely set his face towards Jerusalem. I will follow you wherever you will go.

**Communion Antiphon:** Cf. Ps 102:1

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and all within me, his holy name.

## REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

This passage marks a turning point in the gospel of Luke. It is the commencement of Jesus' journey towards Jerusalem and we are told that he resolutely takes that road (or in some translations, he resolutely 'sets his face' towards Jerusalem). Earlier in this chapter, we have heard Peter's confession of faith, seen the Transfiguration and heard Jesus predict his death. Today's passage begins the second half of the gospel of Luke and it is clear from this point forward that there is no turning back for Jesus.

This passage is a difficult one on first reading; the second half of it seems to paint a picture of an unsympathetic and uncompromising Jesus. However, in the light of its positioning as the beginning of the second half of the gospel – the beginning of the end – it takes on more significance. Firstly, the incident of rejection in Samaria allows Jesus to make very clear that he will never resort to violence as a solution to any problem. The reaction of the disciples seems a bit extreme as a response to an inhospitable action! Jesus' rebuke to them reminds us that what he has offered all along is an invitation that was open to all – if some don't accept the invitation you can't call fire down on them from above!

The three vignettes make plain the urgency and demanding nature of Jesus' mission. He and his followers are constantly on the move and have no room for comforts and cosy beds. The second and third pieces contrast directly with the story from today's first reading. The message of Jesus is that the work of the Kingdom is even more important than duty to family and duty to the dead. Once he has set his face towards Jerusalem and his own death, there is no turning back – he is absolutely committed to his mission.

### Scriptural context – Hard sayings

Today's gospel can be seen as falling into a category of gospel passages that are often referred to as the 'hard sayings' of Jesus. These hard sayings are often confronting and even offensive to the audience – particularly a modern one. The harshness of the language and sentiment seems to jar with our image of the compassionate Jesus. Yet, these challenging teachings remind us of the hard edge that is contained within Christian beliefs and teachings. They call for strength in the face of overwhelming odds and commitment even in the face of custom and family loyalties.

### Have you thought? – No looking back

'Once the hand is laid on the plough, no one who looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.' This seemingly uncompromising position by Jesus is a call to set our eyes clearly on the establishment of the Kingdom. If we look back – if we have doubts and want to return to the world of comfort and injustice – then we are not yet ready for the difficulties of bringing about the Kingdom of God. It reminds us that although God invites us all to enter into the Kingdom, we have to make ourselves ready in our own hearts and minds to want to be part of the Kingdom.

**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)*

MASS TIMES		
	St Raphael Church	Mater Dei Church
Tuesday		9:15am Mass
Wednesday		8:45am Rosary, Novena 9:15am Mass
Thursday	9:15am	
Friday	7:30pm Adoration	8:45am Adoration 9:15am Mass
Saturday	4:30pm Reconciliation 5:00pm Vigil Mass	6:15pm Vigil Mass
Sunday	8:30am Mass 6:00pm Croatian Mass	10:00am Mass

### Death Anniversary:

**Pray for good health of :** Analiza Torres Zapata, Yin Kwan Tsang.

25th/26th June (4th Sunday)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5.00pm	8.30am	6.15pm V	10.00am
<b>Acolytes</b>	Greg Driver	Norman, Michael F	Br Michael	Volunteer
<b>Readers</b>	Rosie G Volunteer	Minh, JP	Volunteer	Lucy Mitry Phil M
2nd / 3rd July (1st Sunday)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5.00pm	8.30am	6.15pm V	10.00am
<b>Acolytes</b>	Greg Driver	Gary, Max	Tony Oscurro	Paul Watson
<b>Readers</b>	Pavia Family	Maria C Ronnie C	Frances Oscurro	Gail Abbott Luisa Galea

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

### ROSARY

St Raphael's Church	Mater Dei Church
Every Monday at 7:30pm with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Every Sunday 9:30am before the 10am mass

### CENACLES OF THE MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS

Every Friday after the 9:15am mass at Mater Dei Church

### Mater Dei Home Rosary

28-6-22 Josephine and Tony Ledonne  
61 Castle Street Blakehurst. 11-00 AM  
5-7-22 Nives Care  
33 Church St Blakehurst. 11-00 AM

### Financial Giving

*New Planned Giving Envelopes can be picked up from the back of the Church.*

*Alternatively, you can access online giving via our parish website [here](#). Please quote your envelope number.*

### Now don't get nervous

Patient 1: "Why did you run away from the operation table?"

Patient 2: "The nurse was repeatedly saying 'don't get nervous', 'don't be afraid', 'be strong', 'this is a small operation only'. Things like that"

Patient 1: "So what was wrong in that? Why were you so afraid?"

Patient 2: "She was talking to the surgeon!"



**HUNNY**

## REARRANGEMENT OF MASSES AT MATER DEI AND ST RAPHAEL CHURCHES

Since Fr Thomas' arrival, he has taken note of the Diocesan plan (Parish 2020) to merge our two parishes into one, so that we are one parish—Mater Dei & St Raphael, with two Mass centres.

He has observed that the attendance at the weekend masses is below pre-Covid numbers. Especially at the vigil mass at Mater Dei where the attendance is so low that it does not warrant a mass, while St Raphael has maintained the numbers.

As a result, after consultation with both Parish Pastoral Councils, it has been decided to cancel the **6:15pm vigil mass** at Mater Dei church until there is a change in circumstances.

The **5:00pm vigil mass** at St Raphael will continue as it is, to attend a vigil mass in our Parish.

For Sunday morning, the mass time at St Raphael has been changed from 8:30am to **8:00am**. This is to allow Father time to spend with the parishioners and administer baptism before going to Mater Dei Church to celebrate mass at 10am.

These mass changes will take effect from **Sat 30th July 2022**.

We apologise for any inconvenience and ask for your understanding and cooperation.



There will be morning tea at Mater Dei church after the 10:00am mass

### The Holy Father's Appeal

Our parish, in union with all parishes around the world, will hold the **Holy Father's Appeal** this weekend (25/26 June), for which we ask your support. Through your gift, you can help Pope Francis bring hope, faith, and the spirit of Christ to our less fortunate brothers and sisters around the world. Thank you.

### New Tap & Go donation machine



We have a new touch screen Tap & Go donation machine in the church. This new look machine gives you the option of how much you would like to donate per tap. You have the option to donate \$10, \$20, \$50 or "Other amount", which is an amount of your choosing.

### COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND

TYPE	St Raphael's	Mater Dei
First	334.75	479.65
Second: loose	238.65	342.45
Envelopes	345.00	630.00

### 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: 02 9546 2605

Email: [admin@materdei-straphael.org.au](mailto:admin@materdei-straphael.org.au)

**Parish Ministry Coordinator & Safeguarding Officer** Michael Fernandes

Office hours: Tues, Wed & Fri 10am – 2:30pm

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