



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

Seventeenth Sunday
in Ordinary time Year C

Bulletin

24th July 2022

Entrance Antiphon : Cf. Ps 67:6-7,36

God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in
his house; he himself gives might
and strength to his people.

First Reading: Gen 18:20-32

Lord, do not be angry if I speak.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 137:1-3. 6-8. R. v.3

(R.) Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth. Before the angels I will bless you. I will adore before your holy temple. (R.)
2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you. On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul. (R.)
3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly and the haughty he knows from afar. Though I walk in the midst of affliction you give me life and frustrate my foes. (R.)
4. You stretch out your hand and save me, your hand will do all things for me. Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands. (R.)

Second Reading: Col 2:12-14

He has made you alive with Christ for he has forgiven all our sins.

Gospel Acclamation Rom 8:15

Alleluia, alleluia!
You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father. Alleluia!

Gospel : Lk 11:1-13

Ask, and it will be given to you.

Communion Antiphon: Ps 102:2

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

In today's gospel, Jesus provides his disciples, and all Christians, with a model for prayer. In keeping with this modelling by Jesus, it is significant that the Lord's Prayer, or Our Father, is the common prayer of all Christians, regardless of denomination.

The parable and teaching that follow the Lord's Prayer make clear the particular purpose of prayer that Jesus was highlighting – prayer as petition. In this instance, Jesus assures us that if we pray for what we need with conviction and confidence, then God cannot fail to respond to our prayer. Jesus in fact encourages us to be demanding and persistent in our prayer. However, the parable used to demonstrate the persistent nature of prayer is not focused on demands for selfish purposes, but rather the neighbour needs assistance in fulfilling his obligations of hospitality to a traveler. He is not waking his neighbour in the middle of the night to ask for bread for himself; he asks for bread to give to his guest. He asks for help to fulfil his duty and responsibility. This gives us something of an idea about how we might focus our prayer. Praying for a pony or new bike isn't quite in the same league!

The final element of the gospel passage provides us with a description of God's love and care by something of a negative comparison: if human parents would not do harm instead of good to their children, God is even less likely to act like this towards us. It's a bit of an odd way around of saying that God's love is greater than anything within our experience or imagination.

Living the Gospel – Ask, Search, Knock

Jesus says in the gospel, 'Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you.' The actions of asking, searching and knocking are means by which we initiate the encounter with God. If we don't ask, search and knock, how is anyone (including God) to know our needs or know what it is that we are searching for. Particularly in our spiritual lives, it is only through the search and the knocking on the doors of different experiences that we ever come closer to finding answers.

Historical Context – Stone for bread

The stone/bread, snake/fish and scorpion/egg comparisons seem a little far fetched to us, but would have made perfect sense to a 1st Century Palestinian audience. The flat, brown stones around Lake Galilee look very similar to the flat bread that was baked in the area. The 'snake' may refer to a sea-snake – an eel – which might be caught up in a fisherman's nets but was regarded as unclean by the Jews. The poisonous scorpions of the region are very pale in colour and when curled up at rest could be mistaken for an egg.

Gospel Focus – Relationship

A crucial aspect of prayer is the attitude with which we view God. We trust in God's character that it is not a pointless exercise to ask for something. We trust that God is even more loving than a parent who tries to give their child what they need. If we did not make these basic assumptions about God, there would be little point in prayer. When our prayer lives falter at times, perhaps we need to first check out our relationship with God and our attitude towards God before trying to 'fix' the ways we pray.

**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, Cenacle
Saturday	4:30pm Reconciliation 5:00pm Vigil Mass	6:15pm Vigil Mass (no Vigil Mass from 30th July)
Sunday	8:30am Mass (8:00am from 30th July) 6:00pm Croatian Mass	10:00am Mass

Recently Deceased:

Death Anniversary: Patrick James Derrig

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

23rd / 24th July (4th Sunday)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5.00pm	8.30am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Acolytes	Greg Driver	Norman Michael F	Br Michael	Volunteer
Readers	Pavia Family	Lappen Family	Volunteer	Lucy Mitry Phil M
30th / 31st July (5th Sunday)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5.00pm	8.00am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Acolytes	Greg Driver	Volunteer	NO MASS	Volunteer
Readers	Lovat Family	Yenson Family		Nina Milazzo

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

26-7-22 Josephine and Tony Ledonne
61 Castle St Blakehurst. 11-00 AM
2-8-22 Nives Care
33 Church St Blakehurst. 11-00 AM
All are welcome

Helpful Prayer

Billy had been misbehaving and was sent to his room. After a while he emerged and informed his mother that he had thought it over and then said a prayer. "Fine", said the pleased mother. "If you ask God to help you not misbehave, He will help you." "Oh, I didn't ask Him to help me not misbehave," said Jonny. "I asked Him to help you put up with me."



BY FUNNY

COMBINED
MATER DEI & ST RAPHAEL'S PARISH

*Masquerade
Dinner Dance*

DINE | DRINK | DANCE | ENTERTAINMENT
FRIDAY 21 OCT 2022 | 6.30PM

FABULOUS WAY TO SPEND THE NIGHT WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- Sumptuous 4-Course Award-Winning Menu • Lucky Door Prizes
- Disc Jockey Dance to Your Favourite Songs
- Premium Beverages – Unlimited Red & White Wine, Imported Beers & Soft Drinks
- Complimentary Parking On-Site

VENUE
Doltone House 223 Belgrave Esplanade Sylvania Waters

BOOKING INFORMATION & PAYMENT

Mater Dei Contacts
Marguerite Derrig 0420 523 592 | Lucy Mitry 0418 151 169 lucianam@hotmail.com
Sonia Reilly 9546 7298 sonia.reilly@syd.catholic.edu.au

St Raphael's Contact
Yvette Golik 0413 319 948 golik1@optusnet.com.au

TICKETS \$80 PER PERSON
Masks Available on the Night \$10

SCAN HERE

www.trybooking.com/935500

(Doltone House catering team can accommodate your special dietary requirements in advance. Please notify when making the booking)

PLEASE NOTE CHANGES IN MASS TIMES FROM SAT 30th JULY

Mater Dei Church:
Saturday: **No vigil mass**
Sunday: 10:00am

St Raphael's Church:
Saturday: Vigil mass at 5:00pm
Sunday: **8:00am** (Mass time changed from 8:30am)

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND

TYPE	St Raphael's	Mater Dei
First	395.35	262.05
Second: loose	377.50	378.95
Envelopes	385.00	415.00

The Catholic Weekly PULPIT POINTS 24 July 2022

- BE THERE! Parish Renewal Conference to drive evangelisation.
- Dallas McInerney: Our strength is who we are.
- Home is where the heart is: Sr Miriam.
- Catholic and proud: Talks explore Humanae Vitae.
- Movie review: Dark Winds.
- Man of Honour: Sir Gerard Brennan

MATER DEI & ST RAPHAEL'S
Alpha 2022

Life is so much better shared with family and friends.
Learn, Live and Connect as we grow in faith together.

Come and join us for our
ALPHA CELEBRATION BRUNCH
on
7th AUGUST 2022 @ 11.00am

Hosted by the Mater Dei Alpha Team at
The Micheal Kennedy Centre at Mater Dei Blakehurst

Invite your family and friends to join us and share in the fun.
Come & See what Alpha is all about!

RSVP: 31st July 2022 to Lorraine 0434124766
for more info visit www.materdei-straphael.org.au