



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

Nineteenth Sunday
in Ordinary time Year C

Bulletin

7th August 2022

Entrance Antiphon : Cf. Ps
73:20,19,22,23

Look to your covenant, O Lord,
and forget not the life of your poor
ones for ever. Arise, O God, and
defend your cause, and forget not
the cries of those who seek you.

First Reading: Wis 18:6-9

Just as you struck our enemies, you
made us glorious by calling us to
you.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 32:1. 12. 18-20.
22. R. v.12

(R.) Happy the people the Lord has
chosen to be his own.

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O
you just; for praise is fitting for
loyal hearts. They are happy,
whose God is the Lord, the
people he has chosen as his
own. (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 as we place
all our hope in you. (R.)

Second Reading: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19

We will look for the city designed an
built by God.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 24:42. 44

Alleluia, alleluia!
Be watchful and ready:
You know not when the Son of Man
is coming.
Alleluia!

Gospel : Lk 12:32-48

See that you are prepared.

Communion Antiphon: Ps 147:12,14

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord,
who gives you your fill of finest
wheat.

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

This week's gospel passage carries with it the expectation of the late 1st Century as the early Christians awaited the triumphant return of the Christ (sometimes called the Second Coming or the *Parousia*). This is a familiar theme through the gospels and, in fact, across the gospels we can see that the communities were beginning to face the realisation that the promised return was taking longer than they had expected. In the gospel of Mark, it is clear that the community expects the Parousia at any moment, while by the time of the writing of the gospel of Luke, 10 or 15 years later, we can see that the language has taken on an aspect of uncertainty about the timing – it could be sooner or it could be later ('It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third...').

What began to emerge was an attitude that if we don't know when the Parousia will come, then we need to live 'in anticipation' of it. We need to live as *if* the Parousia were imminent. So, rather than waiting for the kingdom of God to be delivered, we must live our lives in such a way as to bring about the kingdom; to draw the kingdom into the present. Jesus often spoke of the kingdom as both near and not yet. If we all live the values of the kingdom, by our very actions we bring the kingdom into being. This gives an incredible significance to the way we choose to live our lives. If we 'invest' in the kingdom by living out the values of the kingdom and living in expectation of the Parousia, then that 'investment' is its own reward.

Historical Context – Parousia

The Greek word *parousia* means 'presence' or 'arrival'. In ancient times the word was usually associated with the formal visit of a king or a ruler. The *parousia* of a king was a significant and sometimes formidable event. In the writings of the New Testament, the word is used for the return of Christ, the drawing to a close of salvation history and the full establishment of the kingdom of God. The earliest Christians expected to see the Parousia in their own lifetimes. The realisation that this was not to be the case led to a rethinking about living a Christian life.

Gospel Focus – Answer the Question!

Peter asks Jesus very specifically, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?' Frustratingly for Peter (and for the audience), Jesus doesn't give the direct question a direct answer, he answers the question with another story. Throughout the gospels, this is a constant tactic used by Jesus. He almost never gives a question a straightforward answer. By doing this, he invites the questioner to reflect on their own question and their purpose in asking it in the first place. He also cleverly avoids being tied down to a yes/no answer when a matter is not that simple.

Have you thought? – Stewardship

Jesus responds to Peter's questioning the gospel in a roundabout way by speaking about a steward acting either faithfully and with wisdom or alternatively irresponsibly and recklessly. A steward is one who stands in the place of the master during the master's absence – taking on the duties, responsibilities and authority of the master. That's exactly what Christian people are called to do: become stewards who act in the place of Jesus as we await his return. As the prayer of St Teresa of Avila says, Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

**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 Every 1st and 3rd Sat (except school holidays)
Sunday	8:00am Mass 6:00pm Croatian Mass	10:00am Mass

Recently Deceased: Tuyt Tran Dang

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

6th / 7th Aug (1st Sunday)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5.00pm	8.00am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Acolytes	Greg Driver	Gary, Max	Tony Oscurio	Paul Watson
Readers	Volunteers	Annie M Rose T	Frances O Volunteer	Gail Abbott Luisa Galea
13th / 14th Aug (2nd Sunday)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5.00pm	8.00am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Acolytes	Greg Driver	Minh		Volunteer
Readers	Pavia Family	Fernandes Family	NO MASS	Joan Hanson Jean Dorahy

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

9-8-22 Nives Care
33 Church St Blakehurst. 11-00 AM
16-8-22 Marguerite and Denis Derrig
32 Waratah St Kyle Bay 11-00 AM
All are welcome

Who wants to go to heaven

A man was out one Saturday night and had a lot to drink. He went with his family to church early on Sunday and he was still feeling tipsy and drowsy. During the sermon, the priest asked, "Who wants to go to heaven?" Everyone raised their hand except him. His wife nudged him to alertness. The priest looked at him and said, "Don't you want to go to heaven when you die?" "Oh, when I die. I thought you were getting a group together right now."



FUNNY

Masquerade Dinner Dance
DINE | DRINK | DANCE | ENTERTAINMENT
FRIDAY 21 OCT 2022 | 6.30PM

Please Note: There will be Vigil 6:15PM Family mass at Mater Dei Church every 1st and 3rd Saturday (except school holidays)

Morning team and Alpha

There will be morning tea and Alpha celebration brunch after the Mater Dei 10am mass.
All are welcome

Sunday Morning Indoor Games 7th August 2022

Play, socialise and have fun from **9:30am to 11:00am** at **St Raphael's Church Hall**.
All are welcome.

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND

TYPE	St Raphael's	Mater Dei
First	425.10	214.45
Second: loose	449.15	243.35
Envelopes	1071.00	200.00

The Catholic Weekly PULPIT POINTS 7th Aug 2022

- We can end homelessness
- The photographer who paints LIFE with LIGHT
- Time for the ABC to explain
- Australia's faith by the numbers
- Movie review: Building a Bridge
- Eddy Borovnjak: Man of faith



Vinnies Winter Appeal Thank you

St Vincent de Paul is grateful for the many generous donations towards the Winter Appeal. Special mention goes to the children, parents and teachers of Mater Dei School whose effort in raising **\$771.70** in their "Mini-Vinnies" initiative was an outstanding achievement. In total from the combined St Raphael / Mater Dei parishes the Vinnies Winter Appeal totaled **\$3051.70**. Thank you to everyone.



collection is Today.
Please take the envelope and bring it next week

Congratulations

to the children of our Mater Dei and St Raphael's Parishes and Schools who were confirmed on 31st July at St Mary's Cathedral.
We thank the Catechists, teachers and Br Ben who guided them.
God Bless all.

PARISH DIRECTORY

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Thomas Alukka

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