



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

Twenty-Second Sunday
in Ordinary time Year C

Bulletin

28th August 2022

Entrance Antiphon : Cf. Ps 85:3,5

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

First Reading: Sir 3:17-20, 28-29

Humble yourself and you will find favour with the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 67:4-7. 10-11.
R. v.11

(R.) God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

1. The just shall rejoice at the presence of God, they shall exult and dance for joy. O sing to the Lord, make music to his name; rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence. (R.)
2. Father of the orphan, defender of the widow, such is God in his holy place. God gives the lonely a home to live in; he leads the prisoners forth into freedom. (R.)
3. You poured down, O God, a generous rain: when your people were starved you gave them new life. It was there that your people found a home, prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor. (R.)

Second Reading: Heb 12:18-19, 22-24

You have to come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 11:29

Alleluia, alleluia!
Take my yoke upon you;
learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.
Alleluia!

Gospel : Lk 14:1. 7-14

All who exalt themselves shall be humbled and all who humble themselves shall be exalted.

Communion Antiphon: Ps 30:20

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

In the gospel of Luke, Jesus is accused of eating with sinners and tax collectors (Lk 15) and we have an image of Jesus as always eating with the marginalised. However, today's gospel account is a more common occurrence: Jesus eating with a leading Pharisee and people of social importance. Although Jesus is depicted as frequently dining in the houses of these well-to-do people, he was probably never invited a second time! As in today's account, Jesus made a habit of accepting the hospitality of such people and then giving them a lecture about how they should behave and reminding them who was not gathered around the table with them. Certainly the sort of actions that don't see too many follow-up invitations!

The message he dishes out to the Pharisees on this occasion is about not thinking you're more important than you really are. He tells them that it is far better to assume a lower status and to be lifted to greater prominence than it is to assume too much and have to be asked to step down to your proper status. In first century Jewish society, eating was as much a political act as it was a social one. Who you ate with was a reflection of your social and political position. To be invited to the head of the table would reflect very positively on a guest whilst being asked to assume a lower seat would be humiliating.

Jesus' final teaching in this account would have been outrageous to his audience. The thought of inviting to a meal people who were in no position to reciprocate was absolutely ridiculous. But Jesus encourages his audience to give to those who cannot repay – to be graciously generous just as God gives without expecting anything in return.

Historical Context – Hospitality

In the first century, hospitality carried with it certain rules and expectations. If you were the recipient of hospitality, there was an obligation on you to return hospitality if it were within your means. Hospitality meant more than feeding people. It meant extending welcome to people even if you didn't know them. There was an obligation to extend welcome and hospitality to anyone who asked for it. Travellers knew that they could enter a village and ask for a meal and a bed and they would be provided. Jesus reinterpreted this obligation of hospitality and extended it to anyone in need.

Scriptural context – Humility and Honour

Jesus' comments about taking the place of honour at a table are introduced as being a parable. Because it is identified as a parable, we know that there is a richer meaning below the surface. In talking about places at a feast, Jesus is referring to the kingdom of God. We know that Jesus has already identified that the lowly in this world will be in a place of honour in the kingdom. His message is that those who humble themselves in this world and give hospitality to the lowly will be lifted up – exalted – in the kingdom.

Living the Gospel – What's the cost?

Jesus' message about humility is as relevant today as it was in the first century. It is part of human nature to want to fit in and to want to belong. Sometimes we are tempted to seek this acceptance at any cost. When our sense of belonging is achieved through the harming, humiliation or exploitation of others then the price is too high. When our desire for the latest fashion comes at the expense of others being able to simply live, then the price is too high. When we lift ourselves up by putting others down, then the price is too high.

Please Note: There is no vigil mass on 27th Aug at Mater Dei Church. The next 6:15pm vigil mass will be on Sat 3rd Sept 2022.

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



PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FOUNDATION
OUR FAITH OUR WORKS
FATHER'S DAY
SEPTEMBER 3 & 4, 2022

Priest Retirement Foundation
<https://www.ourfaithourworks.org/>

Mater Dei—St Raphael COMBINED PARISHES DINNER DANCE
Fri 21st Oct 2022 at Doltone House, Sylvania

Please register and book a table at the below link:
<https://www.materdeistraphael.org.au/>



Death Anniversary: DeJohn Luigi Santelli

Pray for good health of : Antonius Widjaja, Adele Shehata, Analiza Torres Zapata, Yin Kwan Tsang.



There will be morning tea and games after the morning Mass at St Raphael's Church next Sunday 4th Sept 2022.
Play-Socialise-Have fun. All are welcome!!

27th / 28th Aug (4th Sunday)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5.00pm	8.00am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Acolytes	Greg Driver	Michael F Norman	No Mass	Volunteer
Readers	Volunteers	Lappen Family		Lucy Mitry Phil M

Parish Renewal Conference 2022
Parish Renewal Conference Keynote Address by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP. Sydney, 19 August 2022
https://youtu.be/IJCRuKL_tbw
Some of our parishioners attended this conference.
The talk is very inspiring re: Evangelisation.

3rd / 4th Sept (1st Sunday)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5.00pm	8.00am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Acolytes	Greg Driver	Gary, Max	Tony Oscuro	Paul W
Readers	Lovat Family	Maria C Ronnie C	Fran Oscuro	Gail Abbott Luisa Galea

The SCREWTAPE Letters
Upcoming Christian Theatre production that has been directed, produced and acted in, by members of St Declan's Parish.
'The Screwtape Letters' is a play based on C.S.Lewis' famous novel. It follows the story of a senior demon instructing his nephew in the ways of wickedness. Follow Screwtape and Wormwood as they attempt to secure the greatest prize - a human soul.
Performances are \$38 and are being held at **Hurstville Civic Theatre** on the 8 and 15 of October at 7.30 pm.
Book your tickets now at:
<https://app.tickets.org.au/Exodustheatreproductions/Screwtape>

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

30-8-22 Nives Care
33 Church Street Blakehurst 11-00 AM

6-9-22 Nives Care
33 Church Street Blakehurst 11-00 AM

All are welcome

The Catholic Weekly PULPIT POINTS 28th Aug 2022

- * Parish Renewal Conference a hit
- * "Get behind Champion"
- * When Catholic schools drop the ball
- * Anglican divisions grow
- * Book review: Portrait of a legal lynching
- * George Weigel: War and choices



Palms Australia
Reach Beyond

Volunteer Accounts Officer/Bookkeeper
Are you a retired Accounts Officer looking to contribute your bookkeeping skills to a Catholic Charity?
Kevin Wilson will be delighted to discuss the possibilities. **Ph 0412 550 902 OR**
E-mail kevin@palms.org.au

Chaplains St George Public Hospital
Gary Cartmer from our Parish and Sister Maria Pineda are Catholic Care Lay Chaplains at St George Public Hospital on Tue, Wed and Thu to provide emotional, spiritual and sacramental support for you or your family member during the patient's stay. Ph: 9113 2189

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND

TYPE	St Raphael's	Mater Dei
First	301.15	333.95
Second: loose	263.70	466.10
Envelopes	385.00	380.00

PARISH DIRECTORY

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Thomas Alukka
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Parish Ministry Coordinator & Safeguarding Officer: Michael Fernandes
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Pastoral Ministry Coordinator: Br. Ben Krupowicz
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Fr. Jan Chrzczonowicz : Phone: 0412 786 245

Every time Peter the man next door headed toward Paul's house, Paul knew he was coming to borrow something. He was always doing so and it was driving him mad. 'Peter wont get away with it this time' muttered Paul to Liz, his wife. 'Watch this.' 'Er, I wonder if you'd be using your hedge trimmer this morning?' asked Peter. 'Crikey, I'm terribly sorry' said Paul with a smug look, 'but the fact of the matter is, I'll be using it all day.' 'In that case' smiled Peter, 'you won't be using your golf clubs, mind if I borrow them?'



FUNNY