



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

Thirtieth Sunday
in Ordinary time Year C

Bulletin

23rd Oct 2022

Entrance Antiphon : Cf. Ps 104:3-4

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

First Reading: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18

The prayer of the humble will penetrate the heavens.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 32:2-3, 17-19.
23. R. v.7

(R.) The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad. (R.)
2. The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth. The just call and the Lord hears and rescues them in all their distress. (R.)
3. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save. The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. Those who hide in him shall not be condemned. (R.)

Second Reading: 2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18

All that remains is the crown of righteousness reserved for me

Gospel Acclamation 2 Cor 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

Alleluia!

Gospel : Lk 18:9-14

The publican returned to his home justified; the pharisee did not.

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Ps 19:6

We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

This week's gospel passage flows on directly from last week's gospel and continues the teaching of Jesus about prayer. Whereas the preceding passage emphasised the need for persistence in prayer, this passage is about the way in which we come before God in prayer. It is the tax collector, whose simple prayer is 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner,' who goes home at rights with God. In this simple prayer, the tax collector recognises that he is not in right relationship with God and asks for God's mercy. This is a hallmark of the lowly and outcast in the gospel of Luke: they recognise their need and seek God's forgiveness and mercy. The model of faith that is depicted over and over again in this gospel is the one who recognises their need for God's loving mercy and asks for it. We are repeatedly reminded that God's mercy, forgiveness and abundant love are constantly out-flowing towards us and all we have to do is humbly desire and welcome them.

Humility is at the heart of this parable. The Pharisee is representative of those who are assured of their own rightness but who rely on comparison with others to make themselves feel righteous and justified. The actions of this man were not limited to Pharisees alone, nor are they limited to a particular time and place. This man's attitude of asserting his own faithfulness and religious observance by comparison with others can be easily seen in the world today. All faiths seem to be afflicted with these characters who assure themselves of their own 'goodness' by railing against those who are different. But, as the parable assures us, it is the humble who are exalted by God.

Living the Gospel – Competitive prayer!

For the Pharisee, his prayer is a competition. He prays aloud so that others can hear him and be impressed. Perhaps he thinks that God is as impressed as those who look up to him? His prayer is also an opportunity to make himself look good at the expense of another. Certainly, prayer is a time to celebrate with God our triumphs and successes, but above all it is an opportunity to be truly honest with God and with ourselves. The prayer of the tax collector is the most honest of prayers. This honesty is what is impressive; not the competitive showing off.

From the perspective of ... The Tax Collector

Wouldn't you know it? I thought the Temple would be quiet at this time and I snuck in the back to whisper my prayer to God. But one of the great men, a Pharisee, was there praying. He proudly declared before God his good works. Every word he spoke reminded me of how I fail time and time again to do what is right with God. I realised that I didn't belong in that place. My prayer went out of my head and I muttered a few simple words. Why would God listen to me, a sinner?

Gospel Focus – At rights with God

We are told that the tax collector, after his simple prayer, went home 'at rights with God'. What does it mean to be *at rights with God*? It is nothing more and nothing less than the entire Judeo-Christian story. The story of the Old Testament is the story of God calling the people to live in right relationship with God and with one another. The Gospels are the story of Jesus calling all people to a richer understanding of his compassionate Father so that they may once again be *at rights with God*. The story continues and it is our constant challenge to be at rights with God also.

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

Annual Remembering Service – Sun 30 Oct at 2.30pm

St Mark's Anglican Church (The Mall, South Hurstville) is holding a Remembering Service for those we have loved and lost. All are welcome to attend, bring a photo of the person/s you are remembering (if you wish), light a candle, and give thanks for their life. Afternoon tea follows.



At Mater Dei Church: There is no Vigil mass this Sat 22th Oct. Next vigil mass will be on 5th Nov 2022

“A word or a smile is often enough to put fresh life in a despondent soul.”
— St. Thérèse de Lisieux

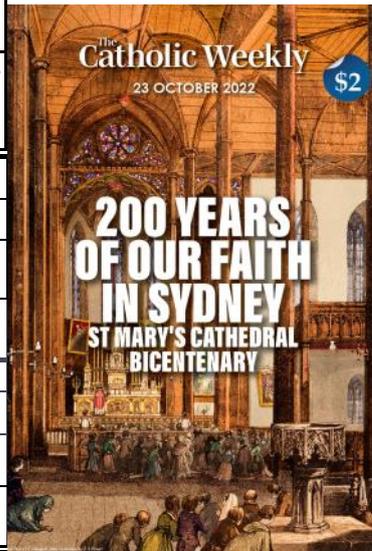
Mass offered: Barry Humphreys

Pray for good health of : Sunga Family, Fr Thomas, Adele Shehata, Analiza Torres Zapata, Yin Kwan Tsang.

Also pray for: Janette McGloin, Shirley McGrath, Antonius Widjaja, Gavin, Rosie and Serena Entwistle, Coral Howse

22nd /23rd Oct (4th Sunday)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5.00pm	8.00am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Acolytes	Greg Driver	Norman Michael F	No Vigil Mass	Volunteer
Readers	Volunteer	Rounds Family		Lucy M Paul M
29th /30th Oct (5th Sunday)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5.00pm	8.00am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Acolytes	Greg Driver	Volunteer	No Vigil Mass	Volunteer
Readers	Pavia Family	Minh JP		Nina Milazzo

Congratulations to our first Communicants at Mater Dei!



Mater Dei & St Raphael's Parish Calendar		
Tue 25/10/22	MD Pastoral Council Meeting 7pm	MD
Thurs 27/10/22	St Raphael's day mass. Whole School. 9:15am	SR
Tue 1/11/22	SR Pastoral Council Meeting 7pm	SR
29/30 Oct 5/6 Nov	Sacrament of First Eucharist	SR
Sat 26/11/22	SR Parish Christmas Get together after Vigil mass	SR

This week the Catholic Church of St Raphael's, South Hurstville warmly welcomes
Lauren Wang, Jessica Wang, Talia Gao and Anjaylia Gao
Baptism
Congratulations to the families!

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

Mater Dei Home Rosary
25-10-22 Nives Care
33 Church Street Blakehurst 11-00 AM
All are welcome

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

The Catholic Weekly
PULPIT POINTS 23rd Oct 2022
SPECIAL HISTORICAL EDITION
200 YEARS ANNIVERSARY OF ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL SYDNEY

- Catholic life in 1821
- Foundation day
- Building begins
- The time and world
- A vision in stone

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND

TYPE	St Raphael's	Mater Dei
First	327.75	703.10
Second: loose	228.50	1124.40
Envelopes	400.00	425.00

The catholic mission appeal can still be accessed for this weekend. Please donate generously.
Reach out. Give life.

Annual Archdiocesan Catechist Mass
Date: 6th Nov 2022 2:30pm
Venue: St Mary's Cathedral

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An engineer dies and reports to the Pearly Gates. Saint Peter checks his dossier and not seeing his name there, accidentally sends him to Hell. It doesn't take long before the engineer becomes rather dissatisfied with the level of comfort in Hell.
He soon begins to design and build improvements. Shortly thereafter, Hell has air conditioning, flush toilets and escalators. Needless to say, the engineer is a pretty popular guy.
One day, God calls Satan and says: "So, how are things in Hell?"
Satan replies: "Hey, things are going great. We've got air conditioning, flush toilets, and escalators. And there's no telling what this engineer is going to come up with next."
"What!" God exclaims: "You've got an engineer? That's a mistake - he should never have been sent to Hell. Send him to me."
"Not a chance," Satan replies: "I like having an engineer on the staff, and I'm keeping him!"
God insists: "Send him back or I'll sue."
Satan laughs uproariously and answers: "Yeah, right. And where are you going to get a lawyer?"



FUNNY