



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

Thirty-First Sunday
in Ordinary time Year C

Bulletin

30th Oct 2022

Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Ps 37:22-23

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God;
be not far from me! Make haste and
come to my help, O Lord, my strong
salvation!

First Reading: Wis 11:22 – 12:2

You have mercy on all things be-
cause you love everything that ex-
ists.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 144:1-2. 8-11.
13-14. R. see v.1

(R.) I will praise your name for ever,
my king and my God.

1. I will give you glory, O God my
King, I will bless your name for
ever. I will bless you day after
day and praise your name for
ever. (R.)
2. The Lord is kind and full of com-
passion, slow to anger, abound-
ing in love. How good is the Lord
to all, compassionate to all his
creatures. (R.)
3. All your creatures shall thank
you, O Lord, and your friends
shall repeat their blessing. They
shall speak of the glory of your
reign and declare your might, O
God. (R.)
4. The Lord is faithful in all his
words and loving in all his deeds.
The Lord supports all who fall
and raises all who are bowed
down. (R.)

Second Reading: 2 Thes 1:11 – 2:2

The name of our Lord Jesus Christ
will be glorified in you and you in
him.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 3:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

God loved the world so much, he
gave us his only Son, that all who
believe in him might have eternal
life. Alleluia!

Gospel : Lk 18:9-14

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

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Ps 15:11

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
O Lord.

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

Through nine or ten chapters of the gospel of Luke and over several months we have been following the journey of Jesus towards Jerusalem. In today's gospel, Jesus has drawn very near to Jerusalem – Jericho is just a short distance from Jerusalem – and Jesus is moving steadily closer to the Passion of his final days.

Zacchaeus is as keen as the rest of Jericho to see Jesus as he passes through the town. However, because he is so short he can't see past the crowd and because he is a despised tax collector, no one was going to make room for him to see. He goes to the extreme length of climbing a tree just to catch a glimpse of Jesus. Like other characters in the gospel, his determination to simply catch sight of Jesus is an indication of his readiness to accept the message of Jesus. Because of his evident willingness to welcome the message of Jesus into his life, Jesus prompts Zacchaeus to welcome Jesus into his home. The readiness of Jesus to enter into the house of someone regarded as a sinner causes great scandal among the onlookers. What's more, Jesus is prepared to eat with this man as well – a sign of complete acceptance. The welcome of Zacchaeus meets the welcome of God.

Jesus declares that salvation has come to Zacchaeus' house and that he is a son of Abraham – one of the faithful. His words are directed to the crowd, not Zacchaeus. They are so determined to draw lines between those who are acceptable and those who are not that they have failed to notice what Jesus has taught all along – that faith can flourish in all people and is not determined by their social status.

Historical Context – Tax Collectors

Tax collectors were hated by most Jews at the time of Jesus. Firstly, the taxes they collected were going to support Rome – a foreign, Gentile power that was an unwelcome occupying force in Palestine. The Jews' taxes were paying the wages of the army that occupied their country, so tax collectors were seen as collaborators with the enemy. Secondly, the system of tax collection lent itself to abuse and corruption. Tax collectors were required to collect a certain amount from their district; any excess they collected was theirs to keep – that was their income.

Scriptural context – True welcome

Today's passage begins chapter 19 of the gospel of Luke. Later in that same chapter is the account of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. In that incident, Jesus is welcomed into Jerusalem by cheering crowds who spread their cloaks on the ground for him to walk over. Those same crowds, just days later, were yelling for Jesus to be crucified. In today's passage, the crowds line the streets of Jericho to welcome Jesus with great fanfare but also quickly turn on him when he acts on the message of acceptance and forgiveness that he has been proclaiming throughout his ministry.

Have you thought? – Conversion

When we hear this story about Zacchaeus, our focus is normally on the conversion of heart that appears to take place within Zacchaeus. However, his determination to see Jesus from the outset suggests that the conversion has already taken place within Zacchaeus. It is the muttering, grumbling crowd who are called to conversion; called to soften their hearts and see a faithful man where they have previously only seen a sinner. Throughout the gospel, the welcome and acceptance Jesus extends to the 'outsider' and the 'sinner' confronts and challenges those who would hold themselves up as being better than these others.

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

At Mater Dei Church: There is no Vigil mass this Sat 29th Oct. Next vigil mass will be on 5th Nov 2022



All Souls day: Wed 2nd Nov 2022
There will be an additional mass at Mater Dei Church at **7:00pm**.

November Mass Envelopes If you would like to offer Mass for the Holy Souls of your loved ones during November, you can pick an envelope kept in the foyer of the Church. Kindly write the names clearly. The names appear in the *Book of Remembrance* kept near the Altar. Thank you.

Happy Birthday
Wishing Tia Dawson Happy 96th Birthday.
The grace of the lord and his immeasurable peace shall continue to follow you and may you continue to abide in His presence.
Happy birthday.

Death Anniversary: Barry Humphreys, Maria Thi Chu Nguyen
Pray for good health of : Sunga Family, Adele Shehata, Analiza Torres Zapata, Yin Kwan Tsang.
Also pray for: Jeanette McGloin, Shirley McGrath, Antonius Widjaja, Gavin, Rosie and Serena Entwistle, Coral Howse

“Whatever troubles may be before you, accept them cheerfully, remembering whom you are trying to follow. Do not be afraid.”
Mary MacKillop

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

The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine on behalf of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney cordially invites All Catechists, Helpers, Clergy, Religious, Family and Friends to the **Annual Archdiocesan Catechist Mass** at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney entry via College St entrance (opposite Hyde Park) on **Sunday, 6 November 2022 Commencing 2:30pm**

5th /6th Nov (1st Sunday)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5.00pm	8.00am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Acolytes	Greg Driver	Max, Gary	Tony Oscuro	Paul Watson
Readers	Pavia Family	Maria C Ronnie C	Family Mass	Gail Abbott Luisa Galea

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. Enquiries Bruce Cooke 0412 680 430.

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
1-11-2022 Nives Care
33 Church Street Blakehurst 11-00 AM
8-11-2022 Nives Care
33 Church Street Blakehurst 11-00 AM
All are welcome

The Catholic Weekly PULPIT POINTS 30th Oct 2022

- Culture Wars V Common Sense
- Archbishop Fisher: Historic U.S. speech
- Families reclaim Halloween
- Saint John Paul II Shrine opens
- Book review: Ring of Power: Any Good?
- An icon for New Zealand

St Joseph's Enfield NOVEMBER HEALING MASS
Month of the Holy Souls
Friday 4 November 2022
Celebrant: Fr Justin Torres
Rosary : 7:00 PM Mass: 8:00PM Reconciliation : 7:00 PM - 8:00PM Exposition (after Mass) Prayer and Praise: 7:30 PM Prayer Ministry available after Mass.
St Joseph's Catholic Church 126 Liverpool Rd Enfield
Parking at rear of church. Enter from Baker St.
Rose: 9642-2359 / 0412 115-961
E-mail: rosetwymansydney@gmail.com

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	448.80	215.00
Second: loose	413.50	334.65
Envelopes	340.00	570.00

Mater Dei & St Raphael's Parish Calendar		
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
Sun 11/12/22	Blessing of Mosaic backdrop and MD Parish Christmas Get together after morning mass	MD
Tue 13 /12/22	MD Pastoral Council Mtg 7 pm	MD

Wed 2nd November 2022 at 7:30PM
in St Raphael's Harmony Hall.
Any queries please contact Graeme Dorahy on 0421 420 497



St Vincent de Paul Society
This is the link to the **Metropolitan Vinnies Schools and Youth Newsletter Term 4 2022:**
<https://bit.ly/MetroNewsTerm4-2022>
The 2022 edition of the **Mini Vinnies Formation Program (MVFP)** for students in Years 4 – 6 is available for those who wish to undertake Social Justice Formation in their own time. For more information please go to <https://bit.ly/VinniesMVFP>

It was Thanksgiving season in the nursing home. The small resident population had been gathered around their humble Thanksgiving table, and the director asked each in turn to express one thing for which he or she was thankful. "Thanks" were expressed for a home in which to stay, families, etc. One little old lady, when her turn came, said, "I thank the Lord for two perfectly good teeth left in my mouth, one in my upper jaw and one in my lower jaw. They match so well that I can chew my food"

FUNNY