



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

Twenty-Ninth Sunday
in Ordinary time Year C

Bulletin

16th Oct 2022

Entrance Antiphon : Cf. Ps 16:6,8

To you I call; for you will surely
heed me, O God;
turn your ear to me; hear my words.
Guard me as the apple of your eye;
in the shadow of your wings protect
me.

First Reading: Ex 17:8-13

As long as Moses kept his arms
raised, Israel had the advantage.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 120. R. v.2

(R.) Our help is from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

1. I lift up my eyes to the moun-
tains: from where shall come
my help? My help shall come
from the Lord who made heav-
en and earth. (R.)
2. May he never allow you to stum-
ble! Let him sleep not, your
guard. No, he sleeps not nor
slumbers, Israel's guard. (R.)
3. The Lord is your guard and your
shade; at your right side he
stands. By day the sun shall not
smite you nor the moon in the
night. (R.)
4. The Lord will guard you from
evil, he will guard your soul.
The Lord will guard your going
and coming both now and for
ever. (R.)

Second Reading: 2 Tm 3:14 – 4:2

This is how the people of God be-
come equipped and ready for
every good work.

Gospel Acclamation Heb 4:12

Alleluia, alleluia!
The word of God is living and ac-
tive; it probes the thoughts and mo-
tives of our heart.
Alleluia!

Gospel : Lk 18:1-8

God will see those who cry to him
vindicated.

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Ps 32:18

Behold, the eyes of the Lord
are on those who fear him,
who hope in his merciful love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine.

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

In the gospel of Luke, widows represent the lowly of society. They also are a measure of how the society is travelling. In the Old Testament, God commanded the people to care for widows, orphans and strangers. Widows, in particular, were to be cared for by the whole community. From that point on, the level of compassion within the society could be measured by the care extended to the widows. A number of the prophets point to neglect of the widows as a sign that the community has turned its back on the covenant with God. The gospel of Luke picks up this prophetic tradition and on several occasions uses widows as the key figures in stories or parables.

In this parable, the widow is petitioning her local judge for justice against towards the widow, but the judge fobs her off repeatedly. The widow, knowing that her cause is just, persists and finally wears down the judge.

Another feature of the gospel of Luke is that the lowly and poor – represented here by the widow – are those who recognise their own condition and call on the mercy of God to lift them up. Jesus says that God will see justice done to those who cry out for God's help. Jesus' final comment about finding any faith on earth is a reminder that human beings have a tendency to think they can solve all their own problems and forget that they need God's action in their lives. The faithful in the gospel of Luke are those who know that they are in need of God's mercy and love and call out for it.

Have you thought? A parable about God

When Jesus tells this parable about the widow and the judge, he is actually painting a picture about God for his disciples. This is not to suggest that God needs to be worn down by persistence but rather it is a description of what God is not. If such a wicked and unjust judge can eventually be worn down, how much more quickly will God respond to a just cause? Yet the parable is told to reinforce the need to pray continually. The continuous prayer is not to wear God down – like the judge – but rather to demonstrate the genuine need.

Scriptural context

Since chapter 9 of this Gospel, Jesus has been making a steady journey towards Jerusalem and the events of the Passion that await him there. This whole second half of the gospel is a series of teaching moments as Jesus seeks to prepare his disciples to continue his ministry after he has gone. Remembering that the gospel is written 50 or more years after the events described, the gospel writer has also deliberately structured these teaching moments for the audience of believers struggling day by day to live out the message and ministry of Jesus. As such, these teachings are just as important for modern audiences.

Different View – Convincing God

Does this teaching about the need for continual prayer mean that God needs to be convinced of our cause? Does a one-off prayer not get heard? Is God swayed by the force of numbers? Can the prayers of ten people carry more weight than the prayers of one? All these questions miss the point of the parable. It is not God who needs our prayers, but we who have to recognise, through prayer, our need for God's mercy and gracious love. The constancy of prayer is not to convince God but to remind ourselves of our dependence upon God.

**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



Don't forget to purchase your ticket and invite a friend. Book tickets at:
<https://www.materdei-straphael.org.au/>

Death Anniversary: Mary Ellen Derrig, Orlando Casas
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

15th /16th Oct (3rd Sunday)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5.00pm	8.00am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Acolytes	Greg Driver	Earl, Carl	Ray Low	Volunteer
Readers	Pavia Family	Fernandes Family	MD School readers	MD School readers
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	Volunteer	Volunteer
Readers	Volunteer	Rounds Family	MD School readers	Lucy M Paul M



Mosaic Backdrop: The Beautiful mosaic backdrop for Our Lady's statue at Mater Dei church is now completed. Thanks to Kate Ng the artist and also to the volunteers Michael Bosnjak, Minh Nguyen and Carl Pavia for helping set up a safe scaffolding.

The catholic mission appeal is this weekend. Please take the envelope from the church and bring it back the following week.

Happy 26th Wedding Anniversary
DRARUIZ HERYXLIM & JULIANA WIDJAJA
 15th Oct 2022
"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness," GALATIANS 5:22

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
 18-10-22 Nives Care
 33 Church Street Blakehurst 11-00 AM

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 16th Oct 2022

- Archbishop Nona: "They took everything". Now ISIS could live among us
- Cancelling Christians: The Andrew Thorburn Affair
- Dr Miriam Rose: A voice for reconciliation
- Married men ordained
- Archbishop delivers first Newman lecture
- Pedalling priest

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND

TYPE	St Raphael's	Mater Dei
First	353.45	223.20
Second: loose	441.00	296.15
Envelopes	300.00	275.00

The **First Eucharist Mass** is on this weekend (Sat and Sun) at Mater Dei Church. As a result you might find the church a bit crowded.

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

PARISH DIRECTORY
PARISH PRIEST: Fr Thomas Alukka
M: 0469 236 118 **E:** tomyalukka@gmail.com
MATER DEI CATHOLIC CHURCH
 1008 King Georges Road, Blakehurst 2221, NSW
ST. RAPHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
 84 George Street, South Hurstville
Website: <https://www.materdei-straphael.org.au/>
Parish Secretary: Juliana Widjaja
 Office hours: Tues & Wed 9:30am - 2:30pm
 Phone: 02 9546 2605
 Email: admin@materdei-straphael.org.au
Parish Ministry Coordinator & Safeguarding Officer Michael Fernandes
 Office hours: Tues, Wed & Fri 10am - 2:30pm
M: 0437 517 758 **E:** mc@materdei-straphael.org.au
Pastoral Ministry Coordinator: Br. Ben Krupowicz
 Phone: 02 95462544 Email: strsh@outlook.com
Fr. Jan Chrzczonowicz : Phone: 0412 786 245

A pessimist and an optimist
 There once were twin boys, age six, that had developed extreme personalities. One was a pessimist and the other a total optimist. Concerned, their parents took them to a psychiatrist. First, the psychiatrist treated the pessimist. Trying to brighten his outlook, the psychiatrist took him to a room filled with toys. But instead of yelping with delight, the little boy burst into tears. "What's the matter?" the psychiatrist asked. "Don't you want to play with any of the toys?" "Yes," the little boy bawled, "but if I did I'd only break them."
 Next, the psychiatrist treated the optimist. Trying to dampen his outlook, the psychiatrist took him to a room piled to the ceiling with horse manure. But instead of wrinkling his nose in disgust, the optimist climbed to the top of the pile, and began gleefully digging out scoop after scoop with his bare hands. "What are you doing?" the baffled psychiatrist asked. The little boy replied, "With all this manure, there must be a pony in here somewhere!"

FUNNY