



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

Thirty-Second Sunday
in Ordinary time Year C

Bulletin

6th Nov 2022

Entrance Antiphon : Cf. Ps 87:3

Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

First Reading: 2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14

The king of the world will receive us into life eternal at the resurrection.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 16:1. 5-6. 8. 15.
R. v.15

(R.) Lord, when your glory appears, my joy will be full.

1. Lord, hear a cause that is just, pay heed to my cry.
Turn your ear to my prayer:
no deceit is on my lips. (R.)
2. I keep my feet firmly in your paths; there was no faltering in my steps. I am here and I call, you will hear me, O God. Turn your ear to me; hear my words. (R.)
3. Guard me as the apple of your eye. Hide me in the shadow of your wings. As for me, in my justice I shall see your face and be filled, when I awake, with the sight of your glory. (R.)

Second Reading: 2 Thes 2:16 – 3:5

May the Lord strengthen you in everything good that you do or say.

Gospel Acclamation Rv 1:5. 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead; glory and kingship be his for ever and ever.
Alleluia!

Gospel : Lk 20:27-38

He is not a God of the dead but of the living.

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Ps 22:1-2

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, near restful waters he leads me.

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

Life after death, in one form or another, is a common belief of most of the major faiths of the world. It is certainly a basic tenet of Christian faith. Because the gospels record Jesus as speaking about an afterlife, we tend to assume that this was a common belief of his time. However, within the different groups of Judaism, there was significant diversity of belief about this point. While the Pharisees believed in resurrection, the Sadducees did not. The Sadducees, whose name means 'righteous ones' were an elite group within the Jewish faith. They were purists in their adherence to the Torah and their rejection of any later teachings or writings – this actually put them in conflict with the Pharisees, although the two groups are often portrayed in the gospels as being united against Jesus. Today's gospel passage depicts an attempt by the Sadducees to ridicule belief in an afterlife by questioning Jesus about an extremely exaggerated scenario.

The reply Jesus gives largely ignores the farcical nature of the question. Rather, Jesus makes clear that the resurrected life is not merely an extension of the earthly life. The things that are of concern in this world are not an issue in the next. Through death and resurrection, life is changed; not ended. This idea can be challenging at a time when we are mourning the loss of a loved one, yet we are called to respond to that challenge with a genuine hope and trust in the life that goes on in a different way. Jesus, in fact, dismisses the whole idea of death as an ending by saying that to God all people are alive, whether on earth or in the resurrection.

Scriptural context – The Law of Moses

The first five books of what we know as the Bible make up what Jews regard as the Torah (the Law). Right up until the second half of the 19th Century, it was accepted that Moses was the author of these five books. Literary criticism reveals a variety of authors and editors and the books are now thought to have been written at the time of the Jewish exile in Babylon. Despite this, Moses holds a special place in Judaism as the 'Law-giver' because of his part in the Ten Commandments and he tends to be associated with the whole of the books of Law – the Torah.

Gospel Focus – I am who am

The Sadducees quote the Law of Moses at Jesus but he goes one better by quoting the very conversation when Moses encountered God in the burning bush. In this encounter, God reveals Godself to be the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. God does not say, I was the God of Abraham, but rather I *am* the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. This distinction confirms that the relationship is ongoing, not stuck in a time before their death. It is in this same encounter that God reveals God's name as 'I am who am' – represented in Hebrew by the letters YHWH from which we get Yahweh.

Have you thought? – Life after death

The ancient Greeks, Romans and Egyptians all had detailed mythologies about life and death. For the most part, any concept of what occurred after death revolved around images of an underworld of torment and misery. The Jewish idea of a life after death begins to take shape based on the notion that the love of God for each person is so abundant and so indulgent that it is not limited even by death. However, the notion of resurrection developed to be an understanding of what would happen 'one day' – a great resurrection of all people at the end of time.

**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

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

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
12th /13th Nov (2nd Sunday)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5.00pm	8.00am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Acolytes	Greg Driver	Michael B Minh N	No Mass	Volunteer
Readers	Volunteers	Lappen Family		Joan Hanson Jean Dorahy

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

8-11-2022 Nives Care
33 Church Street Blakehurst 11-00 AM

15-11-2022 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

Wed 9th November 2022 at 7:30PM

in St Raphael's Harmony Hall.
Any queries please contact
Graeme Dorahy on 0421 420 497



Fishing

There was a new family that had just moved into town. Their son came to Sunday School but seemed upset. His teacher asked him if anything was wrong. The boy replied no, that he was going to go fishing but his dad told him that he needed to go to church instead. The teacher was very impressed with the boy's parents and asked the boy if his father had explained to him why it was more important to go to church than to go fishing. The boy replied, "Yes he did. My dad said that he didn't have enough bait for both of us."



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.

There is Family Vigil mass at Mater Dei Church this Sat 5th Nov 2022

Mater Dei Church Christmas Get together

Date: Sun 11th Dec after 10am Mass
Venue: Michael Kennedy Centre
Menu: Sausage sizzle
BYO: A share plate if possible
All are welcome

Advent books are available in the Church foyer for free. We will be organising face to face and zoom Advent sharing groups. Let us know if you are interested. Contact Carl Pavia or Michael Fernandes if you are interested.



This week the Catholic Church of Blakehurst warmly welcomes Mia Vera Gioenco. Congratulations to the family.

St Raphael's Church Pizza night

Date: 26th Nov 2022 6pm—10pm
Venue: Harmony Hall
Menu: Pizza, tea and Coffee
BYO: Drinks, Salad, Dessert
Donations welcome on the night.
All are welcome

Parish Appeal 2022 Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to support the CWF's ministries Charitable Works Fund Appeal this week-end. Your donation will assist those suffering with mental illness, mothers facing homelessness, and members of our deaf and disabled community during these difficult times.

Envelopes will be available in the church. To donate online, please click the donate link below, select the donation amount and enter your Parish name.

[Donate Here](#)

A special message (click on link below) from Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP emphasizes the importance of this appeal, and invites you to support our "Gospel message of love, and its fruits in ministries of mercy".

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N5HVjM3YJ3g>

The Catholic Weekly PULPIT POINTS 6th Nov 2022

- With many families set to struggle with the cost of Christmas, charities say: WE'RE HERE TO HELP!
- Conscientious objection: Seminar for healthcare workers
- UNDER ATTACK? The Art of Spiritual Combat
- It's back! Christmas at the Cathedral
- Saints Galore!
- An Aria for Mascot

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND

TYPE	St Raphael's	Mater Dei
First	617.50	155.45
Second: loose	581.00	197.40
Envelopes	370.00	480.00

Mater Dei & St Raphael's Parish Calendar

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	Commissioning of Mosaic backdrop and MD Parish Christmas Get together after morning mass	MD
Tue 13 /12/22	MD Pastoral Council Mtg 7 pm	MD

PARISH DIRECTORY

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Thomas Alukka

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MATER DEI CATHOLIC CHURCH

1008 King Georges Road, Blakehurst 2221, NSW

ST. RAPHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Website: <https://www.materdei-straphael.org.au/>

Parish Secretary: Juliana Widjaja

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Parish Ministry Coordinator & Safeguarding Officer Michael Fernandes

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