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

Baptism of the Lord

BULLETIN

12 January 2014



Entrance antiphon

After the Lord was baptized,
the heavens were opened, and
the Spirit descended upon him
like a dove, and the voice of
the Father thundered: This is
my beloved Son, with whom I
am well pleased.

First Reading: Is 42:1-4. 6-7

*The Lord God forgave your sin; you
will not die.*

Psalm: 28

The Lord, will bless his people
with peace.

Second Reading: Acts 10:34-38

*God anointed him with the Holy Spirit
and with power.*

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens were opened and
the Father's voice was heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear
him. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matt 3: 13 - 17

*When Jesus was baptised, the heavens
were opened and the Spirit of God
came upon him.*

Communion antiphon:

Behold the One of whom John
said: I have seen and testified
that this is the Son of God.

GOSPEL COMMENTARY

The baptism of Jesus had powerful effects. Matthew, like the Mark and Luke, recorded three events as Jesus rose from the water: the sky opened, the Spirit descended, and a heavenly voice spoke. Like ripples a tossed rock causes in a calm pool, the open sky, the dove, and the voice were 'ripples' from the public event of the baptism.

Each of the 'ripples' has a distinct meaning. The heavens opening (being ripped open, if the Greek is taken literally) meant that the God's realm and the earth were no longer separated. God was one with his people. The kingdom of God was now present.

The descent of the Spirit had a specific purpose: to call and equip Jesus for a public ministry. The Spirit called Jesus to ministry that would unite people to God. And the Spirit gave him all the gifts necessary for that ministry.

The voice from heaven focused upon Jesus of Nazareth. Obeying the will of the Father, Jesus could now be publically proclaimed 'God's Son', a royal title in Israel's history. In other words, the voice revealed Jesus as the Messiah, God's Anointed. The dual modifiers ('beloved' and 'well pleased') emphasized the love relationship between the Father and Son.

Excerpt from www.word-sunday.com, A Lectionary Resource for Catholics

**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
your God" (Micah 6:8)**

MASS TIMES this week		
	Mater Dei	St.Raphael's
Saturday	6.15pm	5.00pm
Sunday	10.00am	8.30am
Tuesday	8.00am	
Wednesday	8.00am	
Thursday		9.15am
Friday	8am	9.00am

RECONCILIATION:(also by appointment)

Saturday		4.30pm
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EXPOSITION

Saturday	from	4.00pm
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Legions of Mary
MD: Meets 10am every Monday morning in the Piety Stall at Mater Dei.
St R's Rosary and Meeting every Friday at 9:30 am downstairs in the Hall.
St Vincent de Paul Society
 Meets second Tuesday of each month in the Kennedy Centre at Mater Dei at 7.30 pm.

HOME ROSARY
 Rosary breaks until later in January. Participants wish everybody a very happy and holy Christmas and a happy new year.

Please pray for
Deceased: Giuseppina Dragone, Anna Maria Chizzoniti, Sr Mary Dorotheus, Icm, Michelangelo Severino, Rosina Severino, Sam Severino, Harry Gilmore
Sick: Br Joe, Mary Krone, Ann, Sr Maree Henderson, rsc, Margaret Hopkinson, Blaza Kursar, Howard Courtney, Paul Foley, Ann Davies, Joanne McRea, Patrick & Sidney Yenson, Matthew Tuffin, Joanne Martin, George & Therese Mir, Jack & Sylvia Wood.

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND		
TYPE	StR	MD
First	435	393
Second: loose	232	259
Envelopes	532	1145

EXCERPT FROM EVANGELII GAUDIUM (Apostolic Exhortation by Pope Francis, issued November 2013)

Person to person

127. Today, as the Church seeks to experience a profound missionary renewal, there is a kind of preaching which falls to each of us as a daily responsibility. It has to do with bringing the Gospel to the people we meet, whether they be our neighbours or complete strangers. This is the informal preaching which takes place in the middle of a conversation, something along the lines of what a missionary does when visiting a home. Being a disciple means being constantly ready to bring the love of Jesus to others, and this can happen unexpectedly and in any place: on the street, in a city square, during work, on a journey.

128. In this preaching, which is always respectful and gentle, the first step is personal dialogue, when the other person speaks and shares his or her joys, hopes and concerns for loved ones, or so many other heartfelt needs. Only afterwards is it possible to bring up God's word, perhaps by reading a Bible verse or relating a story, but always keeping in mind the fundamental message: the personal love of God who became man, who gave himself up for us, who is living and who offers us his salvation and his friendship.



On the weekend we welcome Cooper Harb into the family of the Catholic Church at Mater Dei. Congratulations to his parents Francesca & Michael



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TRUTH JUSTICE HEALING COUNCIL
 Please pray for the work of this Council which has been set up as part of the Church's response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. Please pray especially, too, for the victims of child sexual abuse by clergy, religious and Church employees.



Both Churches have a hearing loop installed: switch your hearing aid to "T-coil".

A new course for **Acolytes and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC)** will start in February, running over the evenings of 5, 12 and 19 February from 7.00pm—9.00pm at Liverpool. Please see Fr Isidore if you are interested in serving in these important ministries. If you are a current acolyte or EMHC and wish to update your knowledge you are also very welcome to attend this course. There is no charge for the course.

Ministry 11 & 12 January	St Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5.00pm V	8.30am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Acolytes / SS	Daniel	Michael	Michael	Graeme
EMHC	Shirley Jan	Michelle Monica		Marguerite
Readers			Ronnie Louise	Joan Jean
Altar			Adam	Amy
Servers			Maxine	Bianca
Music	CD	Julia	Jan	Peter

Ministry 18 & 19 January	St Raphael's THISWEEKEND		Mater Dei THISWEEKEND	
	5.00pm V	8.30am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Acolytes / SS	Awan	Earl		Jeff
EMHC	Ida Rosie	Henriette Adele		Marguerite
Readers			Br Michael Cettina	Trevor Cath
Altar	Volunteers	Volunteers	Luke	Amy, Alex
Servers	Please	Please	Emma	Bianca
Music	Michele	Julia	Jan	Kim

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 Fr. Jan Chrzczonowicz
 (Chaplain to the French)
 Mobile: 0412786 245
SCHOOLS:
Mater Dei Primary 9546 7298
 Principal: Mrs Jenni Payne
St Raphael's Primary 9546 4898
 Principal: Mrs Annette McKenzie