

11 February: "The experience of love in families is a perennial source of strength for the life of the Church" (Pope Francis – Amoris Laetitia 88)

MASS TIMES		
	Mater Dei	St. Raphael
Saturday	6.15pm	5.00pm
Sunday	10.00am	8.30am
Tuesday	8.00am	-
Ash Wed.	9.15am & 7.00pm	9.00am
Thursday	-	9.15am
Friday	8.00am	9.00am
RECONCILIATION: (also by appointment)		
Saturday	-	4.30pm
EXPOSITION		
Friday	-	7:30 pm — 8:30 pm
Saturday	-	4pm — 4:45pm

Please Pray for:
Recently Deceased: Vincenzo Di Leo, Fr Peter Neville, Rolando Valencia, Fr Grove Johnson, William Joseph Singanayam, Ingolf Leuschner, Bridget Clare Gilsean

Also pray for: All souls in Purgatory
Anniversary: Joseph M^cGloin, Kathleen Barter

Mass Offered: Jeffrey George Bishop, Mary El Khouri & Karam El Khouri, Elias Hadad

Sick: Bernadette Petersen, Shirley Barbuto, Therese Mir, George Mir, Joan Kervin, Dawn Edwards, Edna Edwards, Penny, Jeanette McGloin, Pavo Bosnjak, Steven M^cGrath, Sr Vianney Hatton SBS, Betty Swinbourne, Sue McDermott, Tony Ostojic, Tim Birch, John Viera, Adriana, Brian Waterman, Barbara Waterman

Home Rosary St Raphael Monday 7:30PM
 12-02-2018 Joey & Sonia Magpily
 16 Lynwood St, Blakehurst
 19-02-2018 John & Rosemary Colwell
 58 Gnarbo Ave, Carss Park
Home Rosary Mater Dei
 13-2-2018 Cheddar Street Nursing Home
 Cheddar St, Blakehurst 11:00PM
 20-2-2018 Josie and Tony Ledonne
 61 Castle St, Blakehurst 8:00PM

Ministry 10th & 11th Feb 2018 (2nd Sun)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5.00pm V	8.30am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Acolytes / SS	Carl Pavia	Minh, Michael B	Gary Cartmer	Graeme Dorahy
EMHC	Ida Chandra	Sophia, Volunteer		Marguerite Derrig
Readers	George Saab, Volunteer	Zakhem Family, Pat Bates	Ronnie, Louise	Joan, Jean
Altar Servers	Volunteers	Volunteers	Volunteers	Volunteers
Children's Liturgy	Mary & Rachel			TBA
Music	Michelle/?	Norma	Kim	Kim
Ministry 17th & 18th Feb 2018 (3rd Sun)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5.00pm V	8.30am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Acolytes / SS	Greg Driver	Earl, Gary	Ray Low	Michael Eather/ Norman Yenson
EMHC	Rosie Gould	Henrietta, Volunteer		Marguerite Derrig
Readers	Pavia Family/ School Children	Lappen Family	Br. Michael, Cettina Raiti	TBA - School Children
Altar Servers	Volunteers	Volunteers	Volunteers	Volunteers
Children's Liturgy	N/A			Mary-Clare

Just like previous years, our Parish would soon be starting the **Lenten Program**. If you are interested in hosting/participating in the program, please contact the Parish Ministry Coordinator or the Parish Office on 95462605 or email at admin@materdei-straphael.org.au

Positions Vacant : Communications & Development Manager
Council of Catholic School Parents NSW/ACT - Permanent full-time position. Sydney CBD-based. For further information please contact Anthony Spata at REACH Human Resources, on 0402210055. Applications close 27 February 2018.

Director of Care Services, Rosary Village Aged Care
 Permanent full-time position. Yennora-based. For further information please contact Anthony Spata at REACH Human Resources, on 0402 210 055. Applications close 14 February 2018.

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND			
TYPE	St Raphael's	Mater Dei	
First	587.55	266.10	
Second: loose	358.00	380.40	
Envelopes	295.00	1330.00	

PARISH DIRECTORY
PARISH PRIEST: FR. ISIDORE ANANTHARAJ
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 Principal: Mrs Anne Melrose
St. Raphael Primary School: (02) 95464898
 Principal: Mrs. Annette McKenzie



Parishes of Mater Dei Blakehurst &

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - **St Raphael's South Hurstville**

Year B

BULLETIN

11th Feb 2018

Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Ps 30:3-4
 Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

First Reading: Lv 13:1-2. 44-46
 Lepers shall be kept apart.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 31:1-2. 5. 11.
 R. v.7

I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

1. Happy the man whose offence is forgiven, whose sin is remitted. O happy the man to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, in whose spirit is no guile. (R.)

2. But now I have acknowledged my sins; my guilt I did not hide. I said: 'I will confess my offence to the Lord.' And you, Lord, have forgiven the guilt of my sin. (R.)

3. Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord, exult, you just! O come, ring out your joy, all you upright of heart. (R.)

Second Reading: 1 Cor 10:31 – 11:1
 Do everything for the glory of God.

Gospel Acclamation: Lk 7:16
 Alleluia, alleluia! A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mk 1:40-45
 Jesus cures a leper.

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Ps 77:29-30

They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

Days of Fasting and Reparation: Lent 2018

The Australian Catholic Bishops have proclaimed the days from Ash Wednesday until the following Saturday (February 14-17) as Days of Fasting and Reparation in sorrow for child sexual abuse and the healing of victims.

The Stations of the Cross

commencing on Friday
 16th February

7pm Mater Dei Church

7pm St. Raphael's Church

followed by the Holy Hour from

7.30pm - 8.30pm



Reflection

We know that we will all have to face some kind of suffering, and so we try to prepare ourselves for it. Yet when it comes, as prepared as we try to be, it can overtake us with such fury that we fall back defenceless. We look to others for support and assistance, and if we are fortunate, we find it. However, even in the most supportive of communities, suffering tends to alienate us from those who are healthy and secure. Suffering reminds us of our own finitude and the contingent nature of all of life. It threatens our sense of order.

Jesus is not deterred by human suffering. He welcomes all who approach him; his healing touch reincorporates those who have been ostracised; his loving embrace reassociates those who have been alienated. In the reign of God, there are no outsiders. All belong to Jesus, and, therefore, all belong to each other. When the one afflicted is embraced by the community, the community is an authentic manifestation of the inclusive reign of God.

In suffering we witness human vulnerability and our desperate need of each other and of God. There, at the edge of life and on the fringes of the community, we may experience the tenderness and compassion of God. The loving touch of Christ that can heal our souls, if not our bodies. It is there that we may most authentically participate in the cross of Christ. Joined to him we are anything but unproductive or worthless.

@ Dianne Bergant CSS

Living the Gospel – Who is your leper?

There is a story of Francis of Assisi in which he encountered a horribly disfigured leper. Initially, Francis was repulsed by the man but remembered that this man too was a child of God and made in the image and likeness of God. Overcoming his fears, Francis ran forward and embraced the man. Rather than seeing the disease, Francis saw the person. We can ask the question, Who is your leper? Who is the person in your life that you need to embrace rather than reject? Who would benefit from you viewing them with different eyes? Soft eyes! Eyes of compassion!



Remember man that you are dust and into dust you shall

Ash Wednesday Mass Timings

14th February 2018

9:00am St Raphael's (Fr. Jan)

9:15am Mater Dei (Fr Isidore) No mass at 8AM at MD

7:00pm Mater Dei (Fr Isidore)

Ash Wednesday – The mark of the cross

The tradition of marking the forehead with ash on Ash Wednesday can be traced back to the ancient Jewish action of dusting oneself with ash as a sign of repentance and mourning for wrongful actions. It was a public declaration of the acknowledgement of the wrong and the commitment to turn one's life around and try not to make the same mistake again. It still remains a public declaration that during the period of Lent those who wear the cross of ash are going to attempt to turn around their lives and re-focus themselves more fully on God.

Little Angels Playgroup - St Raphael's Little Angels playgroup commences for the year on 9th Feb. It will be held in the library this term. Our playgroup is open to all members of our school and parish community. It runs from 9am - 10:30am each Friday and the cost is a gold coin donation. Please bring a drink bottle for your child. We look forward to seeing you there.

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)

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St Raphael's - Vigil Mass at 5pm on 17th Feb will be a School Year Welcome Mass held outside in the amphitheatre. BBQ afterwards.

This weekend the Catholic Church of Mater Dei, Blakehurst warmly welcomes **Emily Ierardo** (daughter of Alexander & Anna) **Congratulations to the parents!**

Making the Grade
 Craig's high-school English teacher was well known for being a fair, but hard, grader. One day Craig received a B minus on a theme paper. In hopes of bettering his grade and in the spirit of the valentine season, he sent the teacher an extravagant heart-shaped box of chocolates with the pre-printed inscription: "BE MINE." The following day, he received in return a letter from the teacher. It read: "Thank you, but it's still BE MINE-US."

