

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

First Sunday of Advent Year A

Bulletin 27th Nov 2022

Entrance Antiphon : Cf. Ps 24:1-3

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

First Reading: Is 2:1-5

The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 121:1-2. 4-5. 6-9. R. see v.1.

- (R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.
- 1. I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.' And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. (R.)
- 2. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name. There were set the thrones of judgement of the house of David. (R.)
- 3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray: 'Peace be to your homes! May peace reign in your walls, in your palaces, peace!' (R.)
- 4. For love of my brethren and friends I say: 'Peace upon you!' For love of the house of the Lord I will ask for your good. (R.)

Second Reading: Rom 13:11-14

The time has come, our salvation is near.

Gospel Acclamation Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

Gospel : Mt 24:37-44

Stay awake, you must be ready.

Communion Antiphon: Ps 84:13

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

CELEBRANT: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

CONGREGATION: A light no darkness can overpower.

CELEBRANT: Lord God, let our prayers rise up like incense before you, as we ask that you bless our Advent wreath and these four candles. May this wreath be a sign



to us of the new life Jesus promised us. May these candles remind us to wait, full of hope, so that when the Lord comes into our lives we will recognise and

welcome him.

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

The first Sunday of Advent sees the commencement of the new liturgical year. This new liturgical cycle is referred to as Year A and features the gospel of Matthew. (Year B features the gospel of Mark and Year C, that we have just completed, features the gospel of Luke.) Advent comes from the Latin word Adventus which literally means 'coming'; it is also reflected in the Greek word Parousia, which is used to describe the second coming of Jesus. So Advent is a time of preparation and anticipation of the coming of Christ into the world that is celebrated in the Nativity at Christmas. The gospel passage chosen for today's reading richly expresses that anticipation and need for preparation.

It may seem a little confusing that we begin our year-long exploration of the gospel of Matthew by taking a reading from chapter 24. However, the need for readiness and alertness that Jesus speaks about in relation to the coming of the Kingdom is equally suitable for a modern audience when preparing to celebrate once again the coming of Jesus into the world. Jesus is the best expression of the Kingdom that we have yet experienced and so rather than seeing the choice of this passage as a confusion, we should recognise the alignment that exists between the anticipation of the Kingdom and the anticipation of the Nativity.

The two great feasts of Christianity – the Nativity and Easter – are each preceded by a period of preparation: Advent and Lent. The emphasis of these seasons is on the mental and spiritual preparation to fully enter into one of the great mysteries of faith. In the Nativity, we celebrate God become human; God present in the world in a physical way. Advent is a time to remember the many and varied ways that God continues to be present in the world.

Gospel Focus – Get Ready!

Jesus draws a parallel between the people in Noah's time and the people of his own time. What it reflects is a complacency that periodically overtook the Jewish people. When the people bound themselves to God in covenant their lives gradually became better. Inevitably, their lives improved to such a state that they forgot God was responsible for their blessings. They ignored their relationship with God and became complacent about their good fortune. Ultimately, their comfort was brought to an end and they recognised once again their need for God. Jesus calls the people to get ready because the pattern is repeating itself.

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	CHRISTMAS MASS TIMINGS 2 SATURDAY, 24TH DECEMB
Tuesday		9:15am Mass	ST. RAPHAEL'S
Wednes- day		8:45am Rosary, Novena 9:15am Mass	4:00 PM Carols followed b
Thursday	9:15am		4:30 PM Mass Mater Dei
Friday	7:30pm Adoration	8:45am Adoration 9:15am Mass, Cenacle	6:15 PM Mass
Saturday	4:30pm Reconciliation	6:15PM VIGIL MASS	11:30 PM Carols followed Midnight mass
Saturuay	5:00pm Vigil Mass	Every 1st and 3rd Sat	SUNDAY, 25TH DECEMBE
Sunday	8:00am MASS 6:00pm Croatian Mass	10:00am Mass	St. Raphael's 8:00 AM Mater Dei 10:00 AM Croatian Mass 11:00 AM

Recently Deceased: Joseph Manlucu

Death Anniversary: Jeffrey Bishop, Lucy & Joseph Yong, Marjorie & Myles Coleman.

Pray for good health of : Sunga Family, Adele Shehata, Anna Liza Torres Zapata, Yin Kwan Tsang.

Pray for the deceased: Jeanette McGloin, Shirley McGrath, Antonius Widjaja, Gavin, Rosie and Serena Entwistle, Coral Howse, Souls in purgatory.

26th /27th Nov	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
(4th Sunday)	5.00pm	8.00am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Acolytes	Greg Driver	Norman Michael F		Volunteer
Readers	Rounds Family	Yenson Family	No Mass	Lucy Mitry Phil M
3rd /4th Dec	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
(1st Sunday)	5.00pm	8.00am	6.15pm V	10.00am
Acolytes	Greg Driver	Max Gary	Tony Oscuro	Paul Watson
Readers	Lovat Family	Annie Rose T	Family Mass	Gail Abott Luisa Galea

ROSARY

St Raphael's Church Every Monday at 7:30pm with Exposition of the **Blessed Sacrament**

Mater Dei Church Every Sunday 9:30am before the 10am mass

Mater Dei Home Rosary

29-11-2022	Nives Care 33 Church Street Blakehurst 11-00 AM
06-12-2022	Nives Care 33 Church Street Blakehurst 11-00 AM
	All are welcome

Mater Dei & St Raphael's Parish Calendar TYPE Thurs 8/12/22 SR School Christmas Concert 6:30pm SR First MD Parish Christmas Get together after Second: Sun 11/12/22 MD morning mass loose Tue 13 /12/22 MD Pastoral Council Mtg 7 pm MD Envelopes

A young man was planting some flower seeds on a sweltering day, sweating from the hot sun.

His neighbour said, "You need to wait until the sun goes down, or plant in the morning when it is coolest."

The man said, "I can't do that. It says on the package. 'Plant in full sun!'" \$ FUNNS



New Year Mass Timings 2022

SUNDAY, 1ST JANUARY

St Raphael's 8:00 AM

Mater Dei 10:00 AM

at St Mary

HRISTM

ning a

There will be NO Vigil mass at

Mater Dei Church on Sat 26th

Nov. The next vigil mass will be

(Children of Leo & Jenny)

Congratulations to the family.

The Catholic Weekly

PULPIT POINTS 27th Nov 2022

NSW Floods: Refugees return

the favour. • "I'll close them all".

NT Bishop confronts government

• Theology of the Body. Christo-

pher West heads to Sydney.

over schools. • The Shadow

Ten Sydneysiders honoured

• Christmas at the Cathedral

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND

St Raphael's

410.65

294.35

365.00

Mater Dei

271.50

368.45

980.00

Lights

Bishops • Knights and Dames:

invites you to

on 3rd Dec 2022.

Jessica Li, Alicia Li,

and Jayden Leung

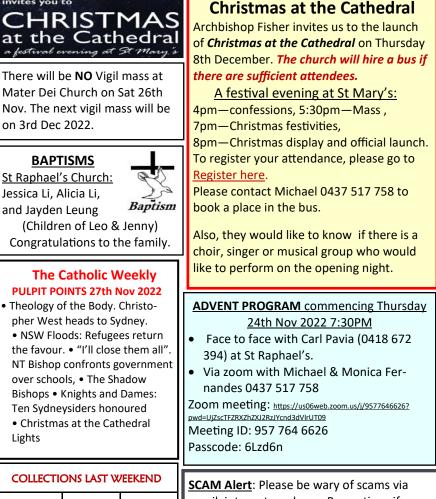
BAPTISMS St Raphael's Church:

a festive

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMINGS 2022	
ST. RAPHAEL'S 4:00 PM Carols followed by 4:30 PM Mass MATER DEI 6:15 PM Mass	
11:30 PM Carols followed by Midnight mass	
SUNDAY, 25TH DECEMBER St. Raphael's 8:00 AM Mater Dei 10:00 AM Croatian Mass 11:00 AM at St Raphael's	chishas PARTY BBQ
	Join us for the Mater Dei Church

Join us for the Mater Dei Church Christmas Party

On December 11th at 11 am after Mass Please bring a plate of goodies to share



email, internet or phone. Be cautious if some one asks for your password, date of birth or asks you to do some transaction discretely.

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

Parish Secretary: Juliana Widjaja Office hours: Tues & Wed 9:30am - 2:30pm Phone: 02 9546 2605 Email: admin@materdei-straphael.org.au