



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

The Most Holy Body and
Blood of Christ - Year A

Bulletin

11th June 2023

Entrance Antiphon : Cf. Ps 80:17

He fed them with the finest wheat
and satisfied them with honey from
the rock.

First Reading: Dt 8:2-3. 14-16

He gave you food which you and
your ancestors did not know.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 147:12-15. 19- 20. R. v.12

(R.) Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

1. O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!
Zion, praise your God! He has
strengthened the bars of your
gates, he has blessed the children
within you. (R.)
2. He has established peace on
your borders, he feeds you with
finest wheat. He sends out his
word to the earth and swiftly
runs his command. (R.)
3. He makes his word known to
Jacob, to Israel his laws and
decrees. He has not dealt thus
with other nations; he has not
taught them his decrees. (R.)

Second Reading: 1 Cor 10:16-17

Though we are many, we form a
single body because we share this
one loaf.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 6:51-52

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread from heaven,
says the Lord; whoever eats this
bread will live for ever.

Alleluia!

Gospel : Jn 6:51-58

My flesh is real food and my blood
is real drink.

Communion Antiphon: Jn 6:57

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks
my blood remains in me and I in
him, says the Lord.

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

The feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, also known as *Corpus Christi*, celebrates and commemorates the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper. Although the liturgy on Holy Thursday remembers the celebration of the Last Supper, its focus tends to be more aligned with the events of the Passion rather than on the institution of the Eucharist. In the 13th Century, Pope Urban IV established the feast of Corpus Christi (the Body of Christ) and it was St Thomas Aquinas who composed the official prayers of the Church for the feast day. In 1970 the feast was changed to the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ. In some countries it is celebrated on the Thursday following Trinity Sunday and in others on the following Sunday.

The gospel passage comes from the 6th chapter of the gospel of John in which the gospel writer has Jesus deliver an extended discourse on the image of himself as the Bread of Life. This passage comes from the end of that discourse and, in this relatively short passage, Jesus repeatedly demands that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. It is through these actions that his followers will share in eternal life. Jesus says that whoever does this will live in him and he will live in them. That is one of the fundamental beliefs about the Eucharist. When we receive the body and blood of Jesus in the Eucharist we become what we receive – we become Christ's body in the world. When Jesus called his disciples, he called them to be like himself. He reissues that call to be like him every time we receive his body and blood in Eucharist.

Scriptural context – Eucharist in Scripture

The gospel of John does not include any account of Jesus taking bread and wine and urging the disciples to 'do this in memory of me'. The three synoptic gospels, however, all feature these actions and words, as does Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, which predates all of the gospels. Rather than using these words of institution, the gospel of John includes an entire chapter much earlier in the gospel in which Jesus theologises about the image of himself as the Bread of Life. It is this discourse, more than the Last Supper accounts, that provides much of the theological understanding of Eucharist.

Living the Gospel

Meals are very important events. Not only do we physically need food and drink to keep ourselves alive, but we use meals to mark occasions and celebrate events: birthdays; weddings; dates; achievements; disappointments; reunions. There is a sacredness about gathering with friends and family and sharing a meal together. Stories are told; memories shared; the food is appreciated and more often than not there's a drink to accompany the meal. Treating such occasions with gratitude – as blessed moments of grace – is living out the Eucharistic reality of welcoming Jesus into our lives and seeking to be more like him.

The **Walk with Christ** is an annual Eucharistic Procession through the streets of Sydney making a joyful public proclamation and act of worship towards the person of Jesus Christ (as King), and to invoke His blessing upon the city. The Archbishop would like to encourage as many people to attend as possible.

Sunday 11th June 2023

1:00 pm: Festival at Martin Place .

2:30 pm: Procession begins from the corner of Martin Place
and Pitt Street



MASS TIMES		
	St Raphael Church	Mater Dei Church
Tues		9:15am Mass
Wed		8:45am Rosary, Novena 9:15am Mass
Thurs	9:15am Mass	
Friday	7:30pm Adoration	8:45am Adoration 9:15am Mass
Sat	4:30pm Reconciliation 5:00pm Vigil Mass	6:15pm Vigil mass is on 1st & 3rd Sat (Next mass is on 17th June)
Sunday	8:00am Mass 6:00pm Croatian Mass	10:00am Mass



We sadly announce the passing away of Raymond Joseph O'Mara (brother of Bob O'Mara) on Thursday 1st June 2023.

Ray's funeral will be held at Our Lady Star of the Sea Miranda on Wednesday 14th June at 10:30am

May his kind and gentle Soul Rest in Peace

10th/11th June (2nd Sunday)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5:00pm	8:00am		10:00am
Acolytes	Greg Driver	Volunteer	No Vigil Mass	Volunteer
Readers	Pavia Family	Rose T Annie M		Joan Hanson Jean Dorahy
17th/18th June (3rd Sunday)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5:00pm	8:00am	6:15pm	10:00am
Acolytes	Greg Driver	Michael B	Ray Low	Volunteer
Readers	Volunteers	Yenson Family	Br Michael Nina M	Jolly Jose Wendy E

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

Pray for the deceased: Briege Robson, Eric Fox, Monica O'Brien, Vivian Sorial, Jeffrey Bishop, Fr Isidore, Antonius Widjaja, Holy Souls in purgatory.

ROSARY	
St Raphael's Church	Mater Dei Church
Every Monday at 7:30pm with Blessed Sacrament	Every Sunday 9:30am before the 10am mass

Mater Dei Home Rosary

13-6-2023	Josephine & Tony Ledonne 61 Castle Street Blakehurst	7-00 PM
20-6-2023	Titsiana 11 Louisa Street Oatley	11-00 AM
All are welcome		

SAY A PRAYER

Little Johnny and his family were having Sunday dinner at his grandmother's house. Everyone was seated around the table as the food was being served. When Little Johnny received his plate, he started eating right away.

'Johnny! Please wait until we say our prayer.' said his mother.

'I don't need to,' the boy replied.

'Of course, you do.' his mother insisted. 'We always say a prayer before eating at our house.' 'That's at our house.' Johnny explained . . . 'But this is Grandma's house and she knows how to cook.'

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer chaplain at St George Hospital?

The St George Hospital chaplains' team are mature Christian volunteers, who serve at their church and have a heart for ministry to the sick and their caregivers. They have been trained to provide pastoral care support to patients, families and staff across the hospital.

We will be offering orientation training for new volunteer chaplains over August and September 2023. This training will be from 9.30am to 3.30pm over 5 Thursdays, starting 24 August and will be held at the hospital.

If you are interested in this training to join our chaplains' team, **please contact us ASAP via email** so we can send you the application form, information on the mandatory pre-requisites and what hospital chaplaincy looks like at St George.

You are also welcome to contact Sashi Grayndler (Chaplaincy Services Co-Ordinator) by phone on 02 9113 2189 or email sashi.grayndler@health.nsw.gov.au if you have any questions.



Vinnies Winter Appeal is this weekend

Please donate generously at this time of need.

Thank you for your generosity.

Divine Retreat Centre: June programs

Located around one hour's drive north of Sydney in Somersby, the centre is offering a number of one day and weekend retreats throughout June.

Parishes are invited to share [this flyer](#) with the June program and [this flyer](#) on the Couple's Spiritual Growth Retreat.

Multicultural Mass Sunday Celebrated By Bishop Vincent Long

For the Parramatta Diocese and Sydney Archdiocese. Open invitation for Migrant Chaplains of both Dioceses and people from all ethnic communities.

Date and Time: Sunday 18th June at 2pm,

Venue: St Mary's Cathedral

If you have questions please contact Fr Roland Maurer EV or Kylie Cullen at immigration@sydneycatholic.org

Mater Dei & St Raphael Parish Calendar 2023		
11/6/2023	Walk with Christ	City
13/6/2023	MD First Eucharist Parent Info evening	Mater Dei
15/6/2023	SR & MD Parish Renewal Workshop 6:30pm	St Raphael

The Catholic Weekly

11 June 2023 PULPIT POINTS

- Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP -- Euthanasia: What's at stake in the Calvary takeover p1
- Archdiocese of Sydney launches its Reconciliation Action Plan p10
- Putting smiles on Sydney faces one couch at a time p3
- Corpus Christi: come home to the Eucharist p7
- Sydney father invents SuperTee for sick kids p4
- Fr Flader: Just who was Pontius Pilate, anyway? P17

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND

TYPE	St Raphael's	Mater Dei
First	476.30	516.80
Second: loose	441.15	555.40
Envelopes	160.00	250.00

Parish Renewal Workshop

for Mater Dei & St Raphael Parishioners

Date: Thurs 15th June 2023 at 6:30 pm

Venue: St Raphael Parish Hall

All are encouraged to attend as we are one body in Christ. RSVP to Michael Fernandes.

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