



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

Palm Sunday of the passion of the Lord Year B

Bulletin 24th March 2024

Entrance Antiphon: Mt 21: 9

Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel. Hosanna in the highest.

First Reading: Is 50:4-7

Despite rejection, Isaiah does not abandon his call.

Responsorial Psalm:

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

1. All who see me deride me. They curl their lips, they toss their heads. 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him; let him release him if this is his friend.' (R.)
2. Many dogs have surrounded me, a band of the wicked beset me. They tear holes in my hands and my feet. I can count every one of my bones. (R.)
3. They divide my clothing among them. They cast lots for my robe. O Lord, do not leave me alone, my strength, make haste to help me! (R.)

4. I will tell of your name to my brethren and praise you where they are assembled. 'You who fear the Lord give him praise; all sons of Jacob, give him glory. Revere him, Israel's sons.' (R.)

Second Reading: Phil 2:6-11

Jesus made himself lowly and was exalted.

Gospel Acclamation: Phil 2:8-9

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! Christ became obedient for us even to death dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel: Mk 14:1 – 15:47

The Passion.

Communion Antiphon: Mt 26:42

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

In this final Lenten Sunday, we see that we have been saved through the kenotic (partial renunciation of divine nature) humility of Jesus, not through military power. We have a saviour who was crushed for our iniquities, nailed to a cross as a convicted criminal, and there endured the sense of abandonment. However, this saviour was later lifted up and exalted precisely because he emptied himself of his divine prerogatives.

Jesus became one of us in order to show us how we are to live. He was raised up because he himself was first willing to be put down. The passion recounts the extent to which he willingly offered himself. We have a saviour who first offered himself *for* us and then continues to offer himself *to* us as an example to follow. As he was willing to empty himself for our sake, so we are told to empty ourselves for the sake of others.

The best way to enter Holy Week with him is in the company of those with whom he has identified himself: the poor and the broken; the humiliated and the marginalised; those who suffer the abuse of others; those who never use rank to force their will. If we are to be saved, we must go where salvation takes place: in our streets and in our homes where violence rages; in the dark corners of life where despair seems to hold sway; wherever the innocent are abused or the needy are neglected; wherever there is misunderstanding or fear or jealousy. We must go wherever Christ empties himself for us.

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Reconciliation during Lent

Mater Dei: Wed 27 Mar 7:00 PM—8:00 PM. Sat 30 Mar 4:00PM—5:30PM

St. Raphael: Sat 23rd March 4:30pm to 5pm. On Holy Sat it will be at Mater Dei.

Holy Thursday Visitation of the Seven churches

How do you do it? The only requirement for the Seven Churches Visitation is to spend time in prayer at and between any seven churches. Many participants pray the Stations of the Cross as they walk between each church. Some recite the Rosary and sing hymns and sacred songs. **Mater Dei church is one of the churches taking part and will remain open till midnight.**

<https://sydneycatholic.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Holy-Thursday-Visitation-of-the-Seven-Churches.pdf>

Holy Land Good Friday Collection (29th March 2024)

The annual collection for the support of the church in Holy Land takes place on Good Friday. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment and housing. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Please pray that peace & harmony becomes a reality in Jesus' birthplace.

For more info about Christians in the Holy Land, visit [Good Friday](#)

You can donate at this link: [Donation Holy Land](#)

HOLY WEEK MASS TIMING 2024		
Date and Time	Mater Dei Church	St Raphael's Church
Holy Thursday 28-03-2024	7:00 PM. Church will be open till midnight	Only at Mater Dei
Good Friday 29-03-2024	Stations of the Cross 10:00 AM	
	The Lord's Passion 3:00 PM	The Lord's Passion 3:00 PM
Holy Saturday 30-03-2024	6:00 PM (with RCIA Confirmations)	8:00 PM
Easter Sunday 31-03-2024	10:00 AM	8:00 AM
Easter Sunday Croatian Mass		6:00 AM
Holy Week Reconciliation	Wed 27 Mar 7-8 PM Sat 30 Mar 4-5:30PM	Only at Mater Dei

MASS TIMES		
	St Raphael Church	Mater Dei Church
Tues	9:15am Mass (new Mass timing)	No Mass
Wed		9am Novena 9:15am Mass
Thurs	No Mass	9:15am Mass (new mass timing))
Friday	7:00 pm Stations 7:30pm Adoration	8:45am Adoration, Rosary & Mass
Sat	4:30pm Reconciliation 5:00pm Vigil Mass	Vigil mass 1st and 3rd Sat. Next mass is on 16th March 2024.
Sunday	8:00am Mass	10:00am Mass

23rd /24th Mar (4th Sun)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5:00pm	8.00am	6:15pm	10.00am
Acolytes	Carl Pavia	Norman Y	No Mass	Volunteer
EMOHC	Gail	Rosie		
Readers	Karen Volunteer	Lappen Family		Lucy Mitrzy P Monaghan

Holy Week Please refer to Holy Week Roster in the Church

Death Anniversary: Edmond Vahanian, Anna Maria Turiano, Teresa Fallucchi.

Pray for good health of : Matthew Smith, Nicolas Zapata, Norma Gum, Yvonne Amy, Gisselle Clark (Oscuro), Joan Rounds, Anne Lo, Sunga Family, Adele Shehata, Anna Liza Torres Zapata.

Pray for the deceased: Peter Smith, Rafael Monserat, Souls of all the departed Legionaries and their Families. Antonius Widjaja, Jeffrey Bishop, Fr Isidore Anantharaj, Fr Kennedy, Fr Kerr, all priests, Holy Souls in purgatory.

Mater Dei Home Rosary		
26-3-2024	Josephine and Tony Ledonne 61 Castle St Blakehurst	7-00 PM
2-4-2024	Nives Care 33 Church St Blakehurst	11:00 AM
All are welcome		

Palm Sunday
It was Palm Sunday but because of a sore throat, 5-year-old Annie stayed home from church with her mother. When the rest of the family returned home, they were carrying palm fronds. Annie asked them what they were for. "People held them over Jesus' head as he rode by on a colt," her father explained. "Wouldn't you know it," Annie fussed, "the one Sunday I'm sick and Jesus shows up and offers pony rides!"

BY FUNNY

St Michael's Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group Presents:
A Chance for a renewed encounter with God

Life in the Spirit Seminar

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full"
John 10:10

What is a Life in Spirit seminar?

It is an opportunity to deepen in your faith and to activate the gifts of the Holy Spirit you have received in the Sacrament of Baptism. It is a time to grow and meet others on the journey.

Pope Francis has called on all parishes to run the Life in the Spirit seminars annually.

1) April 4th
"Preparing for Life in the Spirit"
Anne Marie Gatenby

2) April 11th
"God's Love"
Fr. Anthony Bernard

3) April 18th
"Salvation"
Fr. Brian Steel


4) April 25th
"New Life"
Fr George Gorzkowski

5) May 2nd
"Receiving God's Gifts"
Fr George Sigamony


6) May 9th
"Baptism in the Holy Spirit"
Fr Hugh Thomas

7) May 16th
"Growth and Transformation"
Fr Tony Alex

8) May 23rd
"Testimony, Adoration and Fellowship"



6:30PM Rosary
7:00PM Praise + Worship
7:30PM Talk

Register your interest here: 

@ Mater Dei Catholic Church 1008 King Georges Road, Blakehurst

Good Friday 29th April (at St Raphael's Church):
Start of Divine Mercy Novena. Also there will be vigil at the tomb at 7:30pm

Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration (7 April) (at St Raphael's):
12 noon beginning of the Adoration with confessions from 2:00 to 3:00pm, concluding with Solemn Mass at 3pm.

NO WEEKDAY MASS
There will be no week day masses on Tue 2nd, Tue 9th, Wed 10th and Thursday 11th April 2024

HOLY WEEK MINISTRIES ROSTER
Please refer to the Holy Week Roster in the Foyer. Please write your names if there is a vacancy.

There will be no bulletin on Easter Weekend

Chrim Mass on Holy Thursday
You are invited to the Chrim Mass which will be held at **10:30am on Holy Thursday** (28th March), at St Mary's Cathedral.
Join with the priests, deacons and parish representatives for the blessing of the Holy Oils for use in the sacraments over the coming year.

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND		
TYPE	St Raphael's	Mater Dei
First	298.40	325.35
Second: loose	352.65	555.15
Envelopes	345.00	645.00

Mater Dei—St Raphael

COMBINED PARISHES DINNER DANCE

Fri 14th June 2024 at Doltone House, Sylvania

