

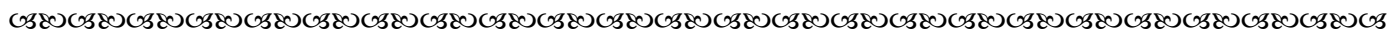
PARISHES OF ST GABRIEL'S, BEXLEY and ST MARY MACKILLOP'S, ROCKDALE CITY

(Looking after the Churches of St Gabriel's, Bexley, St Joseph's, Rockdale, and St Francis Xavier's, Arncliffe)

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A - 4 & 5 MARCH 2023

Parish Priest – Fr Yacub Barkat

Assistant Parish Priest – Fr Norvin Dias



PARISH OFFICE:

13 Parker St, Rockdale 2216.

Phone: 9567 1558

Parish website: www.mmrc.org.au

Email: admin@mmrc.org.au

Office Staff: Ms Fransiska Widjaja and Mrs Monica Chappell

Office hours: Monday to Friday: 9am to 1pm (**please phone** before coming in.)

Italian Chaplain: Fr Adriano Pittarello: 8068 1595

SCHOOLS:

St Joseph's Primary, Rockdale: 9599 2541 - Principal: Ms Carolyn Yeats

St Francis Xavier's Primary, Arncliffe: 9567 5389 – Principal: Ms Debbie Heckenberg

St Gabriel's Primary, Bexley: 9502 1932 - Principal: Ms Catherine Hodgins

	ARNCLIFFE	ROCKDALE	BEXLEY
WEEKEND MASSES	5.00pm Saturday	6.30pm Saturday	-----
Saturday Vigil	9.00am	9.00am (<i>Italian</i>)	9.00am
Sunday Masses		10.30am	5.00pm
		6.00pm (<i>Third Sunday only Filipino</i>)	
WEEKDAY MASSES	9.00am Wednesday 9.00am Friday	7.00pm Tuesday (<i>Devotions, Exposition, Benediction & Rosary from 5.30pm</i>) 9.00am Thursday	9.00am Monday 9.30am Thursday 9.00am Saturday (<i>Benediction at 8.45am</i>)
CONFESSIONS	4.00 – 4.30pm 2 nd & 4 th Saturday of the Month	5.30 – 6.00pm 1 st & 3 rd Saturday of the Month	8.00 – 8.40am Saturday
BAPTISMS	10.00am 1 st Sunday of the month	11.30am 2 nd Sunday of the month	10.00am 3 rd Sunday of the month
	Please phone the Parish Office to make an enquiry or booking on 9567 1558 during office hours.		
WEDDINGS	Monday to Saturday by appointment.		
	1 st Reading: <i>Gen 12:1-4</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>2 Tim 1:8-10</i> ; Gospel: <i>Mt 17:1-9</i> .		

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.**

The word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.

The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. *R/*

The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,

to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. *R/*

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.

The Lord is our help and our shield.

May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you. *R/*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ!



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Tereesa is a Gamilaroi woman from Western Sydney who struggled with homelessness while raising her four children. At just 16 years old, she had to leave school after falling pregnant with her first child. A single mother struggling with homelessness, Tereesa's only concern was finding stability for her children. Seeking a better future for her family, Tereesa joined Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation's Young Mums and Bubs Group, supported by Caritas Australia. Baabayn helped Tereesa access housing and psychological support. Today, Tereesa is studying a certificate in Community Services so that she can strengthen her skills and give back to her community. Tereesa now works at Baabayn, providing support to young mothers and mentoring the next generation of young people.



Please donate to Project Compassion

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations.

FUNERAL

A Funeral Mass for the Late Flora Rapisardi will be held **this Wednesday, 8th March** at 10.00am in St Francis Xavier's Church. Please keep her family in your prayers at this sad time. May Flora Rest in Peace, Amen.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

Stations of the Cross will be held on Friday's during Lent at 6.00pm at St Francis Xavier's Church and at 7.00pm in St Joseph's Church followed by Mass at 7.30pm.



BAPTISMS

This weekend we welcome Elliot Fortune, Conor Kelly and Louis Lalic who will be baptised at St Francis Xavier's this Sunday. We also welcome their families and friends who join them on this very special occasion.



PARISH SCHOOLS OPEN DAYS

Our local primary and high schools are holding Open Afternoons to enable parents and potential students the opportunity to view the schools and facilities prior to enrolment. The three primary schools are now taking enrolments for Kindergarten 2024 and the high schools are taking student enrolments (currently in Year 5) for entry in Year 7 in 2025.

These are the details for the schools in our parish area.

- St Gabriel's Bexley – **Friday, 10th March** from 9.15 – 10.30am
- St Joseph's Rockdale – **Tuesday 14 March** from 3:30pm to 5.00pm
- St Francis Xavier's Arncliffe – **TWO Wednesdays 15th March and 22nd March** from 5.00 - 6:30pm.
- Marist College Kogarah – **Wednesday, 15 March** 3.00pm to 6.00pm. **Enrolling for Year 7, 2025**

MASS AND HEALING LITURGY

On **Tuesday, 14th March** at the 7.00pm Mass in St Joseph's we will welcome Fr Justin Torres who is a priest of the Alliance of the Two Hearts of Jesus and Mary. He is visiting Australia from The Philippines to share his ministry, which emphasises the Love of Jesus and Mary for all. Fr Yacub will concelebrate with Fr Justin. Following the Mass there will be an anointing for those who wish to partake in this gift of Healing. We all have a need of some type of healing, whether emotional, physical, or spiritual. **All welcome.**

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Please keep the children from our parish schools in your prayers as they learn more about God's merciful love. This Sunday they will commence their lessons for the First Reconciliation Program.



HEALING RECOLLECTION

The Jesus Light of the World Community have invited Fr Rey Sentillas, MI to their group **next Saturday, 11 March** in St Joseph's Parish Hall Rockdale from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm (including Mass). Entry via Parker St. Booking essential at <https://www.trybooking.com/CFURP>
Enquiries: Helen - 0433455114 or Ida – 0424 267 500

FAMILY MASS FOR ST JOSEPH'S FEAST DAY

On **Sunday, 19th March**, St Joseph's Primary School families will gather to celebrate their Feast Day with the parish community at the 10.30am Mass. A sausage sizzle will follow in the school grounds. All welcome. ☺

RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES

- **Masks are still highly recommended in churches, as Covid is still very much in our local community.**
- **Please do not come to Mass if you are Positive for Covid, unwell or even if you just have a sore throat or a simple cold.**
- When preparing to receive Holy Communion, parishioners are asked to go seat by seat to enable distancing from others who are in the line. Please wait until there is space before joining the queue.

PRAYER FOR AUSTRALIA

Lord, you place deep in our hearts the love of Mary Help of Christians. Through her prayers, grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens. Under her protection may Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

CATECHIST SUNDAY AWARDS

Last Sunday at the Catechist Sunday Parish Mass two awards were given to Catechists for their valued contributions to teaching Catechetics to the children in the local public schools.

Mrs Lee Kendrick from Rockdale, received the Cardinal Freeman Medal for 25 years of Service. Lee taught the children in several schools in the local area. She has also been the Catechist Co-ordinator for firstly Rockdale and later also, Arncliffe Parishes for several years. In addition to this, Lee has also been the Sacramental Co-Coordinator during the same time, organising the Sacramental Program with Catholic and Public Schools, three times a year, in most years for the Parish children to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation. Lee has been a dedicated and tireless worker for the children and families in both Catholic and Public Schools. We congratulate Lee on this honour from the Archbishop and the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) Office.

Mrs Gloria Martin from Arncliffe received a Certificate for 10 years of Service to the children in the Arncliffe local area. Thank you Gloria for your willing help.

DAY OF THE UNBORN CHILD

The worldwide Day of the Unborn Child annual procession will be led by Archbishop Anthony Fisher **OP on Sunday 26th March**. This is to proclaim that every human life is worth protecting, no matter how young. The day will commence with the 10.30am Mass in St Mary's. The procession will follow towards Parliament House and ends with Benediction back in the Cathedral. There will also be an address delivered by a special guest speaker from the USA, Steve Mosher of the Population Research Institute. **All welcome.** For further information on the Day of the Unborn Child, please contact the Life and Family Institute via phone 9002 0354 or email info@lifeandfamily.com.au

THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- Migration rules will separate Catholic family
- 'Existential threat' to religious schools
- NSW won't ban prayer says Perrottet, Minns
- Hundreds of RCIA candidates to become Catholic

RECENTLY DECEASED: Flora Rapisardi, Mariarosa Cucinotta and Rajesh Dominic Rozario.

ANNIVERSARIES: Patricia Parkinson, Patrick Morgan, Patricia Thompson, Benedetta La Vite, Rosa Zumbo, Giovanni Bottos, Angelo Vaccaro and Judith Baker.

We especially remember those for whom Masses have been requested, those in our Memorial Books and all our deceased relatives, friends, parishioners and benefactors. May they all rest in peace. Amen

ST MARY MACKILLOP'S QUOTE

"Do not say in heat what you may bitterly regret later." 17.12.1883

