



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)



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - 7 & 8 MAY 2022

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 calling 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 – Acting Principal: Ms Debbie Heckenberg

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

	ARNCLIFFE	ROCKDALE	BEXLEY
WEEKEND MASSES Saturday Vigil Sunday Masses	5.00pm Saturday 9.00am	6.30pm Saturday 9.00am (<i>Italian</i>) 10.30am 6.00pm (<i>Third Sunday only Filipino</i>)	----- 9.00am 5.00pm
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 Please phone the Parish Office to make an enquiry or booking on 9567 1558 during office hours.	11.30am 2 nd Sunday of the month	10.00am 3 rd Sunday of the month
WEDDINGS	Monday to Saturday by appointment.		
1 st Reading: <i>Acts 13:14, 43-52</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>Apoc 7:9, 14-17</i> ; Gospel: <i>Jn 10:27-30</i>			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 99:1-3.5

We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

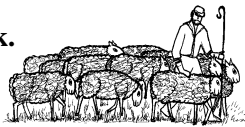
Come before him, singing with joy. *R/*

Know that he, the Lord, is God.

He made us, we belong to him,
we are his people the sheep of his flock. *R/*

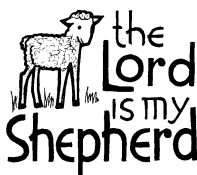
Indeed, how good is the Lord,
eternal his merciful love.

He is faithful from age to age. *R/*



CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL (CWF)

- This weekend 7 & 8 May, we will have the final appeal for the current financial year (and the first of three appeals for this calendar year). You will notice the envelopes on the church pews for this appeal. You may like to take an envelope home with you this week and return it next weekend with your donation.
 - Donations over \$2 are tax deductible but **please complete ALL the information required for a tax-deductible receipt.**
 - This Collection will be a THIRD collection taken up after Holy Communion at all Masses.
- Many thanks for your ongoing practical support of these important works.**



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!

HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY

A very Happy Mother's Day is extended to all the mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, guardians and mother-like figures (aunts, sisters and caring friends) of our parish. This day affords us all the opportunity to reflect and give thanks for those women who are mother-like to us. Let us each offer a prayer for these important women in our lives.



CONFIRMATION 2022

This information is for the parents of students currently in Years 6 or older who have received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion. The Parent Information Meeting will be held on **Thursday, 26th May** at 7.00pm, St Joseph's Hall in Rockdale. If your son or daughter is to receive the Sacrament this year, it is imperative that one of the parents or a carer attends this meeting. **The meeting is not for the children.** The Sacrament of Confirmation this year will be held in St Mary's Cathedral on **Sunday, 31st July** at 3.00pm with other parishes in the St George Deanery.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING TRAINING UPDATE

All parish volunteers who are Acolytes, Readers, Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers and Choir members, are required to update their status by attending a training session. Unfortunately, due to current COVID-19 concerns the Safeguarding Office has decided to present all training online or via zoom. The most important thing is to ensure the wellbeing and safety of our communities and we can do this by presenting via zoom or online.

Volunteers can register for the new Refresher Training via this link <https://forms.gle/XuQF8Rsvq3BYtXqT9> (which is a different link from the other online training registrations). Just a reminder that volunteers only need to complete the Refresher Training if they have completed the Induction Training a minimum of three years ago.

Volunteer Refresher training is available online or via Zoom. The last available date for the Zoom Refresher Training is **Monday, May 16 from 3.00 – 4.00pm**. Volunteers will simply need to register their attendance by emailing: safeguardingtraining@sydneycatholic.org

WORLD APOSTALATE OF FATIMA

The Blue Army of Our Lady

The Sydney Archdiocese Committee, of the World Apostolate of Fatima invite you to our May Celebration in St. Mary's Cathedral **next Saturday, May 14** honouring our Lady and intercede for peace in the World and the welfare of Australia. To commence at 11.30am with entrance procession (inside the Cathedral) with the Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima (with the Immaculate Heart) Rosary, Litany of Loreto & Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary followed by Holy Mass at Noon. We look forward to you joining us in Prayer, especially for this recent outbreak in Ukraine. Further enquiries please contact us on – 0403 578 994.



MT SCHOENSTATT MAY PILGRIMAGE RETURNS

The Annual Schoenstatt May Pilgrimage will be held for the first time since 2019 **next Sunday, 15th May**. The program begins at 9.30 am to approx. 3.30 pm. Bishop Vincent will celebrate Holy Mass at 10.30 am outside, please bring your own chairs. Come for an hour or come for the day, everyone is welcome. Food is available to purchase or bring a picnic lunch. For enquiries please phone: 02 4773 8338 or email: info@schoenstatt.org.au

The retreat centre is now taking bookings, with a few remaining weekends for 2022 and plenty of options for weekday retreats. If you are planning ahead, 2023 is booking fast. Please call us if you have questions about how we can help with an individual retreat for yourself or small/large group retreat for your organisation. Learn a little more about us at: <https://youtu.be/x-uFmsrKs5s>

DEEPER: PENTECOST INTENSIVE

Join the Missionaries of God's Love Sisters as we journey together in the experience of Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Come for a **five-day** intensive retreat in the lead-up to Pentecost and be encouraged in discipleship, activating the charismatic gifts and being equipped for mission through inputs, discussion, prayer and practical workshops. **Wednesday, 1st to Sunday 5th June** at Carmel House, Varroville.

Enquiries: mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com

Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/BWMJI>

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.

RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES

- Masks are still recommended in **churches** especially with a new version of the virus in the community.
- When preparing to receive Holy Communion, parishioners are asked to go seat by seat to enable more distancing between others who are in the line. Please wait until there is space to join the queue before standing up.
- Please do not come to the church if you are unwell, even if you do not think you have Covid and just a sore throat or a simple cold which is highly indicative of the virus.

CAMPION COLLEGE, TOONGABBIE

Registration for the Campion College Winter Program is now open! During the upcoming school holidays this July we will be running a program called Winter Program which will be a 4-day taster of what it is like to study at Campion College post HSC. If you know a 16–20-year-old with an interest in history, literature, philosophy and theology, encourage them to sign up for our immersive four-day program from Tuesday 5 to Friday 8 July. During Winter Program, we will be having spiritual, educational and social events, with lectures on philosophy, theology, history and literature as well as a trip to Sydney's CBD and a movie night, so there is something for all those who attend. There will also be a daily Mass in the morning which all participants are encouraged to attend in order to gain spiritual nourishment and begin their day with the Blessed Sacrament. Our generous benefactors have graciously covered our costs for this program so all participants can attend free of charge. However, spaces are limited so we encourage anyone interested to register ASAP. Find out more and register on the Campion College website: <https://www.campion.edu.au/event/winter-program/>

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE

Are you preparing for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. If COVID-19 restrictions prevent a face-to-face seminar, the weekend will be held via Zoom. The final two weekends for 2022 are **Aug 06-07 and Nov 12-13**. For further information visit: www.engagedencounter.org.au

RECENTLY DECEASED: Saeed Ntanios

ANNIVERSARIES: Pamela Burns, Andrew Pike, John Hala, Sr Joan Keating RSJ, Vincenzo Colantuono, Carmine Ara, Gaetana Vaccaro and Maureen Cook.

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.

ST MARY MACKILLOP'S QUOTE

“Never be ashamed of work done for God and God's poor.” 3.5.1874

