

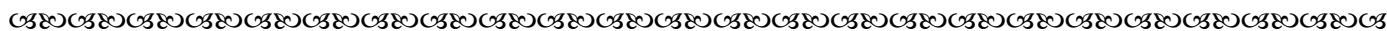
PARISHES OF ST GABRIEL'S, BEXLEY and ST MARY MACKILLOP'S, ROCKDALE CITY

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

4th SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A - 18 & 19 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 6.00pm (<i>Third Sunday only Filipino</i>)	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>1 Sam 16:1, 6-7, 10-13</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>Eph 5:8-14</i> ; Gospel: <i>Jn 9:1-41</i>			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PS 22

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.



Fresh and green are the pastures

where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me,

to revive my drooping spirit. *R/*

He guides me along the right path, he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness

no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your staff;

with these you give me comfort. *R/*

You have prepared a banquet for me

in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil;

my cup is overflowing. *R/*

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me

all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell

for ever and ever. *R/*



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;

whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

WELCOME HOME FATHER NORVIN

All the parishioners hope you have had a wonderful break from parish life and are much refreshed and renewed. ☺

HAPPY FEAST OF ST JOSEPH

Today, 19th March is usually the Feast of St Joseph but the 3rd Sunday of Lent takes precedent. We offer all our Rockdale parishioners a very Happy Feast Day. We also extend greetings to Sr Marie and her Sisters of St Joseph.

FAMILY MASS FOR ST JOSEPH'S FEAST DAY

This Sunday, 19th March, St Joseph's Primary School families will gather with parishioners to celebrate the Feast of St Joseph with the parish community at the 10.30am Mass. Please make them all welcome. Following the Mass a sausage sizzle will be held in the school grounds.

Tomorrow, 20th March is celebrated by the Church as the Feast of St Joseph and this is also the date 131 years ago that the school was opened on this site. We give thanks to the Sisters of Charity who taught in the school from 1892 until 1911. The Sisters of St Joseph took over in 1912 to continue the education of local children.

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.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Thu lives in Vietnam. When Thu was 12 years old, he stepped on an unexploded land mine and lost his leg. Living with a disability in rural Vietnam presented many challenges for Thu, who worked mainly as a rice farmer. Thu also took on the role of caring for his wife, Linh, after she suffered a stroke. Determined to turn their lives around, Thu and Linh joined the Empowerment of People with Disabilities program, run by Caritas Australia's local partner in Vietnam, the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development (SRD). For Thu, the greatest impact the program has had is enabling the change in Linh's physical and mental wellbeing. With the support of a physiotherapist, Linh can now walk short distances with the aid of a walking stick.



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

BAPTISM

We welcome Siena Hudap who will be baptised at St Gabriel's this Sunday. We also welcome her family and friends who join her on this special occasion.



FUNERAL

A Funeral Mass for the late Filippo Vicino will be held **this Monday, 20th March** at 10.30am in St Joseph's Church. Please keep his family in your prayers at this sad time. May Filippo Rest in Peace, Amen.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE RECONCILIATIONS & MASSES

First Rite (Individual) **Saturday, 1st April**

8.00am – 8.45am Bexley;
4.00pm – 4.30pm Arncliffe;
5.30pm – 6.00pm Rockdale

Second Rite (Communal celebration)

Tuesday, 4th April at Rockdale - 5.30pm followed by Benediction at 6.30pm and Mass at 7.00pm.

Please note: Once the Easter Triduum begins on Holy Thursday, the Sacrament of Penance will not be available, except in an emergency situation.

HOLY THURSDAY 6th April

7.00pm Arncliffe – Rockdale – Bexley
(St Joseph's Church will be open after the Mass till Midnight for prayer and adoration)

GOOD FRIDAY 7th April

Stations of the Cross
10.00am Arncliffe – Rockdale – Bexley

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

3.00pm Arncliffe – Rockdale – Bexley

HOLY SATURDAY 8th April

5.00pm Bexley 5.00pm Arncliffe
6.30pm Rockdale

EASTER SUNDAY 9th April

9.00am Mass Arncliffe 9.00am Mass Bexley
9.00am Mass Rockdale (Italian)
10.30am Mass Rockdale
5.00pm Mass Bexley

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.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER THANK YOU

Thank you to all who attended and supported the World Day of Prayer on 3rd March in St Joseph's Church. A special thanks to the Committee Members who organised the event and all the volunteers who helped on the day. The service was prayerful and the gathering in the hall was welcoming. Donations collected on the day will go towards supporting the "hidden women" of Taiwan. These are the 500,000 immigrant brides who face many problems including language barriers, culture shock, social isolation, gender inequality, family conflict and domestic abuse and violence.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

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



DAY OF THE UNBORN CHILD

The worldwide Day of the Unborn Child annual procession will be led by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP, **next 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 at 1.30pm. 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

FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY

The Feast of Divine Mercy will be held on the 2nd Sunday of Easter, 16th April in St Joseph's Church at 2.00pm.

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 behind others.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Alice Lavulo & Filippo Vicino.

ANNIVERSARIES: George Borg, Mary Haasnoot, Viccie Mabbutt, Amadeo Giovenco, Nevill Abel, Jason Puac, Antonietta Bilinski and Louis Ferre.

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 WACKILLOP'S QUOTE

"God is good." 8.1.1872

