

ST MARY MACKILLOP PARISH ROCKDALE CITY

Three Communities – One Parish

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C - 23 & 24 AUGUST 2025

Parish Priest – Fr Yacub Barkat

Assistant Parish Priest – Fr Norvin Dias

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PARISH OFFICE: 13 Parker St, Rockdale 2216.

Phone: 9567 1558

Parish website: [www.mmrc.org.au](http://www.mmrc.org.au) Email: [admin@mmrc.org.au](mailto: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.)

SCHOOLS: St Joseph's Primary, Rockdale: 9599 2541 - Principal: Ms Rachelle Dopson

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                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>WEEKEND MASSES</b><br><b>Saturday Vigil</b><br><b>Sunday Masses</b>                                                       | 5.00pm Saturday<br>9.00am                                                                                                                        | 6.30pm Saturday<br>9.00am <i>(Italian)</i> 10.30am<br>12.00pm <i>(First Sunday only Urdu)</i><br>6.00pm <i>(Third Sunday only Filipino)</i> | -----<br>9.00am<br>5.00pm                                                             |
| <b>WEEKDAY MASSES</b>                                                                                                        | 9.00am Wednesday<br>9.00am Friday                                                                                                                | 7.00pm Tuesday <i>(Devotions,<br/>Exposition, Benediction<br/>&amp; Rosary from 5.30pm)</i><br>9.00am Thursday                              | 9.00am Monday<br>9.30am Thursday<br>9.00am Saturday<br><i>(Benediction at 8.45am)</i> |
| <b>CONFESSIONS</b>                                                                                                           | 4.00 – 4.30pm<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday of the Month                                                                         | 5.30 – 6.00pm<br>1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the Month                                                                    | 8.00 – 8.40am Saturday                                                                |
| <b>BAPTISMS</b>                                                                                                              | 10.00am<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month<br>Please phone the Parish Office to make an enquiry or booking on 9567 1558 during office hours. | 11.30am<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month                                                                                              | 10.00am<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month                                        |
| <b>WEDDINGS</b>                                                                                                              | Monday to Saturday by appointment.                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                       |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading: <i>Is 66:18-21</i> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: <i>Heb 12:5-7, 11-13</i> ; Gospel: <i>Lk 13:22-30</i> |                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                       |

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM 116

Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.

O praise the Lord, all you nations,  
acclaim him all you peoples! *R/*



Strong is his love for us;  
he is faithful for ever. *R/*



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life,  
says the Lord;  
no one comes to the Father,  
except through me.  
Alleluia!

## SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

The 130 children from our parishes are halfway through their preparation for Confirmation this weekend. Please keep them all in your prayers as they seek guidance from the Holy Spirit.



## REUNION FOR ST GABRIEL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

A class reunion for the 1972 Kindergarten class from St Gabriel's Bexley is being organised for Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> October at the Oatley Pub. Please contact John McLaughlin on 0449 740 373 for more information.

## MESSAGE FROM FATHER NORVIN

It is with deep sorrow that I share the heartbreaking news that my brother-in-law, Michael Noronha, husband of my younger sister Neeta Noronha, met with a road accident and passed away last week. He leaves behind Neeta and their son Marshal. Please keep me, my family, and especially Neeta and Marshal in your prayers during this painful time.

## ASSISTANCE NEEDED

Each of our churches need people to volunteer to be Acolytes and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to assist at weekend Masses. You will need to have a Working With Children Check which is obtainable through Service New South Wales website. There is no charge for this for volunteers. If you feel you would be available to assist, please speak with Father Yacub or Father Norvin.

## SPECIAL MASS OFFERING ENVELOPES

There are special Mass Offering envelopes in our churches. Please use these when you request a Mass Offering for a deceased relative or friend, special intentions, thanksgiving and those who are sick. Only names for Recently Deceased or Death Anniversaries will be published in the parish bulletin. If you wish a Mass to be celebrated on a particular date, a minimum of one week's notice must be given.

**REMINDER: PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR MOBILE PHONE AS YOU ENTER THE CHURCH.**

### PARISH DINNER THANKS

My sincere thanks to each and everyone of you who made our recent Parish Dinner such a success. A wonderful evening was had by all as we celebrated the Feast Day of St Mary MacKillop; the merging of St Gabriel's into St Mary MacKillop's Parish Rockdale City; and raised funds for the replacement St Francis Xavier's Church roof.

My grateful thanks to all of you who contributed: those who came to the dinner and those who were unable to attend but made a donation. Thanks also to generous donors who provided prizes for the best decorated tables, the lucky door prizes, the raffles, and the games. Special thanks to those who provided items for the silent auction. I am very grateful, thankful & humbled by everyone's generosity.

Thank you to the organising group who worked tirelessly behind the scenes – in alphabetical order: Aleece, Anne, Fransiska, Ikumi, Kathleen, Maxene, Mimma, Monica, Phoebe, Tien, Truc and Shinta.

The success of the dinner demonstrates our commitment to St Mary MacKillop's Parish and this will ensure that our Parish grows and thrives in the 21st Century.

After discounting expenses, we raised \$23,305.00 which will help with the roof replacement costs.

- \$11,453 was donated in the 2024/25 financial year
- \$2,680 has been donated in the 2025/26 financial year
- \$9,172 was raised through the Parish dinner and associated donations.

*Fr Yacub*

### SOME PARISH DINNER HIGHLIGHTS

- Fr Yacub for his kind words & raffle ticket drawing expertise
- Fr Norvin for his welcome & Grace
- Fr Manuel for judging the best decorated tables
- Fr Brendan for coming from Melbourne for this special occasion and sharing a snapshot Parish history
- Phoebe Scali - MC extraordinaire
- The 130 people who attended, including 7 delightful children
- Greg Davis of Raine & Horne Bexley/Beverly Hills – his donated hamper was the most successful Silent Auction item

### THE CAMINO OF ST JOSEPH 2025

An overnight pilgrimage for men in honour of our Spiritual Father, St Joseph will be held Friday 5 September from 7:00pm to Saturday 6 September at 8:00am. The entire walk from start to finish will include six churches. Each stop will feature a reflection on St Joseph and a short time in Adoration for spiritual nourishment and an opportunity for a quick bathroom break.

The itinerary from start to finish is:

1. St Joseph's, Como - Opening Mass
2. St Patrick's, Sutherland
3. St Catherine's, Gympie
4. Our Lady Star of the Sea, Miranda
5. Our Lady of Fatima, Caringbah
6. St Aloysius, Cronulla - closing Mass

The cost is \$35 pp and includes a bus ticket: \$24 return trip from 7.00pm sharp on Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> from Holy Family Menai and return at 7.30am on Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> from St Aloysius Cronulla. To register and for more information, visit <https://www.trybooking.com/CXLAO>.

### 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.

### THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- Bishops' social justice statement focuses on homelessness
- Marist Fathers farewell St Patrick's, Church Hill
- Our Lady honoured as thousands attend Five Dock's Ferragosto
- Supporters pack public memorial for Fr Chris Riley
- Monica Doumit: Pope Leo XIV's first 100 days
- Sydney clergy conference will tackle domestic and family violence

### FIRST SYDNEY SYNOD CONSULTATION

Can you give Archbishop Fisher positive, practical, and faithful ideas to address the three longings of Sydney Catholics: that our liturgies be more prayerful, our communities more Christ-centred, and our Church in Sydney more mission-oriented? The first consultation will be held **next Saturday 30 August** from 9 am-12pm at Aquinas College, Menai (next to Holy Family Church). **Registration is essential** through the QR code attached or email to: [sydneycatholic.org/sydney-synod](mailto:sydneycatholic.org/sydney-synod)



### PARISH SAFEGUARDING

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney that child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at 9390 5810 or [enquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:enquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

### PRAYERS FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISHES

We have a number of parishioners who are suffering from cancer and other serious illnesses, and we ask that you please keep them all in your prayers.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Michael Noronha, Vincent Dwyer and Fr Terry Naughton msc.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Mary Chappell, Walter & Bernadette Comber, James Murray, Giuseppina Di Loreto, Noelene Adams, Pierina Crivici, Jose Guevara Erazo, Carmela Disibio, Tina Lombardo, Josiane Stajdohar and Michelangelo Todisco.

**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

"I hope that you have had more charity and trust and that you have not judged by appearances."  
5.3.1900

