

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)

20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A - 19 & 20 AUGUST 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 |
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| 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>Is 56:1,6-7</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>Rom 11:13-15, 29-32</i> ; Gospel: <i>Mt 15:21-28</i> | | | |

RESPONSORIAL PSALM – ps. 66:2-3.5-6.8

O God, let all the nations praise you!

O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. *R/*



Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. *R/*

Let the peoples praise you,
O God; let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. *R/*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!



BAPTISM

This weekend we welcome Sienna Theodorou who
will be baptised at St Gabriel's. We also welcome her
family and friends who join her on this special
occasion.



MEMORIAL MASS FOR FR NORVIN'S MOTHER

In June, Father Norvin's mother, Leena Dias passed away
at her home in India. The 10.30am Mass this Sunday at St
Joseph's will be a special memorial Mass for parishioners
to pay their respects and to pray with Fr Norvin for the
repose of her soul. All welcome.

FREE TREE MULCH

Recently there were some trees trimmed on the parish
property. Father kept the shredded mulch for his gardens
but there is still some left. If any parishioners would like
to take some, please phone the office 9567 1558 and let us
know when you will come to collect it. We are not
keeping it on hold for anyone, first to come in gets the
first load. You must bring your own bags, shovels and
containers as we cannot offer any assistance to you.

FUNERAL

A Requiem Mass for the late Francesco Campanale will
be held at St Gabriel's this coming Friday, 25th August at
11.00am. Francesco Campanale is the father to Laura
Argiro and Josephine Araullo. Please keep their families
in your prayers.

CONFIRMATION

Please keep in your prayers, the children from
our parishes who are continuing their lessons
for the Confirmation program this weekend.



GABBIES SEWING ANGELS

The following article was in this week's St George Leader about the work of Gabbies Sewing Angels at St Gabriel's Bexley. On behalf of all parishioners we congratulate Patricia on a wonderful achievement with your volunteers at St Gabriel's.

NSW Premier and Kogarah MP, Chris Minns has highlighted the achievements of Georges River resident Patricia Will, founder of Gabbies Sewing Angels. "I would like to acknowledge and celebrate Ms Patricia Will, for her commitment and dedication to Gabbies Sewing Angels and more importantly to her local community", Mr Minns said in State Parliament on August 2. "Gabbies Sewing Angels is a community organisation which gathers at St Gabriel's Church, Bexley every Thursday. "The community group makes all types of children and adult clothes to be distributed to charities across Australia. "Patricia founded Gabbies just over 20 years ago. Now the group has more than 40 members. Without fuss or grandiosity, Patricia and her team of volunteers produce over 8,000 clothing items each year. "Whenever she can, Ms Will looks to her local community and other places to grow the organisation and let people know there is a welcome place for them should they like to share or learn sewing skills. "I would like to thank Ms Will and express my deepest appreciation for the wonderful work that Gabbies does for our local community," Mr Minns said.

Over the years, the volunteers have supplied garments to people in need in Syria, Timor Leste, Fiji and the Philippines. They have also made garments for bushfire victims and Aboriginal settlements in the Northern Territory. The clothing is made from fabric donated by companies and individuals. The volunteers make everything from children's clothes, adults' clothes and carry bags. In June 2022, the volunteers of Gabbies Sewing Angels sent 10 bags full of clothing, hand-knitted tops, wraps, blankets and bed linen to flood-affected families in the Lismore district. The month before they sent 12 bags. Gabbies has about 40 members, both men and women, aged from 42 to 96 and welcomes people from all ages and religions. "We have 14 cultures in our group. It's beautiful to see the interaction between the cultures, both male and female, " Patricia said. "We have a fully equipped workshop with 24 sewing machines, 12 overlockers and two cutting tables which have all been donated. "Some of our members have been pattern makers, couturiers or professional sewers. "Others have never sewn before and we offer to teach them. There is always work to do. "We always need extra hands."

Anyone interested in joining Gabbies Sewing Angels can contact Patricia on 0421 771 868.

THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- WYD journey concludes with Fatima retreat
- Worries turn to blessings for Jamberoo Abbey nuns
- Scholarship awarded in honour of Veronique Sakr
- Monica Doumit: Equal access to confession for women!
- Fr Flader: Where was Mary assumed into heaven?
- Philippa Martyr: How happy are Australians with their bishops, really?



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.

PARISH WEBSITE: www.mmrc.org.au

Have you visited our parish website yet? The website combines the Mary MacKillop Rockdale City (Arncliffe and Rockdale) and St Gabriel's Bexley. The Parish Bulletin is uploaded each week if you can't get to Mass. You can make online payments and donations through the "Support the Parish" page or contact the Parish Office through the "Contact Us" page to make enquiries, Mass offerings or to volunteer your time in any of our Parish ministries.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES & RECEIPTS

These are now available from the Parish Office if you have not picked yours up from your preferred church. Please call before coming in on 9567 1558.

"TAP & GO" MACHINES IN OUR CHURCHES

Parishioners are asked to give to our parishes via the Tap & Go machines which are located in each of our churches. It is a quick and easy way to donate when people don't bring cash to Mass to put on the collection plates. This money goes directly into the parish account and not sent elsewhere. The benefit for the parish of receiving monies this way is to enable us to receive the money instantly and to allow us to have money available for payment for upkeep of the parishes, the utilities and the facilities. It's an added donation to us and we would love it if you can take more advantage of it. ☺

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.

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: Francesco Campanale, Fr Laurence Beath, PP of Cowra, Leena Dias, Leon Ung.

ANNIVERSARIES: Soon Hoe Boey, Carmela Disibio, Jose Guevara Erazo, Mario Desisto, Josiane Stajdohar, Luigi Bredice, Michelle Szendroi, Baby Toby Szendroi, Ramon Reyes, Bill Bela Gerber and Mary Nohra.

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

"True happiness here below depends on ourselves not on those around us." 1907

