

ST MARY MACKILLOP PARISH ROCKDALE CITY

Three Communities – One Parish

(St Francis Xavier's, Arncliffe, St Gabriel's, Bexley & St Joseph's, Rockdale)

28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A – 10 & 11 OCTOBER 2026

Parish Priest – Fr Yacub Barkat

Assistant Parish Priests – Fr Norvin Dias and Fr Miguel Perez Campos

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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 Thursday: 9am to 1pm (**please phone** before coming in.)

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

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

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

|                                                                                                                              | 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 25:6-10</i> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: <i>Phil 4:12-14, 19-20</i> ; Gospel: <i>Mt 22:1-14</i> |                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                       |

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM – ps. 22**

**I shall live in the house of the Lord  
all the days of my life.**

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**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ  
enlighten the eyes of our heart  
that we might see how great  
is the hope to which we are called.

**Alleluia!**



**ANNUAL CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL**

The annual appeal for Catholic mission will be held **this weekend, 10 and 11 October** with a **third collection after Holy Communion** at all Masses. There are envelopes on the pews, and we ask that you take one home and return it next weekend. If you require a tax-deduction, **please tick the box** and fill in ALL the required information, especially the amount you are giving. In Zambia, many families struggle daily with poverty and limited access to essential healthcare. The Catholic Church stands as a beacon of hope, supporting communities through education, sustainable livelihoods, and healthcare. This World Mission Month, we invite you to journey with our missionaries, who are bringing Christ's love to those most in need. Learn how you can be part of this mission and help create a future filled with hope. If you wish to know more, please contact Catholic Mission 1800 257 296 or [catholicmission.org.au/mission](http://catholicmission.org.au/mission). If you have no cash or card this week, please take an envelope home and return it next weekend.



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

## ROSARY IN OCTOBER

The month of October is dedicated to Our Lady and the Rosary. Rosary will be recited **each weekday evening at 6.00pm** and at **5.00pm on Saturday and Sunday evenings** until 31<sup>st</sup> October in St Joseph's Church.



## ANNUAL MASS AND BLESSING OF THE SICK

The Society of Our Lady of Lourdes would like to extend an invitation for the parishioners to come and join in the Celebration of the Mass & Blessing of the Sick **this Sunday 11th October**. This will be at Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto, rear of St James Avenue Earlwood. Proceedings will commence with the recitation of the Rosary at 2.30pm & followed by the Mass & Blessing of the Sick at 3pm. The principal celebrant will be Roberto Castillo with a choir from The Good Shepherd Seminary. Parking is in the nearby council carpark, entry via Joy Lane. **All welcome.**

## REFLECTIONS – ART AND MUSIC AFTERNOON

Next Sunday afternoon from 2.30pm in the Rockdale Parish Hall there will be an Art and Music event with music from the Stella Maris Choir and paintings from Mon Coloma, a former Rockdale parishioner. Entry is \$10 and all money will be going to a charity to support the poor. Call 0413 010 672 / 0436 707 459 for more information.

## MOZART'S REQUIEM BY CANDLELIGHT

On **Sunday 8 November** from 5.00 – 6.30pm in the Sydney Town Hall, Artes Christi is hosting something very special, and we'd be honoured if you can join us for this beautiful occasion. Artes Christi together with a combined choir & orchestra of more than 80 musicians will perform **"Mozart's Requiem"** in a Special Tribute Honouring Australia's Military Nurses. Mozart's Requiem will remember generations of military nurses who have served our nation and especially the 21 Australian Military Nurses who were killed in the WWII Bangka Island tragedy. This concert is also a special fundraiser to support The Australian Remembrance Foundation which hosts the annual Lest We Forget Anzac Eve Tribute. Please help us support the vital ongoing work of The Australian Remembrance Foundation which works to preserve and promote the stories, legacy and memory of Australia's service men and women.

There is something extraordinary about hearing Mozart's Requiem live. To experience it by candlelight in the Sydney Town Hall will truly be a night to remember. Bring your family, invite friends, book a row. **Bookings are essential** - tickets strictly limited. Prices range from \$40 - \$125.

**Please also keep Friday 18 December** available for this year's CAROLS FOR PEACE at the Sydney Town Hall, with further details to be announced soon.

## ATTENTION: FILIPINO PARISHIONERS

Catalyst for Renewal invites you to Q & A in the Crypt of St Patrick's Church, Grosvenor St, The Rocks on Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> October from 1.30pm – 3.00pm to meet an Australian Theologian. Dr Cristina Lledo Gomez is a Catholic Systematic Theologian with an international reputation. She will speak on her most recent research. "Life is transformed, not ended: Christianity and Philippine spirit ancestor belief" The MC will be Deacon Adrian Gomez who is a Catholic Chaplain in the Royal Australian Navy. There is no need to book. Suggested Donation: \$10 [www.catalystforrenewal.org.au](http://www.catalystforrenewal.org.au)

## EUCHARIST 28 PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for the gift of your real presence in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Grant us the grace to receive you reverently, worship you truly and serve you with hearts renewed. By the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen us, so that as you gave yourself to the Father and to us, we too may offer our lives to God and to others. Inspire and help us to serve you in those who are in need, especially the defenceless and homeless, the lonely and lost. Unite us with your sacrifice of the Mass, so that we may truly become what we have received, the Body of Christ, Amen

## THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- A summit of new hope for Australian parishes
- Eucharist28 preparation extends to Sutherland Shire
- St Carlo Acutis relics welcomed by Maronites
- Our Lady of the Rosary parish kickstarts new pro-life initiative
- Conscientious objection for healthcare workers endangered in NSW

## ST. CARLO ACUTIS PILGRIM RELIC MISSION

We are pleased to announce the official parish program for the St Carlo Acutis Major Pilgrim Relic Mission, coming to the Archdiocese of Sydney 12–25 October. Over these two weeks, the relic of Saint Carlo Acutis will journey to a different parish each day, offering the faithful a rare opportunity for veneration, prayer, and reflection on his life of faith, joy, and quiet holiness. Accompanying this tour will be the St Carlo Acutis Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition.



## PARISH SAFEGUARDING

If you or someone you know has experienced abuse, or if you are worried about the safety of a child, young person or vulnerable adult, please know that you are not alone and that help is available. The Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office is available to listen, support you, and provide guidance about reporting options. You can contact the Safeguarding Office on 9390 5800 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also wish to speak with your Parish Priest, who can offer pastoral care and assist you in taking the next step. The Archdiocese takes all safeguarding concerns seriously and is required to report criminal matters to police. If there is an emergency or someone is in immediate danger, please contact NSW Police on 000.

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISHES

We have several parishioners who are suffering from various serious illnesses, and we ask that you please keep them all in your prayers.



**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Toni Cuddy, Donald Ladhams and Francesca Battaglia.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Gerard Mandile, Giovanni Sias, Franjo Srnc, Rita Caforio, Rita Barbaresco, Robert Bird,

**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

"The cross appears lighter when carried with Jesus."  
(03.05.1874)

