

ST MARY MACKILLOP PARISH ROCKDALE CITY

Three Communities – One Parish

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

25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A – 19 & 20 SEPTEMBER 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 55:6-9</i> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: <i>Phil 1:20-24, 27</i> ; Gospel: <i>Mt 20:1-6</i> |                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                       |

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM – ps. 144:2-3.8-9.17-18**

**The Lord is near to all who call him.**

I will bless you day after day  
and praise your name for ever.

The Lord is great, highly to be praised,  
His greatness cannot be measured. *R/*

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures. *R/*

The Lord is just in all his ways  
and loving in all his deeds.  
He is close to all who call him,  
who call on him from their hearts. *R/*



## FAMILY MASS THIS SUNDAY

The 10.30am Mass at St Joseph's this Sunday will be for the students, staff and families of St Joseph's, Kogarah Marist and local public schools. Please make them all welcome.

## “ARISE AND SHINE RETREAT”

Parishioners are invited to the Jesus, Light of the World retreat **next Saturday 26 September** from 1:00 – 5:30pm in St Joseph's Hall, Rockdale. The speaker will be Marina George, and the afternoon includes Rosary, Praise and Worship, Talk, Prayer of Empowerment and Fellowship. Marina is a Catholic preacher, who loves sharing her deep relationship with God. Bookings Essential, afternoon tea provided. Enquiries: Helen: 0433 455 114 or Esperance: 0407 749 182; or [jlowcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:jlowcommunity@gmail.com)



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Open our hearts, O Lord,  
to listen to the words of your Son.  
**Alleluia!**

## BAPTISMS

This Sunday we welcome Emmett and Remi Lynton and Amelia Constance who will be baptised at St Gabriel's. We also welcome their families and friends who join them on their special day.



## HEALING MASS

Fr. Justin Torres, a priest of the Oblate Apostles of the Two Hearts of Jesus and Mary will be concelebrating Mass at St. Joseph's, Rockdale at 7.00 p.m. on **Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> October** with Fr Yacub. A Healing Service will follow the Maas. Fr. Justin has established a place in the hearts of many Australians as he shares his ministry of Discernment and Healing from Jesus through the intervention of Our Lady of Guadalupe and emphasises the Love of Jesus and Mary for all. We urge you to bring your family and friends to experience this beautiful occasion.

## “COURAGE” MUSICAL

A Story of Bravery, Destiny, and Courage under Fire. Step into the world of a legend - the original knight in shining armour! Watch as St George faces his greatest trial: a fearsome dragon, an Empire in peril, and the courage to stand firm when all hope seems lost. Come and join us for an evening of romance, of adventure, of satire; as we discover the true story behind the legend of George and the Dragon. The musical will be held at St Peter's Parish Surry Hills (1880 Parish Hall), 235 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills on **Friday 9 October** at 7:00pm

**Saturday 10 October** at 2:00pm and 7:00pm

**Sunday 11 October** at 2:00pm

Bookings via this link: [www.trybooking.com/DOUBL](http://www.trybooking.com/DOUBL)

## EUCCHARIST28 UPDATE

### Share Your Faith at the Walk with Christ



The International Eucharistic Congress in Sydney in 2028 ('Eucharist28') will be a global gathering of the Church centred on the Eucharist, the source and summit of our Christian lives. It will be a celebration of faith, rich with worship, prayer, testimonies, art, music, culminating in a Papal Mass with Pope Leo XIV. It will be an important moment of Eucharistic renewal for the Church in Australia and beyond. The journey to Eucharist28 has begun!

This November, we have an opportunity to step out in faith toward 2028 by joining the annual Walk With Christ Eucharistic procession.

Last month, thousands of men took to the streets of Sydney for the Men's St Joseph Camino. Through walking and praying, they gave public witness to their faith in the heart of our city.

**On Saturday, November 22**, we all have an opportunity to be part of this public witness. We have an opportunity to Walk with Christ.

Families and parishioners of all ages are invited to join the Eucharistic procession from Martin Place to St Mary's Cathedral, publicly witnessing to our faith and devotion to Christ in the Eucharist. Christ calls us to share our faith with those in our lives and in our city. The Walk With Christ is how we can answer that call, joining an inspiring public witness of faith.

Join your parish and community for Walk With Christ and take this step on the journey to Eucharist28.

## 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.

## EUCCHARIST 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

- Student event builds momentum for Eucharist28
- 'Real presence' of Jesus in the Eucharist
- The Collegian and Gift of Time supplements inside
- Philippa Martyr: How will the church thrive in secular Australia?
- University of Notre Dame triumphs in 2026 Archbishop's Debating Cup

## QUIET TIME IN THE BUSH AT PYMBLE

Come away to a quiet place and rest awhile. Mark 6.30  
"There is a mystical meaning to be found in a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person's face".  
Pope Francis Laudato Si n.233

Join others at a Jesuit Retreat morning at Peter Canisius House, 102 Mona Vale Road, Pymble for 1.5 hours of quiet time in Pymble for a guided reflection and gentle, personal time for prayer, to sit and/or walk in nature or just outside and look out at nature, to experience a sense of the sacred.

### Dates available:

**Next Saturday** 26 September 10.30am – 12noon

**Thursday** 22 October 10.30am – 12noon

**Saturday** 28 November 10.30am – 12noon

**Directions:** Park in the carpark at the front of the property, then walk to the back bushland via the driveway and meet at the log circle around the cross.

**Wear:** comfortable outdoor clothes and shoes, suitable for the season, and bring a water bottle or your favourite morning beverage. The morning will be cancelled if there is extreme/wet weather. **Please book at:** <https://book.venue.life/pch/register/quiet-time-in-the-bush-pymble-2026> **The cost is: \$25.**

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISHES

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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Luigi Tisi and Gerardo Genua.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Elvis Vaz, John Farrell, Emma Trovato, Evelina Dellosa, Salvador Ramirez, Bernard Villegas and deceased Passionist Sisters.

**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 am full of confidence in our good God's mercy that by working together the common good will be secured." To Monsignor Kirby. 10.8.1874

