

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)

6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 12 & 13 FEBRUARY 2022

Parish Priest – Fr Yacub Barkat



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 calling 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 – Acting Principal: Ms Debbie Heckenberg
St Gabriel's Primary, Bexley: 9502 1932 - Principal: Ms Catherine Hodgins

	ARNCLIFFE	ROCKDALE	BEXLEY
WEEKEND MASSES Saturday Vigil Sunday Masses	5.00pm Saturday 9.00am	6.30pm Saturday 9.00am (<i>Italian</i>) 10.30am 6.00pm (<i>Third Sunday only Filipino</i>)	----- 9.00am 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>Jer 17:5-8</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>1 Cor 15:12, 16-20</i> ; Gospel: <i>Lk 6:17, 20-26</i>			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 1:1-4.6
Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

Happy indeed is the man
 who follows not the counsel of the wicked,
 nor lingers in the way of sinners
 nor sits in the company of scorners,
 but whose delight is the law of the Lord
 and who ponders his law, day and night. *R/*

He is like a tree that is planted
 beside the flowing waters,
 that yields its fruit in due season
 and whose leaves shall never fade;
 and all that he does shall prosper. *R/*

Not so are the wicked, not so!
 For they like winnowed chaff
 shall be driven away by the wind;
 for the Lord guards the way of the just
 but the way of the wicked leads to doom. *R/*



FIRST RECONCILIATION PROGRAM 2022

All Catholic children currently in Year 3 or above who attend St Gabriel's, St Francis Xavier's, St Joseph's or any of the State schools in our parish are scheduled to make their First Reconciliation this year. Accordingly, there will be a Parent Information Evening **on Thursday, 10th March**, via ZOOM at **7.00pm for the parents or guardians of the children.**

At least one parent or guardian of a child is expected to attend this meeting. The program and ZOOM information will be given to each of our parish schools beforehand but if you have a child attending a State School we ask that you email the parish office admin@mmrc.org.au (please do not phone) and we will email the program and ZOOM information to you directly. Unfortunately, we do not know at this time when the Catechist Classes will recommence in the State Schools for 2022.

The children will attend four classes on Sunday mornings **commencing on Sunday, 13th March**. At the first class you are asked to bring a **copy (not the original) of your child's Catholic Baptism Certificate**. If you don't have it at home, please contact the parish of Baptism to get a copy before the classes begin. This is only for children Baptised outside our twinned parishes.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Alleluia, alleluia!
 Rejoice and be glad;
 your reward is great in heaven.
Alleluia!

RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES

- Check-ins are required for places of worship, funerals or memorial services.
- Masks are mandatory in places where you cannot socially distance, **i.e., places of worship.**
- **Singing is not permitted.**
- The sign of peace and passing of the collection plate continue to be suspended.
- **When preparing to receive Holy Communion, parishioners are asked to go seat by seat to enable more distancing between others who are in the line. Please go from the nearest seat to the Priest or Acolyte but please wait until there is space to join the queue before standing up.**
- ANYONE entering the church must give their details before entering the church. You can use the Service NSW QR code at the door or sign the parish sheets.
- Only one door will be opened to enable accurate recording of those attending.
- Hands must be sanitised when entering the church.
- Please do not come to the church if you are unwell, even if you do not think you have Covid and just a sore throat or a simple cold.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING TRAINING UPDATE

All parish volunteers who are Acolytes, Readers, Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers and Choir members, are required to update their status by attending a training session. Unfortunately, due to current COVID-19 concerns the Safeguarding Office has decided to present all training for the first six months of 2022 either online or via zoom. The most important thing is to ensure the wellbeing and safety of our communities and we can do this by presenting via zoom or online.

Volunteers can register for the new Refresher Training via this link <https://forms.gle/XuQFsRsvq3BYtXqT9> (which is a different link from the other online training registrations). Just a reminder that volunteers only need to complete the Refresher Training if they have completed the Induction Training a minimum of three years ago.

Volunteer Refresher training is available online or via Zoom. Below are the available dates for the Zoom Refresher Training, volunteers will simply need to register their attendance by emailing: safeguardingtraining@sydneycatholic.org

Date	Time
Tuesday, 22 February	9.00am – 10.00am
Friday, 11 March	3.00pm – 4.00pm
Thursday, 31 March	9.00am – 10.00am
Wednesday, 6 April	4.00pm – 5.00pm
Monday, 16 May	3.00pm – 4.00pm

LENTEN COMPANION

With Lent approaching, the Archdiocese has given the parishes a small booklet as a guide to the Lenten season. The booklet is titled: Come Back to Me: Mercy and Healing Await and we have placed copies to each of our churches this weekend. The guide is based on the Gospels for the Sundays of Lent and Easter Sunday. There are questions to encourage prayer and sharing about the Gospels so you may like to gather a few friends and create a small group for a weekly discussion.

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.

ASH WEDNESDAY

This year Ash Wednesday is on 2nd March. Mass times will be published next weekend.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN THE MINISTRY TEAMS IN OUR PARISHES?

The Sydney Archdiocese Liturgy Office is planning to run some programs for Readers, **Acolytes and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**. If anyone has been thinking of offering their services to our parishes then please contact the Parish Office by this coming Wednesday, 16th February. We prefer contact by email admin@mmrc.org.au and we can put forward some numbers to the Liturgy Office in preparation for instruction next month. The courses could be held on two Saturday mornings or two evenings during the week. Venues are not known at this time but if we had enough volunteers we could possibly have them the classes in our own parish.

MT CARMEL RETREAT

The Gift of Joy! A Retreat in the Spirit of Taizé presented by Brother Matthew (Taizé community, France). Rest, pray and reflect in community with the songs and prayers from Taizé in the season of Lent. Workshops, group sharing, and personal reflection time will be a part of this retreat. All welcome, with a special invitation to those aged 18-35. Accommodation, meals and retreat program included in the cost. Discounted rates apply to those aged 18-35 for shared room or BYO tent accommodation. To be held from 6pm Friday, 11 to 12:30 pm Sunday March 13 at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, 247 St Andrews Road, Varroville. Cost is: Triple plus (3 or more guests) and bathroom: \$200.00 / Shared room (2 guests) and bathroom: \$270.00 / Own room with ensuite: \$300.00. Camping (BYO tent): \$140.00. There are also day rates: \$55 (lunch or dinner) or \$70 (lunch and dinner). Register and pay at: www.mtcarmel.com.au

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISHES

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Rosina Giardullo and Kim Chin.

ANNIVERSARIES: Imelda Leslie, Lawrie Leslie, Pio Leso, Raquel Goncalves, Barrie Fisher, Leonora Fasanella, Domenico Puopolo, Maria Mazzaferro, Charles Nohra, Jennifer Azzi, Michael McDermott and Michael & Maria Sakr.

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 rest in peace.

ST MARY MACKILLOP'S QUOTE

“Do not, for the sake of defending one or two, shrink from speaking the plain, open truth.”
22.11.1871

