

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)

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A - 2 & 3 SEPTEMBER 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

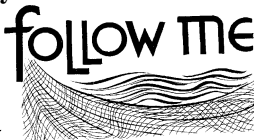
	ARNCLIFFE	ROCKDALE	BEXLEY
WEEKEND MASSES	5.00pm Saturday	6.30pm Saturday	-----
Saturday Vigil	9.00am	9.00am (<i>Italian</i>)	9.00am
Sunday Masses		10.30am	5.00pm
		6.00pm (<i>Third Sunday only Filipino</i>)	
WEEKDAY MASSES	9.00am Wednesday 9.00am Friday	7.00pm Tuesday (<i>Devotions, Exposition, Benediction & 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>Jer 20:7-9</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>Rom 12:1-2</i> ; Gospel: <i>Mt 16:21-27</i>			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Ps. 62:2-6.8-9

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.

My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. *R/*



So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. *R/*

So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. *R/*

For you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast. *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!



HAPPY FATHERS DAY

Happy Fathers' Day to all the fathers, grandfathers, stepfathers, and uncles this weekend. The male role-models in our lives are so important, and we thank them especially for their love and care. Let us also remember those who have died, and those families who have lost their fathers, especially during the past year.

PRIEST'S RETIREMENT FOUNDATION APPEAL

This weekend, 2nd & 3rd September there will be a third collection after Holy Communion for the annual appeal for the Priests who are no longer working full-time. When priests move from full-time ministry they need support, so that they are not disadvantaged with respect to housing, living expenses, health care and transport, etc. To provide this support, we need to actively participate to the Retirement Fund, by raising funds through this annual appeal. People continually value our ministry and are keen to support, and your contributions are truly appreciated. Let us be generous as God is with us. Contributions are tax deductible. Thank you for supporting your brother priests, through the Priests' Retirement Foundation. There are special envelopes on the seats this weekend.



CONFIRMATION

Please pray for all the children from our parishes who will be Confirmed in our three churches over the coming two weeks. May the Holy Spirit guide them.



LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

On the weekend **16/17 September** at all the Masses we will be having a guest speaker from the Little Sisters of the Poor. The Little Sisters of the Poor are an international Congregation founded in France in 1839 by St Jeanne Jugan.

She was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI in 2009 in the Basilica of St. Peter in Rome. They have a home for the elderly in Randwick where they have been caring for them with very limited resources for over 132 years. Many of their residents are retired priests. The Sisters rely on Providence and the generosity of friends and benefactors to help them to provide extra comforts for their Residents and to maintain the ongoing improvements of their Home. At the moment, they are upgrading their fire system, which is a requirement, and so are in need of extra funds. They appreciate very much your anticipated support to their mission.

Following the Masses on this weekend, the Sisters will be outside the church doors to enable parishioners to give a donation to assist the Sisters in their care of the elderly. Please bring a few extra \$\$ and help boost their funds. ☺

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES & RECEIPTS

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

SUPPORT FOR PAKISTAN

Aid to the Church in Need is running an emergency campaign for Pakistan. Recently up to 24 churches, hundreds of Christian homes and a Christian cemetery were targeted in an attack in Pakistan which was sparked by reports of blasphemy allegations against two Christians accused of desecrating the Qur'an. ACN is working with project partners on the ground to aid the current needs of the Christian people. To learn more and to make an offering, scan the QR code or visit



www.aidtochurch.org/pakistanappeal

CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

Be Not Afraid - The Inaugural 'Catholic Men's Conference' is a one-day conference for men (18+) The conference will include breakfast, coffee/tea, talks by guest speakers, adoration, confession, mass, lunch and an exclusive invitation and announcement to the men on the day. We're gathering as men to encounter Our Lord and increase our faith, hope and charity in friendship to be the man God created us to be. Guest keynote addresses plus other special guests. They will focus on what it means to order your life, the why and how so we can live out our life to the fullest as fathers, brothers, sons, etc. This will be held on **Saturday, 16 September** from 8:00 am - 4:30 pm in St Mary's Cathedral Hall, St Mary's Road, Sydney. Cost: Tickets are \$55.00, and Concession Ticket is \$45.00. To book, visit:

<https://www.trybooking.com/CKKFQ>

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.

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

- **Campion unveils new academic centre**
- **New Vinnies Van for NSW as cost-of-living crisis bites harder**
- **Father's Day with Fr John Iacono and Guy Zangari**
- **Crusading CW journalist Cliff Baxter remembered**
- **Theatre: Pope2Pope puts papal rivalries on stage**
- **2023 Retreats Guide**

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 secure 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.

"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.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Mary Chappell and Mary Singh.

ANNIVERSARIES: Antonius Widjaja, Alfredo Lopes, Gilda Camara, Maria Puglisi, Dragica Zmoda, Mary MacKenzie Mitchell, Katharina & Paul Parish, Philomina & Gregory D'Cruz and Alba Pantaleo.

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

"Only what you will, my God" 1.12.1898

