

ST MARY MACKILLOP PARISH ROCKDALE CITY

Three Communities – One Parish

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

20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A – 15 & 16 AUGUST 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 56:1,6-7</i> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> 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!



## ADULT CONFIRMATIONS

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered for Adults by Bishop Richard Umbers at St Mary's Cathedral on **Sunday, 25 October** at 10.30am Solemn Mass. If there are any parishioners who have been Baptised and received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist but were never Confirmed, this is their opportunity to be fully received into the Catholic Church. They must be over the age of 16 and have a copy of their Baptism Certificate. There will be some instruction given before Confirmation can take place. If you are interested, please email the parish office by **this Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> August** at [admin@mmrc.org.au](mailto:admin@mmrc.org.au) and we will get back to you when there is more information.

## RCIA PROGRAM 2026

**This Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> August** the RCIA Program will commence for those people seeking to become Catholic. The preparation lessons will be held in the Presbytery at 13 Parker St, Rockdale at 7.30pm. This is up the hill from Rockdale Centrelink at the top of the cul-de-sac on the right-hand side, opposite St Joseph's School. It's next to the parish office. If anyone would like to join the group and has not given their name to the parish office, please do so this coming week to [admin@mmrc.org.au](mailto:admin@mmrc.org.au)

## PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPE #112

Can the parishioner who has the packet of Planned Giving Envelopes #112 for this financial year, please contact the parish office by email: [admin@mmrc.org.au](mailto:admin@mmrc.org.au) We need some further information please.

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

### PLANNED GIVING TAXATION RECEIPTS

The Planned Giving receipts are now available in your preferred church. Please collect them as soon as possible. Any packets of envelopes that haven't been picked up will be at the parish office. Please contact the staff to pick them up there between Monday and Thursday from 9am to 1pm.

### SPECIAL MASS OFFERING ENVELOPES

Each of the churches have special Mass Offering envelopes for your use. Please use these when you request a Mass Offering for a deceased relative or friend, special intentions, thanksgiving and those who are sick. You are requested to place them at least a week before you wish to have a Mass celebrated. Only names for Recently Deceased or Death Anniversaries will be published in the bulletin.

### PLEASE SUPPORT "MARY MACKILLOP TODAY"

For some years now, Tien Te is one of our parishioners has been raising funds to support *Mary MacKillop Today* by running City to Surf and other distance races. *Mary MacKillop Today* is an organisation dedicated to standing with those who are poor and marginalised. Their mission is to empower individuals and communities through education, self-determination, and practical life-skills development. Inspired by Saint Mary MacKillop's legacy, "Never see a need without doing something about it,"

Tien is committed to doing her part to support the Sisters of St Joseph and their works and we invite parishioners to join her as she runs in the 2026 Sydney Marathon (42km) on Sunday, 30 August, not by running with her but to please consider supporting the cause by donating through here: <https://sm26.grassrootz.com/mary-mackillop-today/tien-te> or via this QR Code. It only takes a minute, and any contribution, large or small will make a meaningful difference in helping Mary MacKillop Today continue transforming lives. Donations are also tax-deductible.

Thank you sincerely for your generosity. 😊



### IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY MACKILLOP NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE

A 12-day journey from Melbourne on commences on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> October and ends in Sydney on Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> October and travels through the life and times of Mary MacKillop, while offering a unique perspective on her story, faith and legacy. Planned by the Sisters of St Joseph. Travel arrangements for the pilgrimage are managed by Harvest Journeys Book now to reserve a place at: <https://www.harvestjourneys.com/tour/mm2602sj/>

### 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

### FUNERAL THIS WEEK

A Requiem Mass will be held this coming Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> August at 11.00am in St Joseph's Church for the late Concettina Meola. Please keep her family in your prayers.

### FAMILY MASS NEXT WEEKEND AT ARNCLIFFE

Next Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> August, the 5.00pm Mass at St Francis Xavier's will be a School Mass with students, families and staff from St Francis Xavier's attending. We also welcome students and families from our local public schools to join them.

### THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- Australian bishops confront growing divisions
- Finding Mary in the Old Testament
- Five parishes ignite young adult faith
- When pregnancy enters the marketplace
- Martyrs' relics find a home at Revesby

### 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.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Concettina Meola and Iely Robles.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Vincent Dwyer, Alexis Blades, Michelle Szendroi, Baby Toby Szendroi, Mary Arena, Francesco Campanale, Mario Desisto, Soon Hoe Boey, Concetta Figliano, Bill Bela Gerber, Maria Tran, Annie Nguyen, and Antonia & Georgio Festa.

**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 feel that the cause is great and much depends upon it, and I know that if the work is God's that it must succeed, and if not, I only desire God's Will be done." (9.5.1873)



### SUPPORTING AGEING WELL

#### How to optimise ageing and safety-net for the future.

Parents, parishioners, aunts, uncles and grandparents are welcome to join us for an engaging discussion and morning tea with our very own talented mum from St Joseph's Rockdale! (Toddlers are welcome, toys will be provided)

#### THURSDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

9AM - YR 1, 5, 6 Grade Mass, St Joseph's Rockdale  
9.40- 10.15AM - Supporting Ageing Well. (Parish hall)

#### Presented by:

Professor Danielle Ni Chroinin PROVERBS 17:22:

Consultant Geriatrician and

Director of aged care research. **RSVP:** [dona.sakr@syd.catholic.edu.au](mailto:dona.sakr@syd.catholic.edu.au)

