

ST MARY MACKILLOP PARISH ROCKDALE CITY

Three Communities – One Parish

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C - 6 & 7 SEPTEMBER 2025

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](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 Friday: 9am to 1pm (please phone before coming in.)

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

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                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <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.                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                       |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> <i>Wis 9:13-18</i> ; <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> <i>Philemon 9-10, 12-17</i> ; <b>Gospel:</b> <i>Lk 14:25-33</i> |                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                       |

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 89:3-6.12-14.17

In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You turn men back into dust and say:

‘Go back, sons of men.’

To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday,  
come and gone, no more than a watch in the night. *R/*



You sweep men away like a dream,  
like grass which springs up in the morning.  
In the morning it springs up and flowers:  
by evening it withers and fades. *R/*

Make us know the shortness of our life  
that we may gain wisdom of heart.  
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?  
Show pity to your servants. *R/*

In the morning, fill us with your love;  
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.  
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:  
give success to the work of our hands. *R/*



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let your face shine on your servant,  
and teach me your laws.

Alleluia!

## HAPPY FATHERS DAY

We wish 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 this past year.



## PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FUND APPEAL

**This weekend** we are holding the Priests' Retirement Foundation Pastoral Appeal with a **third collection following Holy Communion at all Masses**. Your donations are important in helping to build the Foundation which funds the practical needs of our sick and retired priests to give them a decent standard of living in their retirement years. We ask you as our parishioners to give this appeal your generous support. All donations over \$2 are tax-deductible. Please make sure you fill in all the details to receive the tax deduction. Every donation, no matter how large or small, goes a long way towards helping this parish care for our sick and retired priests, and your support is greatly appreciated.

## FATHER YACUB ON LEAVE

After the Sunday morning Masses this Sunday, Father Yacub will be on his annual retreat with fellow priests. He will return to the parish on Wednesday evening. Please keep him in your prayers.

# Discover and share in our story

The Sisters of Charity Heritage Centre brings alive the spirit of the Congregation, its history and heritage.

Australia's first religious sisters have been of service to the community regardless of creed, wealth or ethnicity, for over 185 years.

**Tuesday – Thursday**  
**10.00am-3.00pm or by appointment**

**Free entry, parking available**  
**Bookings recommended**

*You too are part of this continuing  
and living heritage and we'd love  
to welcome you.*

1 Rockwall Cres. Potts Point, NSW  
T: 02 9138 0835  
W: [socheritagecentre.org.au](http://socheritagecentre.org.au)  
E: [heritagecentre@rscoffice.com](mailto:heritagecentre@rscoffice.com)



**Sisters  
of Charity**  
of Australia

**HERITAGE  
CENTRE**



## FACE YOUR GIANTS RETREAT

Jesus Light of the World Communities invites you to "Face Your Giants Retreat". Overwhelmed by life's battles? Discover the victory through Jesus Christ. Featuring speaker Marina George, a devoted Catholic preacher, who loves sharing her deep relationship with God the Father, the love of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. This will be held on **Saturday, 27 September** from 1:00 – 5:30 pm in St Joseph's Hall, Rockdale (parking entry through Parker St.) Afternoon tea is served, and a booking is essential. Enquiries: Helen: 0433 455 114 or Esperance: 0407 749 182 or email: [jlowcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:jlowcommunity@gmail.com)

## GRACE & TRUTH

You are invited to join the Dominican Friars and Sisters on **Tuesday, 30 September** for an evening of prayer, formation, and fellowship. This event is open to men and women of all ages. The theme of the talks will be "anchored in hope". The evening will consist of Eucharistic Adoration, Vespers and Benediction, a light dinner, and talks by Fr Paul Rowe, OP and Sister Anastasia, OP. The event will run from 5 - 8:30PM, starting in the St Mary Cathedral Crypt and moving to the Cathedral Hall. Fee: \$20. For more information, contact the Dominican Sisters at [sydney@op-tn.org](mailto:sydney@op-tn.org), or to register to attend, visit: <https://www.trybooking.com/DESDN>

## ASSISTANCE NEEDED

Each of our churches need people to volunteer to be Acolytes and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to assist at weekend Masses. You will need to have a Working With Children Check which is obtainable through Service New South Wales website. There is no charge for this for volunteers. If you feel you would be available to assist, please speak with Father Yacub or Father Norvin.

## 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

- Parishioners unite at first Sydney Synod consultation
- Celebrating a day for ALL fathers
- St Joachim's Lidcombe leads 700-strong procession
- Social justice at the heart of Archbishop Award winners
- Sr Miriam: Anointed to transform women at conference
- Safeguarding conference arms clergy for fight against domestic violence

## iSTAND CONFERENCE

Sydney Youth Mission Team invite all Year 9 - 12 (14-18 years old) students to our iSTAND Conference. This event is an opportunity for young people to connect with peers over faith, food, formation, prayer and games and promises to provide incredible opportunities for young Catholics seeking more. This will be held on **Monday, 29 September** from 9 am - 9 pm at Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Peakhurst (825 Forest Rd). The cost is \$70 and includes morning and afternoon tea, lunch, dinner and all activities. For more info, follow @ymtsydney on Instagram or register at

<https://form.jotform.com/201754200820846>

## FINDING SOLACE AND SUPPORT WITH HEARTFELT

In times of grief, finding a compassionate and understanding community can make all the difference. Heartfelt is based on Catholic teachings and offers online gatherings, support groups, and events, accessible to anyone navigating their grief journey. For more information, visit <https://heartfelt.community>

## PARISH SAFEGUARDING

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney that child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at 9390 5810 or [enquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:enquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Vincent Dwyer, Paul Mulcahy, Monsignor Kerry Bayada, Svetka Sango, Maria Salis and Bartolina Manfre.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Brian Dwyer, Zebulon Perano, Lina Alterio, Maria Lizzo, Carmen Bugeja, Pierina Ruaro, Maria Puglisi, Marcello Tini, Sr Maria Begonia, CP and Antonia and Giorgio 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

"Out of every cross God wishes us to merit, by making it an occasion of pleasing him." 29.10.1895

