



# 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)



## SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR C - 26 & 27 APRIL 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.)

**Italian Chaplain:** Fr Adriano Pittarello: 8068 1595

**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>	5.00pm Saturday	6.30pm Saturday	-----
<b>Saturday Vigil</b>	9.00am	9.00am ( <i>Italian</i> ) 10.30am	9.00am
<b>Sunday Masses</b>		12.00pm ( <i>First Sunday only Urdu</i> ) 6.00pm ( <i>Third Sunday only Filipino</i> )	5.00pm
<b>WEEKDAY MASSES</b>	9.00am Wednesday 9.00am Friday	7.00pm Tuesday ( <i>Devotions, Exposition, Benediction &amp; Rosary from 5.30pm</i> ) 9.00am Thursday	9.00am Monday 9.30am Thursday 9.00am Saturday ( <i>Benediction at 8.45am</i> )
<b>CONFESSIONS</b>	4.00 – 4.30pm 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday of the Month	5.30 – 6.00pm 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the Month	8.00 – 8.40am Saturday
<b>BAPTISMS</b>	10.00am 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month	11.30am 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month	10.00am 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month
	Please phone the Parish Office to make an enquiry or booking on 9567 1558 during office hours.		
<b>WEDDINGS</b>	Monday to Saturday by appointment.		
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading: <i>Acts 5:12-16</i> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: <i>Rev 1:9-13, 17-19</i> ; Gospel: <i>Jn 20:19-31</i>			

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM 117:2-4, 22-27**

**Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.**

Let the sons of Israel say:

'His love has no end.'

Let the sons of Aaron say:

'His love has no end.'

Let those who fear the Lord say:

'His love has no end.' *R/*

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord;

we rejoice and are glad. *R/*

O Lord, grant us salvation; O Lord, grant success.

Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes.

We bless you from the house of the Lord;

the Lord God is our light. *R/*



**MEMORIAL MASS FOR POPE FRANCIS**

**This coming Tuesday evening, the 7.00pm Mass** at St Joseph's will be a Memorial Mass for the late Pope Francis. Please join us to remember a wonderful Pontiff who did so much in his time in Rome, especially for the poor and marginalised peoples of the world.

*"Well done, good and faithful servant! ... Come and share your master's happiness!" Matthew 25:23*

**DIVINE MERCY MASS**

**THIS Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> April**, is the Second Sunday of Easter and the Feast of Divine Mercy. This will be celebrated at St Joseph's Church, Rockdale with an observance of the Holy Hour, Benediction and Reconciliation at 2pm, followed by Mass at 3:15pm. Come and celebrate with us!

**PARKING AT ARNCLIFFE THIS WEEKEND**

There will be **NO ONSITE PARKING** at St Francis Xavier's Church for Masses this weekend. We do hope the works will be completed before next weekend but this will depend on weather. Scaffolding has been erected in the laneway behind the church to do necessary repairs to the sanctuary of the church. We apologise for the inconvenience this may cause. You are most welcome to attend Mass in either Bexley or Rockdale.

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

**Alleluia!**



## CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL

Next weekend 3 & 4 May across the Archdiocese of Sydney, the final appeal for the current financial year (and the first of three appeals for this calendar year) will be held to assist the Archbishop in funding some of the special works of the Archdiocese. Some of these works include chaplaincies to gaols, universities and the deaf community, ministry to the aboriginal community, those preparing for marriage, CatholicCare, the training of priests and the work of catechists in state schools. You will notice the envelopes on the church pews for this appeal. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible (please ensure you complete ALL the information required for a tax-deductible receipt). You may care to take an envelope home with you and return it next weekend. Many thanks for your ongoing practical support of these important works.



## GABBIES SEWING ANGELS

Tickets are available this weekend and the next three weekends for our annual raffle, to support the work of Gabbies. There are four beautiful prizes, two patched work quilts and two crocheted rugs.

Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00.

## ST THOMAS MORE'S WOMENS GROUP

Ladies of the parish are invited to join a Women's Group at St Thomas More, Brighton le Sands is this **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April** from 11.30am to 1.30pm in their parish hall at 298 Bay St, behind the church. There will be topical and relatable presentations; fellowship and discussions; social events; community outreach; art and craft projects and afternoon tea. If you can please bring a plate of food to share or donate towards the cost that would be appreciated. Further information by phone: 9567 3589 or email: [stmwomensgroup@outlook.com](mailto:stmwomensgroup@outlook.com)

## GRACE AND TRUTH EVENT

You are invited to join the Dominican Friars and Sisters on Wednesday, 30 April for an evening of prayer, formation, and fellowship. Open to men and women of all ages. The evening will consist of Eucharistic Adoration, Vespers and Benediction, a light dinner, and talks by Sister Elena Marie and Father James Baxter. The event will run from 5-9PM, starting in the crypt of St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, and moving to the Cathedral Hall. Entry fee is \$20. For more information, contact the Dominican Sisters at [sydney@op-tn.org](mailto:sydney@op-tn.org).

## PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Any parishioners, particularly new parishioners, who wish to participate in the Planned Giving Envelope System for the coming New Financial Year 2025-2026, are asked to contact the Parish Office via email: [admin@mmlrc.org.au](mailto:admin@mmlrc.org.au) and give some details. **There is a 30% Tax Deduction incentive** available if you are a wage earner and lodge a Tax Return at the end of each financial year. This is a positive way of supporting our parishes. Please consider our appeal.

If there are any recently retired parishioners who currently donate through the envelopes but who may want to change to a 'non-tax receipt' category, they are asked to please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible so we can organise the changes before the new financial year commences.

**All new enquiries are welcome. ☺**

## 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

- Bishop-elect Tony Percy prepares for his Episcopal Ordination
- Reflection: Mercy in the light of Easter

## OUR LADY OF FATIMA PROCESSION

Walk with Our Lady of Fatima in a candle-lit procession around St Mary's Cathedral as we pray for the needs of the Church and our world. To be held on **Saturday, 10 May**, commencing with 6pm Vigil Mass in the Cathedral, followed by procession. For more information, visit:

<https://sydneycatholic.org/our-lady-of-fatima-procession>

## PROJECT COMPASSION DONATIONS

Please return your Project Compassion envelopes and boxes as soon as possible. Don't forget to fill in **ALL** the details on the slip/box if you wish to receive a tax deduction.



## WALK WITH CHRIST PROCESSION

Advance notice that the Annual Walk with Christ procession will be held on Sunday, 22nd June, the Feast of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, formerly Corpus Christi. Please mark your calendars if you wish to join our parish group.

## 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 [equiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:equiries@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.

## 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>

## 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.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Pope Francis, Kevin McCarron and Dorothy Molachino.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** John Wilmott, Dawn Gaudron, Rafael Ripoll, John Drake, Margaret Devi, Lynette Mason, Dropuljic Family, Marion Morris and Joy Ross.

**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 WACKILLOP'S QUOTE

"In St Joseph's care I leave you." 28.3.1873

