

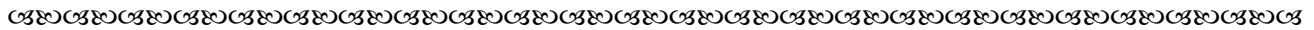
PARISHES OF ST GABRIEL'S, BEXLEY and ST MARY MACKILLOP'S, ROCKDALE CITY

(Looking after the Churches of St Gabriel's, Bexley, St Joseph's, Rockdale, and St Francis Xavier's, Arncliffe)

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR B - 16 & 17 MARCH 2024

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 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
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.		
1st Reading: Jer 31:31-34; 2nd Reading: Heb 5:7-9; Gospel: Jn 12:20-33			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM – Ps 50:3-4.12-15

Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
 In your compassion blot out my offence.
 O wash me more and more from my guilt
 and cleanse me from my sin. *R/*

A pure heart create for me,
 O God, put a steadfast spirit within me.
 Do not cast me away from your presence,
 nor deprive me of your holy spirit. *R/*

Give me again the joy of your help;
 with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
 that I may teach transgressors your ways
 and sinners may return to you. *R/*



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

The work of Caritas Australia is only possible with generous supporters and the dedication, passion and tenacity of our local partners who implement the programs. They are the heroes on the ground working tirelessly behind-the-scenes every day to create a better future for their communities.



Please donate to Project Compassion 2024. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, for all future generations. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

Stations of the Cross will be held on each Friday's during Lent. Please come along at 6.00pm in St Francis Xavier's Church. St Joseph's will have the Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm followed by Mass at 7.30pm.



Italian Stations of Cross will be held on Wednesdays at 7.00pm. Italian Confessions will be held every Wednesday before and after Italian Stations of the Cross

LENTEN PROGRAM

The Lenten Program will end this coming Thursday. You are still most welcome from 6.00 – 7.00pm.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ.

If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord;
 and where I am, my servant will also be.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ.



BAPTISMS

This weekend we welcome Gaia Faraone & Milana Toaza who will be baptised at St Gabriel's. We also welcome their families and friends who join them on this special occasion.



**HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE
RECONCILIATIONS & MASSES**

First Rite (Individual) **Saturday, 23 March**

8.00am – 8.45am Bexley;
4.00pm – 4.30pm Arncliffe;
5.30pm – 6.00pm Rockdale

Second Rite (Communal celebration)

Tuesday, 26th March at Rockdale - 5.30pm followed by Benediction at 6.30pm and Mass at 7.00pm.

Italian Confessions every Wednesday before and after Italian Stations of the Cross

Wednesday 27th March 3.30 – 4.15pm

Please note: Once the Easter Triduum begins on Holy Thursday, the Sacrament of Penance will not be available, except in an emergency situation.

HOLY THURSDAY 28th March

7.00pm Arncliffe –Rockdale – Bexley
(St Joseph's Church will be open after the Mass till Midnight for prayer and adoration)

GOOD FRIDAY 29th March

Stations of the Cross

10.00am Arncliffe –Rockdale – Bexley

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

3.00pm Arncliffe –Rockdale – Bexley

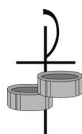
HOLY SATURDAY 30th March

5.00pm Bexley 5.00pm Arncliffe
6.30pm Rockdale

EASTER SUNDAY 31st March

9.00am Mass Arncliffe 9.00am Mass Bexley
9.00am Mass Rockdale (Italian)
10.30am Mass Rockdale
5.00pm Mass Bexley

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to Alicia Goodwin & Cole Erispe-O'Connor who were married on Saturday afternoon at St Gabriel's. May God's blessings be upon you for a lifetime of love and happiness.

PALM SUNDAY

Next weekend we celebrate Palm Sunday. As in past years, you are asked to bring your own piece of palm, olive branch or greenery to be blessed.



FAMILY MASS NEXT SUNDAY AT ST JOSEPHS

Next Sunday, Palm Sunday, the 10.30am Mass at St Joseph's will be a school Mass with St Joseph's Primary School families attending.

ST JOSEPH'S FEAST DAY MASS

Everyone is warmly invited to join the celebration of St Joseph's Feast Day with a Mass this **Tuesday, 19th March**, in St Joseph's Church Rockdale at 9.30am. **All welcome.**

HOUSE BLESSINGS

If parishioners would like to have their house blessed after Easter or a priest visit, please contact the parish office on 9567 1558 to make a time to suit our priests.

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.

CHURCH SERVICE DRESS CODE REMINDER

We kindly remind you to dress modestly when attending Church. While our dress code is not as strict as the Vatican's, your cooperation in maintaining a respectful atmosphere during worship is highly appreciated.

Please kindly refrain from wearing attire that is more suitable for the gym or the beach. We kindly ask that you avoid low-cut clothing and belly crop tops. When it comes to pants or skirts, low-cut short pants or skirts are not encouraged. However, slightly above the knee length is acceptable, provided they are decent and uphold a sense of reverence. This is particularly important if you are an Acolyte or Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist.

Men and boys are also asked to remove caps and beanies before entering the church in a sign of respect to the Blessed Sacrament.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in upholding a respectful environment during the church services.

THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- Sydney parishes take up their Cross for Lent
- Minister for Women "considers" tying hospital funding to abortion
- Monica Doumit: The big picture on religious freedom
- Surf's up for young Bondi Catholics
- Archbishop counsels student leaders to avoid polarised politics
- Simcha Fisher: The Incarnation continues to scandalise

COVID REMINDER

- Please note that Covid is still all around us and masks are recommended in churches.
- 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: Paul Chappell, Pat Daley, Stephen Jackson, Ceaser Tasselli and Giorgio Festa.

ANNIVERSARIES: Mary Haasnoot, Viccie Mabbutt, Louis Ferre, Nevill Abel, Jason Puac, Amadeo Giovenco, Danielle Yepes, Michael Caruana, Anna & Louis Zammit, Carmen & Tony Grech and Natalina Panto, Edward Morgan, Jannette Jabbour and Abdallah Elhage.

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

"With humility, charity and truth on our part, all will in the end be well." 15.11.1883

