

ST MARY MACKILLOP PARISH ROCKDALE CITY

Three Communities – One Parish

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

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A - 17 & 18 JANUARY 2026

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.)

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
WEEKEND MASSES Saturday Vigil Sunday Masses	5.00pm Saturday 9.00am	6.30pm Saturday 9.00am (<i>Italian</i>) 10.30am 12.00pm (<i>First Sunday only Urdu</i>) 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>)
CONFESIONS	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: ***Is 49:3, 5-6***; 2nd Reading: ***1 Cor 1:1-3***; Gospel: ***Jn 1:29-34***

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 39:2.4.7-10

Here I am Lord; I come to do your will.



I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me; he heard my cry.

He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God. *R/*

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,
but an open ear.

You do not ask for holocaust and victim.
Instead, here am I. *R/*

In the scroll of the book it stands written
that I should do your will.

My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart. *R/*

Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.

My lips I have not sealed;
you know, O Lord. *R/*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us.

He enabled those who accepted him
to become the children of God.

Alleluia!

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS / ACOLYTES

NEEDED TO HELP OUT

The parish is in real need of more assistance to take the Blessed Sacrament to Catholics in local nursing homes. We have recently had a couple of dedicated volunteers 'retire' or are taking a break, and those who are assisting, are being asked to give more of their time. Please contact Maree Ross 0428 103 758 if you can spare an hour or two on a regular basis.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS

There are still some 2026 Columban Calendars available at the Piety Stalls for \$10 each. If they have run out and you don't didn't get one, there are a couple in the parish office. They assist the Columban Missionaries in meeting the needs of the poor. I would like to request you to please put a Catholic calendar in your home. ☺

CATHOLIC BUSHWALKING CLUB

The Catholic Bushwalking Club holds at least one walk each weekend, with other activities including abseiling, cross-country skiing, caving, canyoning and cycling. For more information, go to www.cbcnsw.org.au or phone Robert on 0478919427.

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

HOW TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION

Catholics who have made the proper spiritual and sacramental preparation may come forward in the procession to receive Holy Communion.

To receive the sacred host, please hold your hands open flat and then consume the host in the presence of the priest or communion minister before moving back to your seat.



If you are not Catholic or have not yet received your First Communion, you may receive a blessing from the priest.

An Acolyte or Minister of Holy Communion cannot give you a blessing. To receive a blessing approach the priest in the Communion procession with your arms crossed over your chest.



MASS AND BLESSING OF THE SICK

Join with others for a special day of prayer and healing at the Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto, Earlwood on **Sunday, 8 February**. The afternoon will commence with the Rosary at 2:30pm followed by Mass & Blessing of the Sick at 3:00pm. The address of Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto is St James Avenue, Earlwood. Please park in the council carpark. The main Celebrant will be Bishop Terry Brady. In case of extreme weather, the Mass will be held in the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes. **All welcome.**

ADOREMUS AT ST BENEDICT'S, BROADWAY

You are invited to join us for an evening of adoration, formation, vespers, and fellowship. **Every Wednesday** from 5:30pm to 7:00pm at St Benedict's Church, Broadway. Everyone is welcome.

SAPIENTA - DOMINICAN RETREAT

Single adults, ages 18-35, are invited to join the Dominican Friars and Sisters for a weekend retreat at St Mary's Towers, Douglas Park, from 13-15 February. The retreat will consist of talks, discussion, silence, Eucharistic Adoration, the Sacrament of Confession, Mass, and time for fellowship. Places limited. Fee: \$300 per person. <https://www.trybooking.com/DHJBL>

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

- Press pause on NSW hate speech laws, says Archdiocese of Sydney
- Final Bondi terror victim farewelled at St Mary's Cathedral
- Milestone for Carmelite "powerhouse of prayer" in rural NSW
- Hundreds 'putt' heart into charity golf day
- Marking 50 years of 'no-fault' divorce
- Feature: Brown Nurses continue Eileen O'Connor's legacy

CATHOLIC CARE SERVICES / HOME CARE SERVICES

CatholicCare Sydney offers a range of services to help you or a loved one remain happy and safe at home for longer. Our qualified and caring team can help you with:

- Domestic assistance
- Day-to-day tasks like shopping
- Connecting with others
- In-home respite care
- Personal care
- Health and wellness activities
- Allied Health & Clinical Support

To learn more, please call 13 18 19 or visit the website: catholiccare.org

PARISH SAFEGUARDING

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. 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.

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: Lance Cronin and Sarkis Sakr.

ANNIVERSARIES: Patricia Wilkinson, Carlo Meola, Sabatino Trovato, Nada Huber, Joseph Zalloug, Zac Zalloug and Tjamas Djana.

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

"More than ever should we be humble and patient, charitable and forgiving." 4.11.1884

