

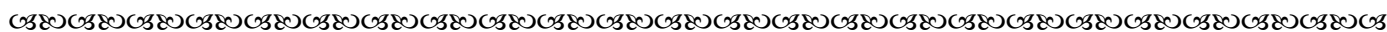
PARISHES OF ST GABRIEL'S, BEXLEY and ST MARY MACKILLOP'S, ROCKDALE CITY

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

6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B - 10 & 11 FEBRUARY 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 (Italian) 10.30am 6.00pm (Third Sunday only Filipino)	----- 9.00am 5.00pm
WEEKDAY MASSES	9.00am Wednesday 9.00am Friday	7.00pm Tuesday (Devotions, Exposition, Benediction & Rosary from 5.30pm) 9.00am Thursday	9.00am Monday 9.30am Thursday 9.00am Saturday (Benediction at 8.45am)
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: Lev 13:1-2; 44-46; 2nd Reading: 1 Cor 10:31-11:1; Gospel: Mk 1:40-45			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Ps 31:1-2.5.11

I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble,
and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Happy the man whose offence is forgiven,
whose sin is remitted.

O happy the man to whom the Lord
imputes no guilt, in whose spirit is no guile.

But now I have acknowledged my sins;
my guilt I did not hide.

I said: 'I will confess my offence to the Lord.'

And you, Lord, have forgiven the guilt of my sin. *R/*

Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord, exult, you just!

O come, ring out your joy,
all you upright of heart. *R/*



ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES
This coming Wednesday, 14th February.

The schedule is:

- 8.00am Marist College Kogarah Chapel
- 9.00am Arncliffe
- 9.00am Rockdale
- 10.30am Bexley
- 10.30am (Italian) Rockdale
- 7.00pm Rockdale

PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY

Please take home a Project Compassion box or set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and for all future generations. With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction. Project Compassion 2024 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. 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.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us;
God has visited his people.

Alleluia!

BAPTISM

This Sunday we welcome Isabella Sterjoski who will be baptised at St Francis Xavier's. We also welcome her family and friends who join her on this special occasion.



ASH WEDNESDAY

This coming Wednesday, 14th February, is Ash Wednesday and marks the beginning of Lent. As per the ancient practice of the Church, abstinence from meat, and fasting, are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. *(All who have completed their eighteenth year and have not begun their sixtieth year are bound to fast. All who have completed their fourteenth year are bound to abstain from meat).* On all other Fridays, the common practice of penance is fulfilled by any one of the following:

- (a) Prayer – e.g. Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying the Rosary.
- (b) Fasting or Self-denial – e.g. not eating meat; not eating sweets or dessert; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give the money to the poor.
- (c) Almsgiving or Helping others – e.g. special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or overburdened or some other act of charity, like donating to the Project Compassion Appeal.

PASCHAL PRECEPT

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is to be done between Ash Wednesday and Trinity Sunday unless for a good reason it is done at another time during the year. All the faithful are obliged to confess their grave sins at least once a year.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

Commencing from this Friday, 16th February, the 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.

LENTEN PROGRAM

Father Norvin will be leading a Lenten Program in St Joseph's Hall this **Thursday evening from 6.00 – 7.00pm**. This will continue until Thursday, 21st March. If you would like to join Father Norvin, please come along and bring a friend. Numbers are not limited, and all are most welcome.

ST GABRIEL'S PLAYGROUP

The Playgroup at St Gabriel's has recommenced but is now held on Wednesdays in the St Gabriel's Parish Hall. This is for parish children who have not yet started school. The group meets from 9.30 – 11.00am every Wednesday during the school terms but not in school holidays. If you would like more information, please come along on Wednesday or contact St Gabriel's School office and leave a message for Rebecca to call you when she can.

COVID REMINDER

- Please note that Covid is having a local resurgence and masks are still 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.

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.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This year the annual World Day of Prayer will be held on **Friday, 1st March** in St Thomas More Catholic Church, Brighton-le-Sands at 10.30am.

The service this year has been prepared by the committee for Palestine with the theme "I beg of you...bear with one another in love".

N.B. *This service was prepared well before the present situation in Palestine.*

World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome all our parishioners to join in prayer and action for peace and justice.

Light refreshments will follow the service.

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.

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: Patricia Wilkinson, Vincenzo Suppa, Florello Galindo and Zosima Celestian.

ANNIVERSARIES: Mary-Imelda Leslie, Pio Leso, Raquel Goncalves, Desmond Worboys, Charlie Nohra, Barrie Fisher and Domenico Puopolo.

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

"All is in the hands of God." 1.12.1881



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