



# 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)

## 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR B - 13 & 14 APRIL 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](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> )  | 9.00am   |
| <b>Sunday Masses</b>  |  | 10.30am<br>6.00pm ( <i>Third Sunday only Filipino</i> )  | 5.00pm   |
| <b>WEEKDAY MASSES</b>   | 9.00am Wednesday<br>9.00am Friday  | 7.00pm Tuesday ( <i>Devotions, Exposition, Benediction &amp; Rosary from 5.30pm</i> )<br>9.00am Thursday | 9.00am Monday<br>9.30am Thursday<br>9.00am Saturday ( <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.   |  |  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading: <i>Acts 3:13-15, 17-19</i> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: <i>1 Jn 2:1-5</i> ; Gospel: <i>Lk 24:35-48</i> |  |  |  |

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM 4:2, 4, 5, 9

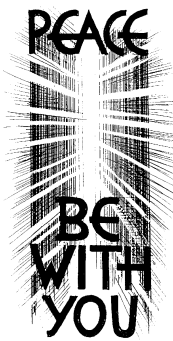
**Lord, let your face shine on us.**

When I call, answer me, O God of justice;  
from anguish you released me,  
have mercy and hear me! *R/*

It is the Lord who grants favours  
to those whom he loves;  
the Lord hears me whenever I call him. *R/*

‘What can bring us happiness?’ many say.  
Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord. *R/*

I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once,  
for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety. *R/*



### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:  
make our hearts burn with love when you speak.

**Alleluia!**



### BAPTISMS

This Sunday we welcome Jasmine Barnes, Noah Whittaker and Michael and Serena Lim who will be baptised at St Joseph's. We also welcome their families and friends who join them on this wonderful occasion.



### FUNERAL THIS WEEK

A Requiem Mass will be held in St Joseph's Church this Monday morning at 10.30am for the late Victor Romanov. Please keep his wife Elaine in your prayers at this very sad time.

### PROJECT COMPASSION DONATIONS

**Please return your Project Compassion envelopes and boxes by next weekend.** If you wish to receive a tax-deductible receipt at the end of the financial year, please provide your complete ALL details (name, address, contact number) on the slip provided.



### DAY OF THE UNBORN CHILD

The Feast of the Annunciation is internationally recognised as the Day of the Unborn Child. It marks the day Our Lord Jesus Christ became a tiny unborn child in His mother's womb, and it is a day of celebration and remembrance of the dignity of the unborn. An initiative of Family Life International, **this Sunday, April 14**, there will be a street procession following 10:30 a.m. Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney. Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP will lead the procession, which will be followed by an address at Parliament House by guest speaker Archbishop Julian Porteous. All are welcome so please invite family and friends as we process for life!

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to all those who helped organise and decorate St Joseph's Church for the Divine Mercy Sunday celebrations in our parish last Sunday. Your efforts were very much appreciated by all who attended.



## HELP STOP THE 'EQUALITY' BILL

NSW Parliament will soon be debating a bill tabled by Alex Greenwich MP. While marketed as an 'equality' bill, the bill will have disastrous impacts on vulnerable women and children, as well as for faith communities. Amongst the proposals are the liberalisation of prostitution and surrogacy laws, the ability for a person to self-identify their sex on official documents and the stripping away of religious protections in our laws. A parliamentary inquiry is currently underway, with the community invited to fill out a short survey to express their views. <https://bit.ly/3VIPpNB> **The survey closes this Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April.**

## EUCCHARISTIC RETREAT DAY

Our parish Liturgical Ministers are invited to join the Liturgy Office of the Archdiocese of Sydney and the Dominican Sisters of Saint Cecilia for a Eucharistic Retreat Day. All liturgical ministers from our parishes are invited, especially those whose contribution can sometimes be overlooked, e.g. Ushers, Greeters, Collectors, AV Operators, etc. Naturally, other liturgical ministers, such as Readers, Acolytes, Cantors and Musicians, Sacristans, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, etc. are also invited. This day will help you grow in your love for and devotion to the gift of the Holy Eucharist. In addition to talks, a personal testimony, and discussion, the day will include time for silence and prayer during a Holy Hour. An opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available. Morning tea and lunch are provided. **This will be held on Saturday, 11 May** at St Martha's, 38 Renwick Street, Leichhardt. The doors open at 9.30am and the retreat will be held from 10:00am - 4:00pm. **The cost is \$15.** For more information, email [sydney@op-tn.org](mailto:sydney@op-tn.org) or to book <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1162316>

## SUPPORT FOR CANA COMMUNITIES

Some 225 people in Sydney sleep rough every night, and Cana Communities operates homeless shelters in Sydney, with St Francis Shelter the latest to open its doors in Redfern. Run entirely by volunteers, Cana needs volunteers for Wednesday (women's only night) and Friday shifts (6pm-9:30pm or 9:30pm-7:30am) to welcome and assist guests and prepare meals. All volunteers will receive training. The impact on guests at these shelters cannot be overestimated, considering the alternatives. Be part of a caring community passionate about helping others and making a change. Find out more about becoming a volunteer by email [info@cana.org.au](mailto:info@cana.org.au)

## BECOME A GREATER LIKENESS OF CHRIST!

Join Friar Ben Johnson OFMCap online for a thought-provoking short course, titled 'Christ the Purgative, Illuminative, and Perfective Way: An Introduction to Christology.' To be held on **Mondays 15, 22, and 29 April** from 7:30pm - 8:45pm - **Online via Zoom.** The cost per course is \$35. To find out more and to register, visit [gomakedisciples.org.au/didasko](http://gomakedisciples.org.au/didasko)

## 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

- Neocat ordinands walk through "valley of death" to diaconate
- Vatican publishes document on human dignity
- St George icons exhibited by painter Michael Galovic
- Mathoura Carmel veils first local sister
- Disciple Diaries: God taught Quyen love
- Rome calls for worldwide ban on surrogacy

## EMMAUS SILENT RETREAT

Embark on the sacred journey of the disciples on the road to Emmaus, where the victorious love of God is revealed through the abiding presence of Jesus. Be renewed in spending time alone with the Lord and watch as He slowly sets your heart ablaze. This retreat is run by the MGL Sisters and is a retreat for both men and women. **Next Friday 19th April - Sunday 21st April** at 345 St. Andrews Rd, Varroville. Please use the link for more information and registration at [trybooking.com/CNSXX](http://trybooking.com/CNSXX)

## AWAKE DAY RETREAT

Awaken to a renewed experience of God's love and rediscover the joy of your life with the Risen Jesus during this day retreat with the MGL Sisters. This will be held on **Saturday 15th June** at 345 St. Andrews Rd, Varroville. Please use the link for more information or to book at [trybooking.com/CNTCH](http://trybooking.com/CNTCH)

## 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.

## 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:** Victor Romanov

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Tess Dinan, Gregory Doyle, Valerie Ingram and Martin Michael.

**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

"Do not be troubled about the future of the Institute. I am not. He whose work it is, will take care of it." 1.12.1898

