



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 EASTER - 14 & 15 MAY 2022

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 calling in.)

Italian Chaplain: Fr Adriano Pittarello: 8068 1595

SCHOOLS:

St Joseph's Primary, Rockdale: 9599 2541 - Principal: Ms Carolyn Yeats

St Francis Xavier's Primary, Arncliffe: 9567 5389 – Acting 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. | | |
| 1 st Reading: <i>Acts 14:21-27</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>Apoc 21:1-5</i> ; Gospel: <i>Jn 13:31-35</i> | | | |

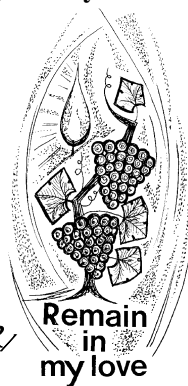
RESPONSORIAL PSALM 144:8-13

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. *R/*

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God,
to make known to men your mighty deeds
and the glorious splendour of your reign. *R/*

Yours is an everlasting kingdom;
your rule lasts from age to age. *R/*



CHARITABLE WORKS' FUND (CWF)

Many thanks to those who contributed to the Charitable Works Fund Appeal held last weekend. Your ongoing financial support of the Archdiocese's initiatives is very much appreciated. Donations are still being accepted and may be placed in the special CWF envelope and put into any of the collections at Mass this weekend.



CONFIRMATION 2022

This information is for the parents of students currently in Years 6 or older who have received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion. The Parent Information Meeting will be held on **Thursday, 26th May** at 7.00pm, St Joseph's Hall in Rockdale. If your son or daughter is to receive the Sacrament this year, it is imperative that one of the parents or a carer attends this meeting. **The meeting is not for the children.** The Sacrament of Confirmation this year will be held in St Mary's Cathedral on **Sunday, 31st July** at 3.00pm with other parishes in the St George Deanery.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!

BAPTISMS

This weekend we welcome Krystal Cahill who will be baptised at St Gabriel's and Nyla Milkins at St Joseph's. We also welcome their families and friends who join them on this special occasion.



PENTECOST RETREAT

Jesus Light of the World Communities invite parishioners to their Pentecost Retreat "Let The Fire Fall" on Saturday June 4, from 9:00 am - 4:30 pm in St Joseph's Parish Hall, Parker St, Rockdale. The Speakers are Marina George and Ron Maldigri. Book - www.trybooking.com/BYXKO

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Any parishioners, particularly new parishioners, who wish to participate in the Planned Giving Envelope System for the coming New Financial Year are asked to contact the Parish Office. 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.

If there are any parishioners who currently donate through the envelopes but who may want to change to a 'non-tax category', they are asked to please contact the Parish Office (9567 1558 or admin@mmrc.org.au) as soon as possible so we can organise the changes before the new financial year commences. All enquiries are welcome.

N.B. Parishioners who have Envelope numbers 1-99 (Rockdale or Bexley) and 200-299 (Arncliffe) already qualify to claim the tax deduction in their tax return.

HOW THE PARISH USES YOUR DONATIONS – DID YOU KNOW?

First Collection

Money from the first collection supports the needs of priests in the Archdiocese. In addition, money from Easter and Christmas offerings, wedding and baptism offerings are added to the first collection. This is passed on to the Archdiocese.

Our parish currently collects more than is needed for our own priests here, so the surplus is sent to a central fund that supports other parishes and priestly ministries.

Second Collection

This collection includes donations through the planned giving envelopes, as well as the cash placed on the plate. The parish **must** work within its own budget and is unable to draw money for expenses from any source other than its own parish income.

These funds are used to cover ALL parish expenses and to support pastoral activities. Expenses include administration, insurance, utilities, staff salaries, priests' car expenses, and the repair and maintenance of all parish buildings.

These funds are also used to cover our shortfall in the yearly target set by the Archdiocese for the Charitable Works Fund (CWF). As our parish does not meet the CWF target; funds are directed to the shortfall each year.

Special Collections

The Parish does not retain any money from these collections. These include Charitable Works Fund Appeals, Holy Father's Collection, Catholic Mission, St Vincent de Paul Society and Caritas/Project Compassion.

Thank You

Your ongoing generosity and support of the Parish is gratefully acknowledged. Everyone's circumstances are different. Please know that you are not expected to give any more than is reasonable.

ETHIOPIAN ARCHBISHOP VISITS SYDNEY

The aid agency Catholic Mission is hosting a visit to Sydney this month by Cardinal Berhaneyesus Demerrew Souraphiel, the Archbishop of Addis Ababa and member of the Congregation for Oriental Churches. During his visit Cardinal Souraphiel will celebrate Mass at St Mary's Cathedral **next Sunday 22 May** at 10:30am. **All 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.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING TRAINING UPDATE

All parish volunteers who are Acolytes, Readers, Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers and Choir members, are required to update their status by attending a training session. Unfortunately, due to current COVID-19 concerns the Safeguarding Office has decided to present all training online or via zoom. The most important thing is to ensure the wellbeing and safety of our communities and we can do this by presenting via zoom or online.

Volunteers can register for the new Refresher Training via this link <https://forms.gle/XuQFsRsvq3BYtXqT9> (which is a different link from the other online training registrations). Just a reminder that volunteers only need to complete the Refresher Training if they have completed the Induction Training a minimum of three years ago.

The last available date for the Zoom Refresher Training is this coming Monday, May 16 from 3.00 – 4.00pm. Volunteers will simply need to register their attendance by email: safeguardingtraining@sydneycatholic.org

HONOURING AUSTRALIA'S PATRONESS

A Procession for the Feast of Mary Help of Christians will be held next **Saturday 21st May** at 10:30am beginning at St Peters Church Devonshire St, Surry Hills, with a Pilgrim's Blessing and start of procession. This will be concluded at 12 noon at St Marys Cathedral with Mass in Honour of Mary Help of Christians Praying for World Peace (celebrated by Auxiliary Bishop Daniel Meagher). Parish Banners and Flags Welcome!

RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES

- Masks are still recommended in **churches** especially with a new version of the virus in the community.
- When preparing to receive Holy Communion, parishioners are asked to go seat by seat to enable more distancing between others who are in the line. Please wait until there is space to join the queue before standing up.
- Please do not come to the church if you are unwell, even if you do not think you have Covid and just have a sore throat, headache or a simple cold.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Andriya Bauk.

ANNIVERSARIES: Elizabeth Workman, Gladys Oakes, Glorie Black, Joseph Lauricella, Petronila Fidow, Albert Cahill, George Spiteri, Elia, Grace, Les and Jean Spiteri.

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

“Earnestly desire to live more purely for God, especially in little things, and by such means, to be faithful in greater. Retreat notes 1877

