

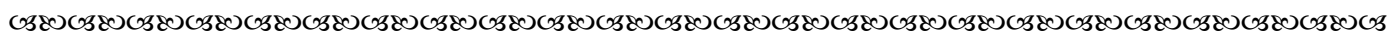
PARISHES OF ST GABRIEL'S, BEXLEY and ST MARY MACKILLOP'S, ROCKDALE CITY

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

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A - 21 & 22 JANUARY 2023

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 Carolyn Yeats

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	5.00pm Saturday	6.30pm Saturday	-----
Saturday Vigil	9.00am	9.00am (<i>Italian</i>)	9.00am
Sunday Masses		10.30am	5.00pm
		6.00pm (<i>Third Sunday only Filipino</i>)	
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	11.30am 2 nd Sunday of the month	10.00am 3 rd Sunday of the month
	Please phone the Parish Office to make an enquiry or booking on 9567 1558 during office hours.		
WEDDINGS	Monday to Saturday by appointment.		
1 st Reading: <i>Is 8:23-9:3</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>1 Cor 1:10-13, 17</i> ; Gospel: <i>Mt 4:12-23</i>			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 26:1.4.13-14

The Lord is my light and my salvation.



The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
before whom shall I shrink? *R/*

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, for this I long,
to live in the house of the Lord, all the days of my life,
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,
to behold his temple. *R/*

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord! *R/*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!



WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL AND WORK!

Welcome back to all those who have been away during the summer holiday period, especially the students and staff of our schools. I hope the beginning of the school year finds everyone refreshed and ready for another year of learning. We also welcome new teaching staff and the new families in our schools.

PONTIFICAL REQUIEM MASS FOR THE LATE GEORGE CARDINAL PELL

The Funeral Mass for our late Archbishop will be held on **Thursday 2 February** at 11am in St Mary's Cathedral. Members of the public are invited to attend. If you're unable to attend the Funeral Mass, there will also be other opportunities to pay our respects to our late Archbishop, George Cardinal Pell at St Mary's Cathedral.

Wednesday 1 February

9:30am Reception of the Body and Commencement of Lying in State

1:10pm A Mass for the Dead

5:30pm Evening Prayer and Vigil

8:00pm A Mass for the Dead

Thursday 2 February

6:45am Mass for the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord
11:00am Pontifical Requiem Mass (Cathedral Doors open from 9:00am)

Please continue to pray for the repose of the soul of our late Archbishop.

HAPPY AUSTRALIA DAY!

We wish all our parishioners a very Happy Australia Day for this coming Thursday and hope you have a wonderful day celebrating our heritage with your families, friends and neighbours.

RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES

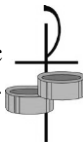
- **Masks are still highly recommended in churches, especially over the Christmas period as Covid is still very much in our local community.**
- **Please do not come to Mass if you are Positive for Covid, unwell or even if you just have a sore throat or a simple cold.**
- When preparing to receive Holy Communion, parishioners are asked to go seat by seat to enable more distancing between others who are in the line. Please wait until there is space and distance before joining the queue.

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Thursday, 2nd February is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. **Next Sunday, 5th February**, parents are invited to attend the 9am Masses at Bexley & Arncliffe and 10.30am Mass at Rockdale with their children where the children will be given a special blessing.

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Andrew Waban and Daniella Knezevic who will be married this Sunday at Francis Xavier's. We wish them a lifetime of love and happiness.



ADVANCE NOTICE – WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday, 3rd March is the annual World Day of Prayer and this year it will be held in St Joseph's Church as part of the rotation of our local Christian Churches. The service starts at 10:30am. This will last about an hour and will be followed by refreshments in the parish hall. Please gather some friends and come along and join in this Ecumenical Service. More information to come.

PART TIME PARISH SECRETARY POSITION

St Joseph's Parish Riverwood is seeking a part time Parish Secretary. Hours are 9:30am to 3:30pm every Thursday and Friday. The role is shared with the Parish Finance Secretary. Responsibilities include general administration, phone enquiries and maintenance of sacramental registers. Experience preferred. MYOB experience an advantage. For any enquiries or to request a job description or send your application, including a one-page cover letter and CV, please email stjosephriverwood@outlook.com or phone the Parish on 0490 754 963. Applications close Tuesday 31 January.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

Aid to the Church in Need is asking for support to aid sisters in Kenya in building a new mother house and formation centre for their local community. Hunger, illiteracy, and lack of medical provision, combined with desperately poor roads and a lack of clean drinking water make life incredibly difficult for many people in Kenya. The diocesan congregation of the "Visitation Daughters of the Immaculate Heart" were established in order to help this needy population - but to continue their work they need your help! The sisters' work includes caring for expectant mothers, acting as midwives, providing counselling, caring for the sick and looking after the elderly and orphans who are frequently abandoned by society. Your support will help these sisters to continue their mission by providing them with a permanent convent. To make an offering and learn more visit their website:

<https://aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject> or scan this code.



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.

2023 COLUMBAN CALENDARS

There are only a few 2023 Calendars remaining for \$10.00 in our Piety Stalls.

LIMITED STOCK OF SPECIAL VOTIVE CANDLES

Only Arncliffe and Bexley still have these candles available if you wish to purchase one. They are designed for use at home as a tribute to a loved one, or holy devotion. They are on sale now for \$35 in the Piety Stalls.

CATHOLICS MAINTAINING TOTAL ABSTINENCE USING THE 12-STEPS

Why is Christmas time sometimes called the "silly season"? If you or a friend have a problem with addiction, you can investigate the Calix Society whose members have been working 12-steps of Alcoholics Anonymous since 1947, because the "god as you understand him" of the 12-steps is insufficient. The Calix Society is an association of Catholic alcoholics, drug addicts, and family members and friends affected by addiction, who are maintaining their sobriety through participation in their Catholic faith and a 12 Step program. We welcome anyone concerned with the illness of alcoholism or addiction who wish to join with us in prayer for: total abstinence, spiritual development, and sanctification of the whole personality. The silly season, or the Holy Season? We are not party poopers or wowsers, we enjoy sobriety. Check <https://www.calixsociety.org/> or provide your number to calixsydney@outlook.com for an obligation free and confidential phone call.

THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

This weekend's edition is devoted to coverage and tributes following the death of Cardinal George Pell.

- Pope presides at farewell for Cardinal Pell
- Archbishop Fisher reflects on Cardinal's life
- Homily for a former pope
- Monica Doumit: the myths they told
- Those who loved George Pell
- A life of extraordinary achievement

RECENTLY DECEASED: Pope Emeritus Benedict, Cardinal George Pell, Antonia Festa, Danielle Yepes, Craig Harnett, Giuseppina Guarnieri and Israel Read.

ANNIVERSARIES: Ross Hili, Giovanni Suppa, Patricia Mayhew, Carlo Meola and Sabatino Trovato.

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 WACKILLOP'S QUOTE

"True charitable humility is open. It is generous in its motives. It troubles not about either the esteem or censure of people." 21.1.1870.



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