

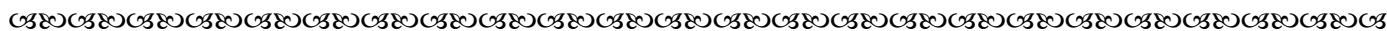
# PARISHES OF ST GABRIEL'S, BEXLEY and ST MARY MACKILLOP'S, ROCKDALE CITY

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

## 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B - 13 & 14 JANUARY 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 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
<b>WEEKEND MASSES</b> 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
<b>WEEKDAY MASSES</b>	9.00am Wednesday 9.00am Friday	7.00pm Tuesday ( <i>Devotions, Exposition, Benediction &amp; Rosary from 5.30pm</i> ) 9.00am Thursday	9.00am Monday 9.30am Thursday 9.00am Saturday ( <i>Benediction at 8.45am</i> )
<b>CONFESSIONS</b>	4.00 – 4.30pm 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday of the Month	5.30 – 6.00pm 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the Month	8.00 – 8.40am Saturday
<b>BAPTISMS</b>	10.00am 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month Please phone the Parish Office to make an enquiry or booking on 9567 1558 during office hours.	11.30am 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month	10.00am 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month
<b>WEDDINGS</b>	Monday to Saturday by appointment.		
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading: <i>1 Sam 3:3-10,19</i> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: <i>1 Cor 6:13-15,17-20</i> ; Gospel: <i>Jn 1:35-42</i>			

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** - 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 it, O Lord. *R/*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

We have found the Messiah:  
Jesus Christ,  
who brings us truth and grace.  
**Alleluia!**



**FUNERALS THIS WEEK**

- A Requiem Mass will be held in St Joseph's Church this coming **Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> January** at 10.30am for the late Mabel (Mabs) Pasfield, wife of Bernie.
- A Requiem Mass will be held in St Francis Xavier's Church this coming **Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> January** at 10.00am for the late Clare Lyons.

Please keep the families of these two long-time parishioners in your prayers at this very sad time.

**BECOME A CATECHIST OR HELPER IN 2024**

Half of Catholic children in Sydney are in public primary and high schools. We are asking if you would share the hope and joy that Jesus brings with them and become a catechist or helper, ready to start in February. Starting off as a helper, you'll receive easy step-by-step lessons and hand out activity books in primary schools. Find out more about the work catechists do here, whether at primary or secondary level: <https://ccd.sydneycatholic.org>

Please speak with Fr Yacub or email the parish office and your email will be forwarded to either Maree Ross (Rockdale/ Arncliffe schools) or Laura Argiro (Bexley North school). A Working With Children Check is required.



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

### CHURCH SERVICE DRESS CODE REMINDER

As we enter the summer season, 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.

### BAPTISM

This Sunday we welcome Laura Flores at St Joseph's. We also welcome her family and friends who join her on this special occasion.



### AN EVENING WITH CHRISTOPHER WEST

*"Male and Female He Created Them"*

Following Dr Christopher West's Made for More presentation earlier last year, he returns to Sydney to dive deeper with families to rediscover authentic masculinity and femininity. This not-to-be-missed one-night presentation will provide a hopeful and redemptive understanding of our creation's original and glorious meaning as male and female. To be held on Saturday, 20 January at All Saints Liverpool Catholic Parish, 48 George Street, Liverpool from 7:00pm - 9:30pm. (Doors open at 6:30pm). Cost: \$20 general admission. \$15 concession/student For more information and to purchase tickets, visit: <https://sydneycatholic.org/summer-series/>.

### JESUS LIGHT OF THE WORLD COMMUNITIES RECHARGE GATHERING

This January, the Jesus Light of the World Communities in Rockdale are hosting a ReCHARGE gathering with praise, worship, prayer, empowerment and fellowship. St Joseph Parish Hall Parker St., Rockdale. Coming speakers are:

**20 January** - Rev Fr Rey Sentillas MI

**27 January** - Nestor Aldana

2.30 pm - Rosary

3.00 pm - Praise and Worship

3.30 pm - Talk

4.30 pm - Prayer Ministry

5.00 pm - Afternoon Tea

Enquiries: Helen: 0433 455 114, Ida: 0424 267 500 or email [jlowcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:jlowcommunity@gmail.com)

Website: [www.jlowcom.org](http://www.jlowcom.org)

### MASS INTENTION ENVELOPES

These are located at the doors of each of our Churches. It is always important to give at least one week's notice if you wish the name of a deceased loved one to be mentioned at a particular Mass.

### 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

- Remembering Cardinal Pell's passion for education
- Christmas cheer as Christ walks the streets
- Surprising music playlist for 2024
- Fr Vince's ordination dream comes true after mother's gift

### PARISH SAFEGUARDING

Sexual abuse is a crime. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. You can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at 9390 5810 or [equiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:equiries@sydneycatholic.org). The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

### MARRIAGE PREPARATION WEEKEND

Engagement is a beautiful time to intentionally prepare for your vocation. The 'Of Life and Love' Marriage Preparation Weekend will help you to understand more deeply the sacramental nature of marriage, offer practical wisdom from married couples and provide opportunity for discussion and prayer. Of Life and Love is a recognised marriage preparation course. To be held on 24-25th February (no overnight stay) at St Luke the Evangelist, 1 Beaconsfield St, Revesby. More information and registration at [www.trybooking.com/CMGTS](http://www.trybooking.com/CMGTS)

### 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.

### 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:** Mabel Pasfield, Clare Lyons, Vince Suppa and Rosalia Mainente.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Rita Briscoe-Hough, Nada Huber, Eleonore Shalhoub, Sylvia Moussa,

**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

"I saw that God would provide the means, would guide me on the way, and would provide a friend to do for me what I could not do myself."

To Monsignor Kirby 1873

