

# 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 IN ORDINARY TIME - 22 & 23 JANUARY 2022

Parish Priest – Fr Yacub Barkat



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 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
<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>Neh 8:2-6, 8-10</i> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: <i>1 Cor 12:12-30</i> ; Gospel: <i>Lk 1:1-4, 4:4-21</i>			

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM 18:8-10.15

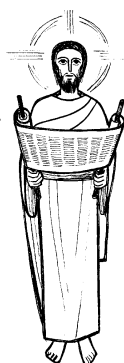
Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul.  
 The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,  
 it gives wisdom to the simple. *R/*

The precepts of the Lord are right,  
 they gladden the heart.  
 The command of the Lord is clear,  
 it gives light to the eyes. *R/*

The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever.  
 The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just. *R/*

May the spoken words of my mouth,  
 the thoughts of my heart,  
 win favour in your sight,  
 O Lord, my rescuer, my rock! *R/*



## BECOME A CATECHIST OR HELPER IN 2022

Half of Catholic children in Sydney are in public primary and high schools. We ask if you would share the hope and joy that Jesus brings with them and become a catechist or helper, ready to start in Term 1, 2022. 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 the Catechist Coordinators: Lee Kendrick (Rockdale/Arncliffe), 0422 257 331 or Laura Argiro (Bexley) 0433 444 469.

## THANK YOU FROM ST VINCENT DE PAUL BEXLEY

The St Vincent De Paul Society Ladies Conference at Bexley would like to thank those who donated a present to someone through their annual Christmas Tree Appeal. Your gifts were greatly appreciated by families at Marian Villa Women's Refuge. ☺

## PARISH SAFEGUARDING

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners.

Alleluia!



## 2022 COLUMBAN CALENDARS

There are still some copies of the 2022 Columban Calendar available at the Piety Stalls for \$10 each.

### **RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES**

- Check-ins are still required for places of worship, funerals or memorial services.
- Masks are again mandatory in places where you cannot socially distance, **i.e., places of worship.**
- Singing is now permitted but with masks on.
- The sign of peace and passing of the collection plate continue to be suspended.
- **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 go from the nearest seat to the Priest or Acolyte but please wait until there is space to join the queue before standing up.**
- ANYONE entering the church must give their details before entering the church. You can use the Service NSW QR code at the door or sign the parish sheets.
- Only one door will be opened to enable accurate recording of those attending.
- Hands must be sanitised when entering the church.
- Please do not come to the church if you are unwell, even if you do not think you have Covid and just a sore throat or a simple cold.

### **WELCOME BACK TO WORK AND SCHOOL!**

Welcome back to all those who have managed to get 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 year of (hopefully uninterrupted) learning. Welcome to new staff and students joining us this year. ☺

### **PART TIME COOK REQUIRED**

The Redemptorist Fathers who live in Kogarah are seeking a part-time cook to assist the priests with meals. You would be required from Monday to Friday between 8am to 2pm. Please call 9553 3777 for more information.

### **POSITION VACANT**

Province Bookkeeper, Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, Coogee. 3 days per week ideally Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays. For further information contact Anthony Spata on 0402 210 055.

### **MASS INTENTION ENVELOPES**

These are located at the doors of each of our Churches. It is always helpful 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.

### **RECLAIMING EVANGELISATION**

You are invited to attend Dr Mary Healy's live online address to the faithful of Sydney on the topic 'Why Make Disciples? This will be held on **Saturday 12 February**, 10 – 11:30am. What Scripture tells us about calling and forming disciples.' Dr Mary Healy is a professor of Scripture at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, as well as an accomplished author and international speaker. Places limited and registrations essential via [www.gomakedisciples.org.au](http://www.gomakedisciples.org.au)

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

### **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.

### **HOW THE PARISH USES YOUR DONATIONS – DID YOU KNOW?**

#### **First Collection**

Money from the first collection supports the needs of our priests. In addition, money from Easter and Christmas offerings, wedding and baptism offerings are added to the first collection.

Our parish currently collects more than is needed for our priests, 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 expenses and support our pastoral activities. Expenses include administration, insurance, utilities, staff salaries, priests' car expenses, and the repair and maintenance of all buildings (churches, halls, presbyteries, convent and office).

The 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 from the Second Collections.

#### **Special Collections**

The Parish does not retain any money from these collections. E.g., CWF, Vinnies, Priests Retirement etc.

#### **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.

### **PRAYERS FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISHES**

We have a number of parishioners who are suffering from cancer and other serious illnesses, so we ask that you please keep them all in your prayers.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Maureen Chapman

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Ross Hili, Patricia Mayhew, Giovanni Suppa, Carlo Meola, and Kathy Cavaliere.

**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 rest in peace.**

### **ST MARY MACKILLOP'S QUOTE**

"Let us study the Heart of God and, in doing so, we shall learn many beautiful lessons of patience and love." (11.10.1871)

