



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)

EASTER SUNDAY - YEAR B - 30 & 31 MARCH 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

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 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
WEEKEND MASSES	5.00pm Saturday	6.30pm Saturday	-----
Saturday Vigil	9.00am	9.00am (<i>Italian</i>)	9.00am
Sunday Masses		10.30am 6.00pm (<i>Third Sunday only Filipino</i>)	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 10:34.37-43</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6-8</i> ; Gospel: <i>Jn 20:1-9</i> (<i>Sunday Morning Mass only</i>)			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Sunday Morning Mass only)

**This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad**

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end. *R/*

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.

I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. *R/*

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. *R/*



REACT GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia!



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Office will re-open this **Tuesday 2nd April** at 9am. **The office will also be closed on ANZAC Day, Thursday, 25th April.**

FUNERAL

A Requiem Mass will be held in St Joseph's Church this **Wednesday, 3rd April** at 11.00am for the late Clementina Zanardo. Please keep her family in your prayers.

EASTER SUNDAY

Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!

Thank you for your continued support through Project Compassion. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, for all future generations.

You can still donate to Project Compassion by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.



Please return your Project Compassion donation envelopes and boxes as soon as possible. Please provide your complete details (name, address, contact number) on the slip provided if you wish to receive a tax-deductible receipt at the end of the financial year.



EASTER OFFERING ENVELOPES

Please don't forget that **Easter Offerings** are a vital income for the church. The special envelopes will be found in each of our churches. The money from the Easter Offerings is remitted to a central fund caring for the needs of priests and deacons of the Archdiocese who need support. Your ongoing prayerful and practical support of the clergy in the Archdiocese is appreciated.

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

EASTER MESSAGE 2024

Happy Easter! Let us celebrate the resurrection of Jesus and the hope that it brings to our lives!

Let us welcome the Risen Christ who has given us a new life. His love is all embracing, without limit, totally inclusive and we are made new through His light that shines on us. Jesus 'resurrection is a path of renewal, of transformation from sadness to joy, from sickness to healing, from desolation to consolation. In Jesus' resurrection we see how good triumphs over evil.

We all know the sadness of Mary Magdala and the other disciples seeing the empty tomb, and how the sadness was transformed to an immense joy knowing that Christ rose from the dead. All of us are called to be transformed by His Easter joy. Still in the spirit of Synodality, "God wants to renew the whole church in this season of human history." As a Church, as a parish we are called to share with everyone the joy of Easter, of Christ who is truly risen and present in our midst. "Walking with the world is the path by which we can live out this mission." Let us allow ourselves to be transformed of walking together with others, collaborating and helping one another. Our Crucified and Risen Lord comes to encounter us through others, just as He comes to encounter others through us. He is present and alive in our midst as we journey together.

May this Easter season bring us joy and hope as we rise with Christ in the newness of life.

EASTER HOME BLESSING

It is a custom for people to want their houses blessed at Easter. Please feel free to take a bottle of newly-blessed Easter Water. **Please only take one bottle** this weekend to ensure there are sufficient for people attending the other Masses. If you wish to have a priest visit to bless your home, please contact the Parish Office **after Tuesday**.

DIVINE MERCY MASS

Next Sunday, 7th April, is the Second Sunday of Easter and the Feast of Divine Mercy. This will be celebrated at St Joseph's Church, Rockdale with an observance of the Holy Hour, Benediction and Reconciliation at 2pm, followed by Mass at 3:15pm. Come and celebrate with us!

DAYLIGHT SAVING ENDING

Next Saturday night/Sunday morning Daylight Saving will end. You will need to put your clocks **back one hour** before going to bed next Saturday night. If you forget to do so you could be late for Mass next Sunday morning.

WALK BY FAITH NOT BY SIGHT

The Jesus Light of the World Communities invite parishioners to day retreat with Mother Mary and Fr Rey Sentillas, MI will be held on **Saturday, 13 April** from 9:00 am – 5:30pm (including Mass) in St Joseph's Parish Hall, Rockdale, Parking in the school grounds. **FREE** Morning Tea, Lunch and Afternoon Tea. Booking essential for the purpose of catering Enquiries: Helen – 0433 455 114 or Ida – 0424 267 500.

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.

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.

MARIST COLLEGE KOGARAH

Parents, please note that the closing date for enrolling your sons at Marist College Kogarah for **Year 7 2026** is this coming **Friday, 5 April**.

WALZ STREET CLOSURE

Bayside Council is closing the Walz Street for the celebration of Ramadan in Bayside between 4.30pm and 1.00am **next Saturday 7th April**. Vehicles will not be permitted to enter or park in Walz Street between these hours.

All those who drive to the church for the 6:30pm Mass are to enter the school playground parking area via Railway and Parker Streets. **This will require you to request access** to the Church through the council barricades as they will close Parker St and Hesten Lane. Please note that the church/school grounds will be locked up at 7.30pm promptly following Mass and any cars left in these areas will have to remain until the gates are opened for the Sunday morning Mass. Please do not plan to attend the festival and to park in the school grounds.

MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED

Thank you to all those people, too numerous to name personally, who helped make our celebrations this week both prayerful and beautiful. The musicians and singers, the young people who presented the Stations of the Cross, the readers, acolytes, extra-ordinary ministers of Holy Communion, servers, those who volunteered to have their feet washed, the flower arrangers, those who prepared and cleaned the sanctuaries and churches, and those who prepared the Easter fires. No doubt someone has been missed from this list for which I apologise.



It is important for us to acknowledge the generosity and dedication of these people who volunteer their time and efforts in order that we may enjoy the privilege of gathering in a lovely and peaceful setting to worship and praise our God. Let us not take the efforts of these people for granted. Perhaps their example might inspire you to be more involved in the life of our parishes.

Father Yacub.

RECENTLY DECEASED: William Taylor, Clementina Zanardo and Paul Chappell.

ANNIVERSARIES: Goder Bet, Maria Corazon Diego and Vittorio Lombardi.

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

"Put kind constructions where you can, and where you cannot, be silent." 15.11.1878

