

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)

31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B - 30 & 31 OCTOBER 2021

Parish Priest – Fr Yacub Barkat

Assistant Priest – Fr William Chow



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 - Principal: Ms Zeina Chalich
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>Deut 6:2-6</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>Heb 7:23-28</i> ; Gospel: <i>Mk 12:28-34</i>			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - psalm 17:2-4,47-51
I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength,
 my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
 My God is the rock where I take refuge;
 my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.
 The Lord is worthy of all praise:
 when I call I am saved from my foes. *R/*

Long life to the Lord, my rock!
 Praised be the God who saves me.
 He has given great victories to his King
 and shown his love for his anointed. *R/*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
 and my Father will love them,
 and we will come to them.
Alleluia!



WELCOME BACK TO OUR PARISHES

We welcome everyone back to Mass in our three parish churches. It has been a very difficult time for us all these past months but with the Grace of God we did get through it. Please be aware of the rules regarding attending Mass on the next page and keep everyone safe as we open up our churches and our lives once again.

MASSES FOR ALL SOULS DAY
THIS TUESDAY, 2nd November
 9.00am Arncliffe 9.00am Bexley 7.00pm Rockdale

NOVEMBER MASSES

November Mass Envelopes may be found in the Church foyers or on the offertory tables. These envelopes may be then placed in the special Remembrance Basket on the offertory table, which will be brought forward with the offertory gifts at Mass and placed on the Altar. The Stipend for a November Mass is a preferred minimum of \$20.00. November Masses will be offered for all Holy Souls collectively, rather than for individual requests. Individual Mass requests cannot be made in November. They are available the rest of the year.

FUNERAL

A Funeral Mass for the late Mrs Elizabeth Thurston will be celebrated at St Francis Xavier's Church, this **Tuesday, 2nd November at 10.00am**. Please keep her family in your prayers at this sad time.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Please keep in your prayers the children who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time as they continue their instruction classes this weekend.



RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES

- We must observe the **four-square metre rule**. **Please do not sit in seats that are not available.**
- Families can sit together, but if people do not belong in the same household, they must observe physical distancing of 1.5 metres.
- Vaccination is recommended for all parishioners.
- **Masks are compulsory for attending Mass.** Only the priest and reader (when reading) are exempt.
- Congregational singing is not allowed yet.
- 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 who enters the church must give their names and contact details before entering the church. These records will be kept for four weeks or use the QR code at the doors.
- 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.
- If a confirmed case of COVID-19 occurs in our parish, every person who has registered as an attendee of the parish will be notified of the diagnosis and the date and time the infected person attended the church. No other details will be provided.
- The situation with weddings and funerals is complicated! Even though unvaccinated people are normally allowed to gather in the church, in the case of weddings and funerals, if some of the attendees are not vaccinated, then the numbers are limited to 5 at a wedding and 10 at a funeral. If all the attendees at a wedding or funeral are fully vaccinated, there is no limit on numbers (subject to the 4sqm rules).

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

As we get back to regular Masses, please assist the parish and those who count the money each week by making it easier for them. If you have the Planned Giving Envelopes, we ask that you **do not** put a donation in every single envelope for the weeks you have missed. Please just put your total donation in ONE envelope. The computer recording system only records the total donation on any given date, not the individual donations for every week that you put an envelope in. e.g. you have missed 10 weeks of Mass, just use one envelope and put your donation in any one of dates. If you normally give \$5 a week, then put \$50 in one envelope not \$5 in 10 envelopes. Please recycle the unused envelopes in your recycling bin.

FIRST COMMUNION GIFTS

Each of our three Church Piety Stalls has appropriate gifts for children who will receive their First Holy Communion next month. Please support our parishes by giving a Catholic gift and card to celebrate this wonderful occasion in their faith journey.

A PRAYER TO ST JOSEPH

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted His only Son; in you Mary places her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.

PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FOUNDATION APPEAL

This weekend marks the start of the Priests' Retirement Foundation Appeal. Your generosity donations support our sick and retired priests, providing them with appropriate accommodation and assistance with transition into retirement, medical and dental care, pastoral and other practical support – to give them a life of relative comfort and dignity in retirement. To donate visit www.ourfaithourworks.org/prf or scan the QR Code.



POSITION VACANT

Parish Secretary, St Columba's Parish, Leichhardt North. 15 hours per week ideally Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays. For further information contact Anthony Spata on 0402 210 055. **Applications close 11 November.**

COLUMBAN CALENDARS & CHRISTMAS CARDS

The 2022 Columban Calendars are now available at the Piety Stalls for \$10 each. **Religious Christmas cards are also available.**

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: Elizabeth Thurston, Joy Donoghue, Giovanni Sias, Maria Huong Nguyen and Juliellen Keogh.

The following people have passed away since June this year. Please keep their families in your prayers. **Annette Dubois, Frederick Bendeich, Sr Claire Burgess, Francesco Zirilli, Brent Vassallo, Rocco Lo Russo, Alfredo Da Mota Lopes, Carmen Abela and Antonietta Colella,**

ANNIVERSARIES: David Mandile, Lorenzo Caruso, Reginald Huthnace, Medy Perez, Mary Mohareb, Barbara Vancea, John Hickey, Dr Mary Keating, Maria Meola, Paul Martin, Melchora Enriquez, Anna Nguyen, Virginia Lancero, Genevieve Flower, Francis Xavier Ca Nguyen, Yasmine & Tony Bazouni, Marco Da Silva, Martin Michael and Antonietta & Pietro Masiello.

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. Amen.

ST MARY MACKILLOP'S QUOTE

"Live in perfect charity and love, aiding and mutually encouraging one another in the thorny yet strong sweet path marked out for each of us to follow." 10.03.1907

