

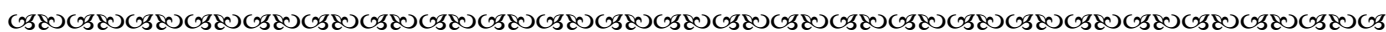
PARISHES OF ST GABRIEL'S, BEXLEY and ST MARY MACKILLOP'S, ROCKDALE CITY

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

5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B - 3 & 4 FEBRUARY 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 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.		
1st Reading: Job 7:1-4; 6-7; 2nd Reading: 1 Cor 9:16-19; 22-23; Gospel: Mk 1:29-39			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Ps 146:1-6

Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

Praise the Lord for he is good;
sing to our God for he is loving;
to him our praise is due. *R/*

The Lord builds up Jerusalem
and brings back Israel's exiles,
he heals the broken-hearted,
he binds up all their wounds.
He fixes the number of the stars;
he calls each one by its name. *R/*

Our Lord is great and almighty;
his wisdom can never be measured.
The Lord raises the lowly;
he humbles the wicked to the dust. *R/*



There will be presentation of certificates to the following Catechists for their service.

- 5 years Mary DeChiara
- 5 years Thi Dieu Huyen Phung
- 15 years Emelyn Mangura
- 15 years Maree Ross
- 15 years Alice Jacob (certificate to be presented at Alice's home parish at Earlwood)
- 20 years Laura Argiro – award to be presented at Annual Catechist Mass at St Mary's Cathedral this year.

Congratulations to these ladies for their commitment to the Catholic education of children in the local public schools.

Response to the Prayer for Catechists

Father: Those who stand before us have accepted the responsibility of being Catechists to our Parish children in our public schools. As a Parish Community, let us now pledge our support in commissioning them to go forth as Catechists.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

He bore our sickness and endured our suffering.
Alleluia!



CATECHIST SUNDAY

Today, 4th February, is Catechist Sunday. Please make welcome the catechists from the Parishes of St Gabriel's Bexley and St Mary MacKillop's Rockdale City at the 10.30am Mass at St Josephs today.

All parishioners: As members of this Parish, we accept your commitment as Catechists, for our Parish children in public schools, and pledge our support to you as we ask God to bless you for this mission.

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Last Friday, 2nd February was the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. **This Sunday, 4th February**, we will have a blessing of the children at the 10.30am Mass at St Joseph's Church.



BAPTISMS

This weekend we welcome Nicholas Cuervo on Saturday and Harriet Howell and Akira Lawer on Sunday who will be baptised at St Francis Xavier's. We also welcome their families and friends who join them on their special occasion.



ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, 14th February.

The Mass schedule will be:

- 8.00am Marist College Kogarah Chapel
- 9.00am Arncliffe
- 9.00am Rockdale
- 10.30am Bexley
- 10.30am (Italian) Rockdale
- 7.00pm Rockdale



APPLICATIONS FOR ST MARY MACKILLOP'S PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

Parishioners interested in applying for membership of St Mary MacKillop's Parish Finance Committee (PFC) are invited to submit a written application. Applications are to be one A4 page, or less, and outline why you are interested in joining the Committee and what strengths and experience you would bring to PFC deliberations.

While the Committee aims for an even balance of Arncliffe and Rockdale representatives; of women and men; and a range of ages, PFC members will primarily be selected based on ability, experience, and commitment.

The PFC meets during an evening at the Parish Office for about two and three hours, with approximately four to six meetings each year.

Applications must be received at the Parish Office by **9am, Monday 19th February**. Applications can be emailed to admin@mmrc.org.au or placed in the Office letterbox at 13 Parker Street, Rockdale. Late applications will not be considered. Applicants will be advised, in writing, of the outcome of the selection process. The decision of the Parish Priest will be final.

Fr Yacub Barkat P.P.

LENTEN PROGRAM

Father Norvin will be leading a Lenten Program in St Joseph's Hall commencing next Thursday evening from 6.00 – 7.00pm. This will continue until Thursday, 21st March. If you would like to join Father Norvin, please come along and bring a friend. Numbers are not limited, and all are most welcome.

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.

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.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This year the annual World Day of Prayer will be held on **Friday, 1st March** in St Thomas More Catholic Church, Brighton-le-Sands at 10.30am.

The service this year has been prepared by the committee for Palestine with the theme "I beg of you...bear with one another in love".

N.B. *This service was prepared well before the present situation in Palestine.*

World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome all our parishioners to join in prayer and action for peace and justice.

Light refreshments will follow the service.

CHURCH SERVICE DRESS CODE REMINDER

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.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Patricia Wilkinson, Florello Galindo, Vincenzo Suppa and Zosima Celestian.

ANNIVERSARIES: Fr Jim Fowler, Fr Ron Harden, Bernadette Comber, Elizabeth Maher, Rosina Giardullo, Giacomo Brancato, Teresa Vitturino, Euphemia Vella, Angeliki Kouvelis, Dora Kennedy, Mary Manwaring, Danielle Ypes and Justina, Karol & Viliam Kovac.

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

"Care and perplexities form part of my life but I am learning to look upon them as I think God wishes and so I am happy." 20.6.1898



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