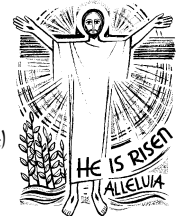




PARISHES OF ST GABRIEL'S, BEXLEY and ST MARY MACKILLOP'S, ROCKDALE CITY

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

EASTER SUNDAY - YEAR A - 8 & 9 APRIL 2023



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 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
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	11.30am 2 nd Sunday of the month	10.00am 3 rd Sunday of the month
	Please phone the Parish Office to make an enquiry or booking on 9567 1558 during office hours.		
WEDDINGS	Monday to Saturday by appointment.		
1 st Reading: <i>Acts 10:34,37-43</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>Col 3:1-4</i> ; Gospel: <i>Jn 20:1-9</i> (<i>Sunday Morning Mass</i>)			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PS 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

(*Sunday morning*)

**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.'

Response

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds.

Response

The stone, which the builders rejected,
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

Response

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(*Sunday morning*)

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

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, servers, extra-ordinary ministers of Holy Communion, 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.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS

Many thanks to those parishioners who donated money towards our Easter Candles this year. In the past they have been donated by Guardian Funerals but sadly that has ceased after many years and some parishioners gladly donated towards the purchase for our three churches.

HAPPY EASTER!

Alleluia! The Lord is risen! This is our Easter song!

We have prepared several weeks for this great day to come. This day has come – the greatest of all Sundays. Think about the new life it brings. Jesus who suffered was crucified, died and was buried now has been glorified. Today we celebrate the triumph of good over evil, of light over darkness, of joy and sadness, of sickness and healing. After three years of Pandemic, we can freely celebrate wellness, hope, patience, love and God's goodness. Today is the fulfillment of God's promise to us – saved by His love.

The discovery of the empty tomb led Mary of Magdala and other disciples to a new mission. They went out to share the good news to others. They did not keep it to themselves. They shared and proclaimed the Good News of Christ's resurrection. We too are called to follow the examples of Mary Magdala and other disciples. We can do these in many ways though simple and ordinary through the quality of our daily lives and the way we treat one another in our parish as a community.

Christ is Risen! Let us proclaim this to one another and act towards building our community. This can be done in a spirit of Synodality. This is what the Church is asking from us towards a renewed community. "Synodality represents the path which the Church can be renewed by the action of the Holy Spirit. As a Church and renewed baptized Christians this is our way of our being, growing together, consulting and discussing the Word of God with one another. Pope Francis is calling us to be God's pilgrim people, journeying together towards God's Kingdom.

Happy Easter once again!
Fr Yacub

EASTER HOME BLESSING

It is custom for people to want to bless their houses at Easter. Please feel free to take a bottle of newly blessed Easter Water and the prayer sheet home with you to use. **PLEASE take only one bottle per family** to ensure there are sufficient left for people attending the other Masses this weekend.

EASTER SUNDAY

Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!
Thank you for your continued support for Project Compassion – past, present and future. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations.
Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2023 Lenten appeal. **Please donate to Project Compassion.** Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations.



PROJECT COMPASSION DONATIONS

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.



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.

DIVINE MERCY MASS

Next Sunday, 16th 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, celebrate!

GABBIES SEWING ANGELS

The yearly raffle will commence **next weekend 15/16th April** and run for a month. This year there will be four prizes.

- 2 X Double Bed Patchwork Quilt
- 1 Single Bed Patchwork Quilt
- 1 Single Crochet Rug.

Tickets are \$2.00 each or three for \$5.00.

Looking for your continued support with appreciation.
Patricia Will

WALZ STREET CLOSURE

Bayside Council is closing Walz Street **NEXT Saturday 15th April**, for the celebration of Ramadan in Bayside. Vehicles will not be permitted to park in Walz Street between 4.30pm to 8.30pm and no vehicle will be allowed to enter or exit Walz Street between 5.00pm and 1.00am. All traffic for the 6:30pm Mass and parishioners are to enter the school playground parking area via Railway and Parker Streets. 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 9.00am Mass. Please do not plan to attend the festival and to park in the school grounds for the evening. If you want to do this, park on Railway Street before Mass starts.

RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES

- **Masks are still highly recommended in churches, as Covid is still very much in our local community.**
- **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.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Danielle Yepes, Natalie & baby Dean McNally, John Shepherd, Rev Jim Shepherd, Rev Arthur Byrne.

ANNIVERSARIES: Joan Coleman, Joan Morgan, Maureen Batty, Tess Dinan, Jonathan Huntley, Jack Kocina, Gregory Alderson and Danilo Estantino.

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

"The little crosses are harder to bear than the big ones."
17.12.1884

