

ST MARY MACKILLOP PARISH ROCKDALE CITY

Three Communities – One Parish

(St Francis Xavier's, Arncliffe, St Gabriel's, Bexley & St Joseph's, Rockdale)

18th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A – 1 & 2 AUGUST 2026

Parish Priest – Fr Yacub Barkat

Assistant Parish Priests – Fr Norvin Dias and Fr Miguel Perez Campos

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**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 Thursday: 9am to 1pm (**please phone** before coming in.)

**SCHOOLS:** **St Francis Xavier's Primary, Arncliffe:** 9567 5389 – Principal: Ms Debbie Heckenberg

**St Gabriel's Primary, Bexley:** 9502 1932 - Principal: Ms Catherine Hodgins

**St Joseph's Primary, Rockdale:** 9599 2541 - Principal: Ms Rachelle Dopson

|                                                                                                                          | ARNCLIFFE                                                                                                                                            | ROCKDALE                                                                                                                                    | BEXLEY                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>WEEKEND MASSES</b><br><b>Saturday Vigil</b><br><b>Sunday Masses</b>                                                   | 5.00pm Saturday<br>9.00am                                                                                                                            | 6.30pm Saturday<br>9.00am <i>(Italian)</i> 10.30am<br>12.00pm <i>(First Sunday only Urdu)</i><br>6.00pm <i>(Third Sunday only Filipino)</i> | -----<br>9.00am<br>5.00pm                                                             |
| <b>WEEKDAY MASSES</b>                                                                                                    | 9.00am Wednesday<br>9.00am Friday                                                                                                                    | 7.00pm Tuesday <i>(Devotions,<br/>Exposition, Benediction<br/>&amp; Rosary from 5.30pm)</i><br>9.00am Thursday                              | 9.00am Monday<br>9.30am Thursday<br>9.00am Saturday<br><i>(Benediction at 8.45am)</i> |
| <b>CONFESSIONS</b>                                                                                                       | 4.00 – 4.30pm<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday of the Month                                                                             | 5.30 – 6.00pm<br>1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the Month                                                                    | 8.00 – 8.40am Saturday                                                                |
| <b>BAPTISMS</b>                                                                                                          | 10.00am<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month<br><br>Please phone the Parish Office to make an enquiry or booking on 9567 1558 during office hours. | 11.30am<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month                                                                                              | 10.00am<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month                                        |
| <b>WEDDINGS</b>                                                                                                          | Monday to Saturday by appointment.                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                       |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading: <i>Is 55:1-3</i> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: <i>Rom 8:35, 37-39</i> ; Gospel: <i>Mt 14:13-21</i> |                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                       |

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM – Ps. 144:8-9, 15-18**

**The hand of the Lord feeds us;  
he answers all our needs.**

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures. *R/*



The eyes of all creatures look to you  
and you give them their food in due time.  
You open wide your hand,  
grant the desires of all who live. *R/*

The Lord is just in all his ways  
and loving in all his deeds.  
He is close to all who call him,  
who call on him from their hearts. *R/*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

No one lives on bread alone,  
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.  
**Alleluia!**



**MARIAN GARDEN BLESSING AT ST JOSEPH'S**

**Next Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> August**, the new Marian Garden at the front of St Joseph's Church at Rockdale will be blessed by Father Yacub following the 10.30am Mass. **All welcome.**

**CELEBRATIONS FOR OUR PRIESTS THIS WEEK**

Father Yacub has a birthday this coming Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> August so please wish him a very Happy Birthday when you see him. ☺

We also celebrate the Ordination Anniversaries of Father Miguel, Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August and Father Norvin Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> August. Please offer a prayer of thanks for our priests and their presence in our Parish and for their continual spiritual needs.

**CHANGED MASS TIMES FOR NEXT WEEK**

**Next week from August 10 – 13**, there will be changes to weekday Masses as our priests will all be attending the annual Archdiocesan Clergy Conference on the Central Coast. Therefore, the only weekday Mass from Monday to Thursday will be on **Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> at 9.00am in Bexley.**

However, there will be a Mass celebrated at St Bernadette's Carlton on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 8.30am of this week if you wish to attend there.

**FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION – 15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST**

This is a **Holy Day of Obligation** and this year the Feast falls on a Saturday. Therefore, there will be two Vigil Masses on **Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> August** 6.30pm at St Francis Xavier's AND 7.00pm at St Joseph's. There is the regular 9.00am Mass at St Gabriel's on **Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> August** which is the actual Feast Day.

### CHARITABLE WORKS' FUND (CWF)

**This weekend, 1 & 2 August** is the first of three appeals for this financial year for the Charitable Works' Fund. The Archbishop uses the money from these appeals to help fund various pastoral activities within the archdiocese: hospital, gaol and university chaplaincies, the deaf community, the aboriginal community, seminarians preparing for priesthood, CatholicCare and resources for catechists visiting state schools to name just a few. **A third collection for the CWF Appeal will follow after Holy Communion this weekend.**

Each parish is given a quota to fund each appeal. These quotas are determined according to each parish's income and population. **If this quota is not met, then the shortfall comes from our parish funds.** Donations over \$2 are tax deductible, but please make sure you complete the details required on the envelopes provided. If you can't give this weekend, please take home an envelope and return next weekend with your donation. Many thanks for your ongoing support of this important work within the archdiocese.

### ADULT CONFIRMATIONS

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered for Adults by Bishop Richard Umbers at St Mary's Cathedral on **Sunday, 25 October** at 10.30am Solemn Mass. If there are any parishioners who have been Baptised and received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist but were never Confirmed, this is their opportunity to be fully received into the Catholic Church. They must be over the age of 16 and have a copy of their Baptism Certificate. There will be some instruction given before Confirmation can take place. If you are interested, please email the parish office by Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> August at [admin@mmrc.org.au](mailto:admin@mmrc.org.au) and we will get back to you when there is more information.

### PLANNED GIVING RECEIPTS

The Planned Giving receipts are now available in your preferred church. Please collect them as soon as possible. Any packets of envelopes that haven't been picked up will be at the parish office. Please contact the staff to pick them up there between Monday and Thursday from 9am to 1pm.

### AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The next event for the Australian Catholic Historical Society will be held in the crypt of St Patrick's Church Hill, at 2:00pm on **Sunday, 16 August**. The Topic: Fr Ted Kennedy and Redfern - A Personal Reflection will be presented by Danny Gilbert. Members, their guests, and visitors are most welcome and there is no charge. Details of the programme of the ACHS as well as resources on church history and YouTube videos, are on the website <https://australiancatholichistoricalsociety.com.au/>

### CHRISTIAN MEDITATION INTRODUCTION AND RENEWAL DAY

You are invited to a Christian Meditation Introduction and Renewal Day at St Benedict's Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia, on **Sunday, 16 August**. Arrival from 10am to register for a 10:30am start; presentations; introduction to meditation; Middle of the Day Prayer with the monks; Mass at 2.00pm; conclusion around 3pm. Book display and morning tea provided; please BYO picnic lunch. There are extensive grounds and labyrinth. General enquiries: Ann Lomas [atlomas@bigpond.com](mailto:atlomas@bigpond.com) / 0437 340 250

### EUCHARIST 28 PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for the gift of your real presence in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Grant us the grace to receive you reverently, worship you truly and serve you with hearts renewed. By the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen us, so that as you gave yourself to the Father and to us, we too may offer our lives to God and to others. Inspire and help us to serve you in those who are in need, especially the defenceless and homeless, the lonely and lost. Unite us with your sacrifice of the Mass, so that we may truly become what we have received, the Body of Christ, Amen

### THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- Artistic freedom must respect the sacred: Archbishop Fisher
- The parish training for the City2Surf
- VAD set to expand across Australia
- What St Francis teaches us today
- Where is God when we are suffering?

### THEOLOGY AT THE PUB

In celebration of ACU's Annual Mission Week, ACU Campus Ministry and the MacKillop Bakhita Law Students' Society invite all Sydney Young Adults to a fun evening at the pub. Dr. Robert Haddad will be unpacking "The legal situation for Christians during the persecutions of the Roman Empire: The response of St Justin Martyr". This will be held on **Monday 10 August** from 6.00pm. Head up to Level 3 of the Orient Hotel. The Rocks, Sydney. Doors open upstairs at 6pm where you can order food and drinks from the bar. This is a FREE event (18+), but please register to attend by filling in the form at: <https://forms.gle/S9tTqq3Du8TDapYb8>

### PARISH SAFEGUARDING

A reminder from the Archdiocese of Sydney that child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. 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). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

### PRAYERS FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISHES

We have several parishioners who are suffering from various serious illnesses, and we ask that you please keep them all in your prayers.



**ANNIVERSARIES:** Patricia Quirk, Terrence McBride, Pietro Tesoriero, Joseph Mandile, Ross McIntosh, Sam Sakr, Otto, Maria & Eduard Kovac, Ilija Vucic and Mladen Stojic.

**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

"Remember that we must always expect, from time to time, to receive crosses and know that we also give them." 14.4.1882

