

ST MARY MACKILLOP PARISH ROCKDALE CITY

Three Communities – One Parish

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C - 30 & 31 AUGUST 2025

Parish Priest – Fr Yacub Barkat

Assistant Parish Priest – Fr Norvin Dias

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

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                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <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>Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29</i> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: <i>Heb 12:18-19, 22-24</i> ; Gospel: <i>Lk 14:1, 7-14</i> |                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                       |

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 67:4-7.10-11

God, in your goodness,  
you have made a home for the poor.

*COME to the wedding!*

The just shall rejoice at the presence of God,  
they shall exult and dance for joy.  
O sing to the Lord, make music to his name;  
rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence. *R/*

Father of the orphan, defender of the widow,  
such is God in his holy place.  
God gives the lonely a home to live in;  
he leads the prisoners forth into freedom. *R/*

You poured down, O God, a generous rain:  
when your people were starved you gave them new life.  
It was there that your people found a home,  
prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor. *R/*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Alleluia, alleluia!

Take my yoke upon you;  
learn from me, for I am gentle  
and lowly in heart.

Alleluia!

## SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

The children from our parishes are completing their preparation for Confirmation this weekend. The Confirmations will take place in all three churches in the coming weeks. Please keep them all in your prayers as they seek guidance from the Holy Spirit.

Receive  
the  
Holy  
Spirit

## THE CAMINO OF ST JOSEPH 2025

An overnight pilgrimage for men in honour of our Spiritual Father, St Joseph will be held **this coming Friday 5 September from 7:00pm to Saturday 6 September** at 8:00am. The entire walk from start to finish will include six churches. Each stop will feature a reflection on St Joseph and a short time in Adoration for spiritual nourishment and an opportunity for a quick bathroom break.

The itinerary from start to finish is:

1. St Joseph's, Como - Opening Mass
2. St Patrick's, Sutherland
3. St Catherine's, Gympie
4. Our Lady Star of the Sea, Miranda
5. Our Lady of Fatima, Caringbah
6. St Aloysius, Cronulla - closing Mass

The cost is \$35 pp and includes a bus ticket: \$24 return trip from 7.00pm sharp on Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> from Holy Family Menai and return at 7.30am on Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> from St Aloysius Cronulla. To register and for more information, visit <https://www.trybooking.com/CXLAO>.

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

### FUNERALS THIS WEEK

- A Requiem Mass for the late Vincent Dwyer will be held this Monday morning, 1<sup>st</sup> September in St Joseph's Church at 10.00am.
- A Requiem Mass for the late Isabel Dos Santos will be held this Monday morning, 1<sup>st</sup> September in Gabriel's Church at 11.30am.

Please keep these two families in your prayers at this time.

### 7 CHURCHES PILGRIMAGE WALK FOR THE JUBILEE YEAR

The Emmanuel Community invites families, parish groups, and individuals to the annual '7 Churches Pilgrimage Walk'. This year, the walk will include visiting 7 Jubilee Churches of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, starting at the St Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel in North Sydney and finishing at St Brigid's in Coogee. Come along and be part of this enjoyable day of walking, praying, and fraternity. Make the most of this opportunity to evangelise by inviting your family and friends. All welcome!  
**NEXT Saturday 6 September.** For more information, visit <https://sydcath.au/4l0dARn>

### FACE YOUR GIANTS RETREAT

Jesus Light of the World Communities invites you to "Face Your Giants Retreat". Overwhelmed by life's battles? Discover the victory through Jesus Christ. Featuring speaker Marina George, a devoted Catholic preacher, who loves sharing her deep relationship with God the Father, the love of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. This will be held on **Saturday, 27 September** from 1:00 – 5:30 pm in St Joseph's Hall, Rockdale (parking entry through Parker St.) Afternoon tea is served, and a booking is essential. Enquiries: Helen: 0433 455 114 or Esperance: 0407 749 182 or email: [jlowcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:jlowcommunity@gmail.com)

### GRACE & TRUTH

You are invited to join the Dominican Friars and Sisters on **Tuesday, 30 September** for an evening of prayer, formation, and fellowship. This event is open to men and women of all ages. The theme of the talks will be "anchored in hope". The evening will consist of Eucharistic Adoration, Vespers and Benediction, a light dinner, and talks by Fr Paul Rowse, OP and Sister Anastasia, OP. The event will run from 5 - 8:30PM, starting in the St Mary Cathedral Crypt and moving to the Cathedral Hall. Fee: \$20. For more information, contact the Dominican Sisters at [sydney@op-tn.org](mailto:sydney@op-tn.org), or to register to attend, visit: <https://www.trybooking.com/DESDN>

### iSTAND CONFERENCE

Sydney Youth Mission Team invite all Year 9 - 12 (14-18 years old) students to our iSTAND Conference. This event is an opportunity for young people to connect with peers over faith, food, formation, prayer and games and promises to provide incredible opportunities for young Catholics seeking more. This will be held on **Monday, 29 September** from 9 am - 9 pm at Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Peakhurst (825 Forest Rd). The cost is \$70 and includes morning and afternoon tea, lunch, dinner and all activities. For more info, follow @ymtsydney on Instagram or register at <https://form.jotform.com/201754200820846>

### 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.

### ASSISTANCE NEEDED

Each of our churches need people to volunteer to be Acolytes and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to assist at weekend Masses. You will need to have a Working With Children Check which is obtainable through Service New South Wales website. There is no charge for this for volunteers. If you feel you would be available to assist, please speak with Father Yacub or Father Norvin.

### THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- Welcome and support immigrants, says new bishops' statement
- Couple surprises Pope Leo with iconic Aussie gift
- 'Miracles' wrought by new pregnancy support centre
- Chatswood parish opens festival for youth saints
- Vale Judge Frank Caprio, a face of mercy
- Ivan and Gabrijela's hope shines amid birth rate decline

### FINDING SOLACE AND SUPPORT WITH HEARTFELT

In times of grief, finding a compassionate and understanding community can make all the difference. Heartfelt is based on Catholic teachings and offers online gatherings, support groups, and events, accessible to anyone navigating their grief journey. For more information, visit <https://heartfelt.community>

### PARISH SAFEGUARDING

A message 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 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.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Vincent Dwyer, Isabel Dos Santos, Michael Noronha, Fr Bob Stevens, Jessie Lum, Toribia Ilagan-Helomina, Sr Maria Laura Rodriguez dos Santos and Mary Noonan.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Antonius Widjaja, Margaret Owen, Alfredo Lopes, Rocco Lo Russo, Jovie Casuso-Reyes, Bob Thomson, Gilda Camara, Maria D'Ambrosio, Dragica Zmoda, Mary MacKenzie Mitchell, Giuseppe Nigro and Aleksander Huber.

**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

"Let us do the will of God, the beautiful, wise will of God." 5.3.1870

