

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)

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C - 25 & 26 JANUARY 2025

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 | 5.00pm Saturday | 6.30pm Saturday | ----- |
| Saturday Vigil | 9.00am | 9.00am (<i>Italian</i>) 10.30am | 9.00am |
| Sunday Masses | | 12.00pm (<i>First Sunday only Urdu</i>) | 5.00pm |
| | | 6.00pm (<i>Third Sunday only Filipino</i>) | |
| 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>Neh 8:2-6, 8-10</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>1 Cor 12:12-30</i> ; Gospel: <i>Lk 1:1-4, 4:4-21</i> | | | |

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 118:8-10.15

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. *R/*

The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.

The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes. *R/*

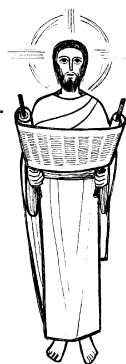
The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever.

The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just. *R/*

May the spoken words of my mouth,
the thoughts of my heart,

win favour in your sight,

O Lord, my rescuer, my rock! *R/*



GABBIES SEWING ANGELS ANNUAL REPORT

Thank you, parishioners, for your support again in 2024. We produced 8000 plus items, and these have all been distributed throughout the world. Sadly, our oldest member (98) passed away during the year, may she Rest in Peace. We continue to receive new members and have decided to go back to working 2 days a week in order to provide space for our members. There is an open invitation to visit us on Tuesdays or Thursdays in the Bexley Parish Hall beside the church or come and join us to help those in need with "LOVE". Many thanks, Pat Will - Gabbies



ARTES CHRISTI CHAMBER CHOIR PRESENTS SACRED MUSIC FOR LENT

Experience the profound journey of Christ's passion through masterworks including Pergolesi's Stabat Mater, Bruckner's Christus Factus Est, and Byrd's Miserere Meus. This Lenten concert invites listeners on a musical pilgrimage from darkness to light, from suffering to hope.

Join us **Saturday, March 8**, 7:30 - 9:00pm at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, 3 Thomas Street, Lewisham. Tickets: Adult \$35 | Concession \$25 | Family \$75. Scan the QR Code to the link or use the website for bookings:

<https://www.trybooking.com/CXXHA>



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners.

Alleluia!

FATHER YACUB ON LEAVE

Father Yacub is on leave for a few days of RnR to attend a 60th Jubilee Mass for his good friend Fr Arnold Heredia in Melbourne. He will return mid-week. ☺

INTRODUCTION TO THE SEVEN SACRAMENTS

Do you want to learn more about the Catholic understanding of the sacraments? Come along to a series of six lectures on the basic sacramental theology in the Catholic tradition. This lecture series is organised and delivered by Dr Mariusz Biliniewicz, Director of the Liturgy Office of the Archdiocese of Sydney and will be held on six consecutive Wednesdays, 29 January to 5 March, from 6:30 - 8:30 pm at St Thomas More's, 298 Bay St, Brighton Le Sands. **Cost:** \$20 Adult / \$15 Student/Concession.

MAGI PILGRIMAGE

Fr Marek Dutkiewicz OSPPE, would like to invite you for a 12-day Jubilee pilgrimage, departing on 2nd of May 2025. This pilgrimage features Rome, Assisi, Florence, Krakow, Czestochowa for an all-inclusive price of \$9490+tips (20 pilgrims). The fare includes Return Economy Airfares + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + All Breakfasts & Dinners + Catholic Priest + English speaking professional guides. For enquiries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or 1300 721 561 or email them: pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au Website: www.magiholidays.com.au

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL CHOIR LUNCHEON

The Archdiocese is currently organising a special luncheon for former choir boys of St Mary's Cathedral, scheduled to take place on **Sunday, 2nd March**. This will also give ex choristers an opportunity to join a new Choristers Alumni Network and be kept abreast of exciting new developments, such as the launch of the Girls' Choir next year. If any parishioners are former choir boys of St Mary's Cathedral, or maybe even have friends or family members who are ex Choristers, please advise them of this date to save for their diaries.

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

PARENTS NIGHT OUT WITH MATT AND CAMERON FRADD

Parents, it's time for a well-deserved night out! Take a break and join us for an insightful evening with Matt & Cameron Fradd as they share their parenting and family life expertise. Whether you come as a couple, alone, or with a group of friends, it's the perfect opportunity to connect with fellow parents and gain valuable insights to support your family journey. Enjoy a relaxed atmosphere with light canapes, drinks, and plenty of opportunities for conversation and a meet-and-greet with the speakers. This will be held on **Wednesday 5th February** at 7 - 9pm at St Christopher's Parish, Holsworthy. The cost is \$20 per person or book a table of 8 friends for \$150. Registration at: <https://www.trybooking.com/CXTXE>

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. 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.

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.

ST ALOYSIUS' COLLEGE BURSARY PROGRAM

St Aloysius' College is a Catholic, Jesuit school for boys founded in 1879 by the Society of Jesus. The College has a deliberate academic orientation and, in companionship with parents, offers a holistic formation for its students from Years 3 to 12.

The St Aloysius' College Bursary Program has been established to offer students an opportunity to avail themselves of a Jesuit education when ordinary enrolment is not affordable or sustainable. The bursaries are intended to assist those families who are most in need. St Aloysius' College seeks to graduate 'men for others' who are faithful and committed, integrating a deep spirituality with a passion for justice and academic excellence. Apply now for means-tested bursaries in Years 7, 2027 and beyond. Further information may be obtained from the College Website: www.staloyusius.nsw.edu.au / Ph: 9936 5535 / email: registrar@staloyusius.nsw.edu.au

CALLED AND GIFTED DISCERNMENT PROCESS

If you're wondering how God is calling you to serve Him, the Called & Gifted Discernment Process is for you! This Process is designed to help Christians identify and nurture their spiritual gifts (charisms), both to represent Christ and to be a channel of God's goodness for others. Commences **Tuesday, 25 February**. Limited places. Register at gomakedisciples.org.au/called-gifted-discernment-process.

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.

THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- Bill Donaghy's 'Way of Wonder' shows couple the way to faith
- Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP in joint call for an end to antisemitism
- New ways to pray in 2025
- For parents, NSW court ruling shows need for courage
- What does Nicaea have to do with the Great Schism?
- New podcast brings a light touch to faith, life, and "being Asian"

RECENTLY DECEASED: Amparo Araullo, Mario Dal Mas, Tony Sakr and Dorothy Molachino.

ANNIVERSARIES: Patricia Wilkinson, Margaret Thorpe, Aranata Leilua, Carlo Meola, Sabatino Trovato, Giovanni Suppa, Rizaldy Orjalesa, Tima Venancio and Ablan & Noha Makari.

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

"If we cannot excuse everything we can at least excuse the intention." 4.11.1884

