



ST MARY MACKILLOP PARISH ROCKDALE CITY

Three Communities - One Parish

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



PENTECOST SUNDAY - YEAR A - 23 & 24 MAY 2026

Parish Priest – Fr Yacub Barkat **Assistant Parish Priests** – Fr Norvin Dias and Fr Miguel Perez Campos



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 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
WEEKEND MASSES Saturday Vigil Sunday Masses	5.00pm Saturday 9.00am	6.30pm Saturday 9.00am (Italian) 10.30am 12.00pm (First Sunday only Urdu) 6.00pm (Third Sunday only Filipino)	----- 9.00am 5.00pm
WEEKDAY MASSES	9.00am Wednesday 9.00am Friday	7.00pm Tuesday (Devotions, Exposition, Benediction & Rosary from 5.30pm) 9.00am Thursday	9.00am Monday 9.30am Thursday 9.00am Saturday (Benediction at 8.45am)
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.		
1 st Reading: <i>Acts 2:1-11</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13</i> ; Gospel: <i>Jn 20:19-23</i>			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 103:1.24.29-31.34

**Lord, send out your Spirit
and renew the face of the earth.**

Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are!
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches. *R/*

You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. *R/*

May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord. *R/*



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Alleluia!



MAY ROSARY AT ST JOSEPH'S

The Rosary will continue at 6.00pm in St Joseph's Church until next Sunday, 31st May. Please join us.



FAMILY MASS THIS WEEKEND AT ST JOSEPHS

Today, Sunday, 24th May, the 10.30am Mass at St Josephs will be a school Mass with students, families and staff from St Joseph's Primary and Marist College Kogarah attending and participating in the Mass. We also welcome students and families from our local public schools.

HEALING MASS

Fr. Justin Torres, a priest of the Oblate Apostles of the Two Hearts of Jesus and Mary will be concelebrating Mass at St. Joseph's, Rockdale at 7.00 p.m. on **Tuesday, 16th June** with Fr Yacub. A Healing Service will follow the Mass. Fr. Justin has established a place in the hearts of many Australians as he shares his ministry of Discernment and Healing from Jesus through the intervention of Our Lady of Guadalupe and emphasises the Love of Jesus and Mary for all. We urge you to bring your family and friends to experience this beautiful occasion.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Please keep in your prayers the children of our parish who are commencing their preparation to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time next month.



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

CENSUS 'HEAD COUNT' DURING MAY

Over the first four weekends in May, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's National Centre for Pastoral Research (NCPR) will be counting the number of people who attend Mass. The "national count of attendance" is held every five years. This year marks a significant milestone – 25 years of national attendance data, beginning with the first count in 2001.

When the data is analysed, the 2026 results will provide valuable insights into long-term trends in Catholic practice, particularly in understanding the ongoing effects of COVID-19, which influenced attendance patterns in 2021. As in 2021, parishes will be asked to provide estimates of the age and sex of attendees and to report the number of online views for streamed Masses or other assemblies on Sunday.

Church attendance is perhaps the most basic measure of religious practice. Most dioceses conduct counts of attenders, but not every diocese does it with the same frequency, in the same way, or at the same time. According to the most recent national count, conducted in 2021, about 8.2 per cent of Australia's Catholic population, or 417,000 people, went to church on a typical weekend. Most attended Mass in a parish, but the figure also included people in non-parish centres, such as migrant centres, hospitals, jails and boarding schools. People who were attending an assembly in the absence of a priest are also counted.

The national count is conducted in the same year as the Australian census (to be held on 11 August) so that the information collected can most effectively be used in association with results from the other project. Counting over four Sundays ensures that fortnightly and monthly Masses are not overlooked. This is particularly important for many country towns and migrant communities.

The count will be conducted at all Sunday Masses, including Saturday vigil Masses, but not liturgical services such as prayer group liturgies, funerals, weddings or other Saturday Masses. As this is a visible head count, all children present at the service are included. That includes babes in arms, toddlers, teenagers, adults, celebrants, acolytes, deacons and anyone else present at the service."

The NCPR adds that the count will not disrupt Mass. It can be done, for example, while the collection is being taken up, or as people are arriving or leaving.

This weekend, we need to gather numbers of Mass attendees based on age groups, so please assist the volunteers with this vital information.

FIRST COMMUNION GIFTS

Each of our three churches have Piety Stalls with appropriate gifts for children who will receive their First Holy Communion. Please support our parishes by giving a Catholic gift and card to celebrate this wonderful occasion in their faith journey.

GABBIES SEWING ANGELS

Tickets sales for the annual raffle, to support the work of Gabbies are now on sale for the next month. There are four beautiful prizes of patch-work quilts. Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00. Thank you for your continued support.

EUCCHARIST28 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

BAPTISM

This Saturday we welcomed Hudson Kannan who was baptised at St Francis Xavier's.



THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- Pro-life rally aims to help make NSW history
- Archbishop invites Chapel exhibition visitors to "see anew"
- Thousands pack cathedral for Our Lady of Fatima
- Palliative care volunteers celebrated
- Pope Leo: The spiritual value of reading

THE FIRST RELICS OF ST ANTHONY OF PADUA

The First Relics of St Anthony of Padua will be visiting St Mary's Cathedral on **Friday, 5 June**. Schedule of the visit:

- 11:00 AM: Mass with veneration before and after Mass
- 12:00 PM: Confession
- 1:10 PM: Mass with veneration before and after Mass
- 4:30 PM Confession
- 5:00 PM: Vespers
- 5:30 PM: Mass with veneration before and after Mass

PARISH SAFEGUARDING

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.

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: Suzana Arapovic

ANNIVERSARIES: Sr Margaret Meacham, Jose Coelho, George Moore, Michael Mangura, Betty Sullivan, Vittoria Masiello, Ciro Vitiello, Joyce & Eric King, Franca Savo, and Svetka Sango

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 WACKILLOP'S QUOTE

"Whatever troubles may be before you, accept them cheerfully, remembering whom you are trying to follow." (12.1.1909)

