



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)
PALM SUNDAY - YEAR C - 12 & 13 APRIL 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 (Italian) 10.30am | 9.00am |
| Sunday Masses | | 12.00pm (First Sunday only Urdu) 6.00pm (Third Sunday only Filipino) | 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 | 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>Is 50:4-7</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>Phil 2:6-11</i> ; Gospel: <i>Lk 22:14-23:56</i> | | | |

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me deride me.

They curl their lips they toss their heads.

'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;

let him release him if this is his friend.' *R/*



Many dogs have surrounded me,

a band of the wicked beset me.

They tear holes in my hands and my feet.

I can count every one of my bones. *R/*

They divide my clothing among them.

They cast lots for my robe.

O Lord, do not leave me alone,

my strength, make haste to help me! *R/*

I will tell of your name to my brethren

and praise you where they are assembled.

'You who fear the Lord give him praise;

all sons of Jacob, give him glory.

Revere him, Israel's sons.' *R/*



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE

Please note: Once the Easter Triduum begins on Holy Thursday, the Sacrament of Penance will not be available, except in an emergency situation.

Italian Confessions at 11.00am this Monday 14th April in St Joseph's Church.

HOLY THURSDAY 17th April

7.00pm Arncliffe – Rockdale – Bexley

(N.B. St Joseph's Church will be open after the Mass until Midnight for prayer and adoration)

GOOD FRIDAY

18th April

Stations of the Cross

10.00am Arncliffe – Rockdale – Bexley

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

3.00pm Arncliffe – Rockdale – Bexley

HOLY SATURDAY 19th April

5.00pm Bexley

5.00pm Arncliffe

6.30pm Rockdale

EASTER SUNDAY 20th April

9.00am Mass Arncliffe 9.00am Mass Bexley

9.00am Mass Rockdale (Italian)

10.30am Mass Rockdale

5.00pm Mass Bexley

VISITING PRIEST FOR HOLY WEEK

Please welcome Father Manuel Santiago who will be assisting our parishes with Holy Week Masses and ceremonies at St Gabriel's Church. We thank him for his availability to us.

PALM SUNDAY

As Project Compassion 2025 draws to a close for another year, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your generous support throughout this Lenten Season.

This year, we shared the inspiring stories of 3 individuals whose lives have been transformed through your compassion and generosity. But the work isn't done yet. There is still time to donate! Together, we can **Unite Against Poverty** this Lent and help transform lives this Lent.



PLEASE DONATE TODAY

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code / online: caritas.org.au/project-compassion / or by calling: 1800 024 413.



PROJECT COMPASSION DONATIONS

Please return your Project Compassion envelopes and boxes as soon as possible. Don't forget to fill in all the details on the slip/box if you wish to receive a tax deduction.



HOLY WEEK LITURGIES

Please be aware that the Masses and Liturgies during Holy Week are all much longer than normal. If you have health or age problems, please consider this and whether it's wise to attend, particularly for the Holy Saturday Vigil Mass.

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION

As is the custom around the world, there will be a collection on Good Friday at the Stations of the Cross as well as at the Commemoration of the Lord's Passion. The monies collected are forwarded to the Holy Land Commissariat to assist with the upkeep of the Holy Places connected with Christ's Life, Passion and Death in the Holy Land. You do not need to give twice if you attend both ceremonies. There are special envelopes on the seats if you wish to give with a credit card donation. Many thanks for your financial support.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Office will be closed from 1pm this coming **Thursday 17th April**, re-opening on **Tuesday 22nd April** at 9am. The office will also be closed on **ANZAC Day, Friday, 25th April**.

EASTER OFFERING ENVELOPES

Please don't forget that **Easter Offerings** are a vital income for the church. The special envelopes are available in each of our churches this weekend. Please take one home and return it next weekend with your donation. The money from the Easter Offerings is remitted to a central fund caring for the needs of priests and deacons of the Archdiocese who need support. Your ongoing prayerful and practical support of the clergy in the Archdiocese is appreciated.

ST MARY MACKILLOP'S QUOTE

"Let us be entirely God's." 19.3.1874



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

Sunday, 27th 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 and celebrate with us!

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S ROOF REPLACEMENT: YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

The roof replacement has been progressing well. However, we would welcome some more donations from any parishioners who can help. Every contribution, big or small, will make a meaningful difference in helping us cover the \$500,000 cost of the roof replacement. Your support ensures that our church remains a place of worship that continues to serve our community and preserves its place in history. **The amount donated so far is \$5119.63** so thank you to those who have helped us. ☺

- To make supporting easier, donations can be made via Tap & Go machines at:
 - **Left side of the altar at Arncliffe Church**
 - **Front foyer at Rockdale Church**, next to the piety stall.
- Bpoint on our website (mmrc.org.au) under Support the Parish – Pay/Donate to Rockdale City Parish
Bill Code: Other
Purpose of Payment: Arncliffe Restoration Appeal

THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- Faith leaders gather at opening of Sydney's newest cemetery
- Parishes prepare for 7 Churches Pilgrimage on Holy Thursday
- Why parents should watch Adolescence
- Greek Easter biscuits recipe
- Encounters in street evangelisation

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PROCESSION

Walk with Our Lady of Fatima in a candle-lit procession around St Mary's Cathedral as we pray for the needs of the Church and our world. To be held on **Saturday, 10 May**, commencing with 6pm Vigil Mass followed by procession. For more information, visit: <https://sydneycatholic.org/our-lady-of-fatima-procession>

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: Vickie Hite, Renato Escurel and Dorothy Molachino.

ANNIVERSARIES: Tess Dinan, Valerie Ingram, Martin Michael, Joan Morgan, Giuseppe Baldassarre and Tony & Yasmine Bazouni,

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.