

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)

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A - 3 & 4 DECEMBER 2022

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 Carolyn Yeats

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 Saturday Vigil Sunday Masses	5.00pm Saturday 9.00am	6.30pm Saturday 9.00am (Italian) 10.30am 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.		
1st Reading: <i>Is 11:1-10</i> ; 2nd Reading: <i>Rom 15:4-9</i> ; Gospel: <i>Mt 3:1-12</i>			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

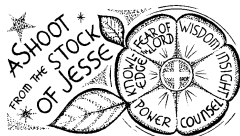
Justice shall flourish in his time,
and fullness of peace for ever.

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. *R/*

In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds. *R/*

For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. *R/*

May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name. *R/*



LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH

2nd Sunday of Advent

[Sign of the Cross]

Priest: Our help is in the name of the Lord.
All: Who made heaven and earth.

[The second candle is lit]

Priest: Lord Jesus, Light of the world,
the prophets said you would bring peace
and save your people in trouble.
Give peace in our hearts at Christmas
and show all the world God's love. Amen.

All: Lord, make us one in the Peace of Christ
today and for ever. Amen.

[Opening Prayer]



PARISH PILGRIMAGE

A parish pilgrimage is planned for **27 April to 9 May 2023**. Fr Yacub will be leading the group and would love to have some parishioners join him on the journey. They will be travelling to Rome and the Holy Land. Cost is from \$3,830.00 per person/twin share **excluding flights and some meals**. We must know numbers by **Tuesday 3 January 2023** for the Pilgrimage to go ahead. **Please respond by email to admin@mmrc.org.au**



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God
Alleluia!

CHRISTMAS MASSES AND RECONCILIATIONS

RECONCILIATIONS

Arncliffe Saturday, 17th December – 4.00pm
Bexley Saturday 17th December – 8.00am
Rockdale Saturday 17th December – 5.30pm
Rockdale (Italian) – Wednesday, 21st December 10am

MASSES

Christmas Eve, Saturday, 24th December

Arncliffe 5.00pm
Rockdale 6.30pm
Bexley 6.30pm

Midnight Mass, Saturday/Sunday morning

Arncliffe: 12.00 Midnight (Carols at 11.30pm)

Christmas Day, Sunday, 25th December

Arncliffe 9.00am
Bexley 9.00am
Rockdale 9.00am Italian
Rockdale 10.30am
Bexley 5.00pm

New Year's Eve/New Year's Day

Saturday, 31st/Sunday 1st January

As per normal weekend Mass schedule.

FEAST OF ST FRANCIS XAVIER AND

FR YACUB'S ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION

This Saturday, **3rd December**, is the Feast of St Francis Xavier and we wish a Happy Feast Day to all our Arncliffe parishioners and to the students and staff of St Francis Xavier's Primary School.

We also wish Fr Yacub a Happy Anniversary for 29 years of Ordination also on 3rd December.

BAPTISMS

This weekend at St Francis Xavier's we welcome Ottilia Burtenshaw and Lucia & Matias Cabrera. We also welcome their families and friends who join them on their special day.



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Office will be closed **from 1.00pm Friday, 23rd December until 9.00am Tuesday, 2nd January**. This is to allow the office staff some quality time with their families. If anyone needs a priest **urgently**, please call Fr Yacub on 0426 715 463. If it is not urgent, please send an email, this will be replied to after 3rd January.

RCIA SPONSORS REQUESTED

Two of our RCIA candidates, one from St Francis Xavier's Arncliffe and one from St Joseph's Rockdale require female sponsors to assist them through the program. If you would be willing to accompany this person on their journey to becoming a Catholic, please contact the parish office on 9567 1588. The commitment would mean attending a lesson with the candidate and RCIA team each Tuesday night for a few months.

ORDER OF THE MASS CARDS

Due to the Covid outbreak, the Parish has retired the old and well-worn Order of the Mass cards. In future, rather than having general use cards, new Mass cards which are A4 in size and are laminated and will be available for purchase from the Piety Stall for \$2.00 each. Parishioners will then be able to have their own personal Mass card to bring when they attend Mass.

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.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS

2023 Calendars are available for \$10.00 in our Piety Stalls. Religious Christmas cards are also available in the Piety Stalls.

CHRISTMAS AT ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

Come along to St Mary's Cathedral forecourt from **this Thursday, December 8 to 25 December** and join the festivities. They will begin at 7pm with Christmas market stalls, food, fun activities and live entertainment for the children. The signature light show of Christmas art will be projected onto the cathedral from 8:30pm. Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP has announced that proceeds raised at this year's Christmas at the Cathedral event will go directly towards providing relief and recovery to the victims of the NSW flood disaster.

THANKSGIVING MASS FOR

AUXILIARY BISHOP TERRY BRADY

Everyone is welcome to honour Bishop Brady following his recent retirement after almost 40 years of service as a religious, priest and finally bishop. The Mass will be this coming Friday 9 December at 7pm in St Mary's Cathedral. Principal Celebrant is Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP.

THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- Back on the Streets. Fr Chris Riley opens up about his 'Miracle' recovery
- Our game plan is Heaven. Gynea launches Labouré lecture
- The atheist who entered the Church
- Get ready for ... The Catechism in a Year
- The goodness of wine

If you are missing the Catholic Weekly, you can organise your own personal subscription by phone 9390 5404 or email: steve.richards@catholicweekly.com.au

RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES

- **Masks are still highly recommended in churches.**
- **Please do not come to Mass if you are Positive for Covid, unwell or even if you just have a sore throat or a simple cold.**
- When preparing to receive Holy Communion, parishioners are asked to go seat by seat to enable more distancing between others who are in the line. Please wait until there is space and distance before joining the queue.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Patricia Gilson and Colin Fisher (father of Archbishop Anthony Fisher).

ANNIVERSARIES: Claude Gilson, Mary Thomson, Joseph Giovenco, Joyce Fitzgerald, Angela Natoli, Jeremiah Cotter, April Cheung Baker and Marie Mortimer

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

"Have a pure heart and be faithful." 1871

