

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

2^{NO} SUNDAY IN LENT - YEAR B - 27 & 28 FEBRUARY 2021

Parish Priest – Fr Yacub Barkat

Assistant Priest – Fr Frank Regala



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 calling 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 Zeina Chalich

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 7.30pm First Friday each month	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	10.30am 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. All weddings are governed by the 2 square metre rule and must be strictly observed.		
1st Reading: Gen 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18; 2nd Reading: Rom 8:31-34; Gospel: Mk 9:2-10			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Ps 115:10.15-19

I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.

I trusted, even when I said: 'I am sorely afflicted.'
O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful. *R/*

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:
I will call on the Lord's name. *R/*

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil before all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem. *R/*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

BETHANY COLLEGE OPEN DAY

Parents of girls in Year 5 are invited to come along to the College on **Tuesday, 2 March** from 3.00pm - 6.00pm if you have girls and are wishing to enrol them for Year 7, 2023. Enrolment packages will be available on the day.

ST MARY MACKILLOP'S QUOTE

"Refuse nothing to God's love." 18.9.1906



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Margret is a teacher at a vocational school for deaf students in the Solomon Islands that suffered long-term water shortages and damage from Tropical Cyclone Harold. With Caritas Australia's support, Margret's school installed water tanks, repaired cyclone damage and implemented COVID-19 prevention measures and is now planning to boost food security.



FIRST RECONCILIATION PROGRAM 2021

All Catholic children currently in Year 3 who attend St Gabriel's, St Francis Xavier's, St Joseph's or any of the Public schools within our parish are scheduled to make their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion this year. There will be a Parent Information Evening **this coming Thursday, 4th March**, in St Joseph's Hall at 7.00pm for the parents of the children.

Only **ONE** parent or guardian of a child is allowed to attend this meeting and **the children do not attend this meeting**. The Registration Form for the programme will be handed out on the night. There will also be some general information about the First Holy Communion program on the night. Please let your friends know about this meeting.

There is parking in the school grounds off Parker St, Rockdale, just up from the Centrelink roundabout.

UPDATED RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES

- From Friday 12th February, restrictions on church attendance were eased further to allow **a two-square metre rule. Our three churches are still limited for numbers attending.** If there are too many people attending then those coming late may be asked to attend another Mass.
- Masks are no longer compulsory to attend Mass but are still recommended.
- Congregational singing is allowed only IF we use the 4 person per square metre rule. Our parishes will not have communal singing so we will continue with the 2 square metre rule to allow more people to attend Mass.
- The sign of peace and passing of the collection plate continue to be suspended.
- 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 go from the nearest seat to the Priest or Acolyte but please wait until there is space to join the queue before standing up.
- ANYONE who enters the church must give their names and contact details before entering the church. These records will be kept for four weeks or use the QR code.
- Only one door will be opened to enable accurate recording of those attending.
- Hands must be sanitised when entering the church.
- Please do not come to the church if you are unwell, even with a simple cold.
- If a confirmed case of COVID-19 occurs in a parish, every person who has registered as an attendee of the parish will be notified of the diagnosis and the date and time the infected person attended the church. No other details will be provided.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent, the Stations of the Cross will be held in St Francis Xavier's and St Joseph's Churches, each Friday at 7.00pm.

EXTRA FRIDAY MASS DURING LENT

Each Friday evening during Lent, there will be a 6.30pm Mass in St Joseph's Church followed by the Stations of the Cross at 7pm. **All welcome.**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The annual World Day of Prayer will be held **this coming Friday, 5th March** at the Salvation Army, 432 West Botany St, Brighton-le-Sands at 10.30am. This service is an ecumenical service prepared by people of a particular country. This year it is prepared by the people of Vanuatu. The theme is "*Build on a strong foundation*". The World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian Women from local churches who welcome all to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. There will be refreshments provided after the service. **All welcome.**

MEN'S MINISTRY NETWORK BREAKFAST

A Men's Breakfast meeting will be held in St Thomas More's Parish, Brighton-le-Sands on Saturday, 13th March from 8.00 to 11.45am with a cooked breakfast provided. The keynote topic is *St Joseph and the Masculine Genius*. Bishop Richard Umbers will also celebrate Mass. Please contact **Brighton Parish Office on 9567 3589** if you wish to attend. Cost is \$20.00 and numbers are limited to 50.

A PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

Blessed are you, Father, who, in your infinite love sent us your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, that we may have life, and have it in abundance.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, renew our Eucharistic communities. May they be places of encounter with the living Christ, centres of evangelisation and outreach to our community in love and mercy. Grant us the gifts of faith, hope and love to be faithful disciples of Jesus and radiant witnesses to the people of Sydney.

Our Lady, Help of Christians. *Pray for us!*

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Star of the New Evangelisation. *Pray for us!*

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. *Pray for us!*

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE RECONCILIATIONS & MASSES

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

First Rite (Individual) **Saturday, 27th March**

8.00am – 8.45am Bexley;

4.00pm – 4.30pm Arncliffe;

5.30pm – 6.00pm Rockdale

Second Rite (Communal celebration)

Tuesday, 30th March at Rockdale - 5.30pm followed by Benediction at 6.30pm and Mass at 7.00pm.

Italian Confessions

Wednesday, 31st March for 30 minutes **before and after** the Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm.

HOLY THURSDAY **1st April**

7.00pm Arncliffe 7.00pm Bexley

7.00pm Rockdale (St Joseph's Church will be open after Mass till 12midnight for prayer and adoration)

GOOD FRIDAY **2nd April**

Stations of the Cross

10.00am Bexley – Rockdale – Arncliffe

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

3.00pm Bexley – Rockdale – Arncliffe

HOLY SATURDAY **3rd April**

5.00pm Bexley

5.00pm Arncliffe

6.30pm Rockdale

EASTER SUNDAY **4th April**

9.00am Mass Arncliffe

9.00am Mass Bexley

9.00am Mass Rockdale (Italian)

10.30am Mass Rockdale

11.30am Mass Rockdale

5.00pm Mass Bexley

RECENTLY DECEASED: Bishop Bede Heather, Imelda Leslie and Mary Thangamany.

ANNIVERSARIES: Antonio Meola, Benedetta La Vite, Angelo Vaccaro, Rita Young, Ellen Russell, Antonio Ferreira, Francesco Natoli, Doris Hayes. Lidia Caruso, John Leary, John McLaughlin, Ann Kerr, Oey Kim Seng, and Judith Baker.

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 rest in peace. Amen.