



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)



5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR B - 27 & 28 APRIL 2024

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](http://www.mmrc.org.au)

Email: [admin@mmrc.org.au](mailto: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
<b>WEEKEND MASSES</b> 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
<b>WEEKDAY MASSES</b>	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)
<b>CONFESSIONS</b>	4.00 – 4.30pm 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday of the Month	5.30 – 6.00pm 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the Month	8.00 – 8.40am Saturday
<b>BAPTISMS</b>	10.00am 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month Please phone the Parish Office to make an enquiry or booking on 9567 1558 during office hours.	11.30am 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month	10.00am 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month
<b>WEDDINGS</b>	Monday to Saturday by appointment.		
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 9:26-31; 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Jn 3:18-24; Gospel: Jn 15:1-8</b>			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 21:26-28, 30-32

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

My vows I will pay before those who fear him.  
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.  
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.  
May their hearts live for ever and ever! *R/*

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,  
all families of the nations worship before him.  
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;  
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. *R/*

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.  
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,  
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:  
'These things the Lord has done'. *R/*



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;  
my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!



SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June is the date for the annual Walk With Christ procession in the city. Please keep the date free and join our parish community. More information to come in the next few weeks.

CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL

Next weekend 4/5 May across the Archdiocese of Sydney, the final appeal for the current financial year (and the first of three appeals for this calendar year) will be held to assist the Archbishop in funding some of the special works of the Archdiocese. Some of these works include chaplaincies to gaols, universities and the deaf community, ministry to the aboriginal community, those preparing for marriage, CatholicCare, the training of priests and the work of catechists in state schools. You will notice the envelopes on the church pews for this appeal. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible (please ensure you complete ALL the information required for a tax-deductible receipt). You may care to take an envelope home with you and return it next weekend. Many thanks for your ongoing practical support of these important works.

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BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Father Norvin will be leading a Bible Study group in St Joseph's Hall each Wednesday evening from 6.30 – 7.30pm. If you have your own Catholic bible, please bring it with you. All parishioners are welcome to come along and join the group.

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

### PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Any parishioners, particularly new parishioners, who wish to participate in the Planned Giving Envelope System for the coming New Financial Year, are asked to contact the Parish Office via email: [admin@mmrc.org.au](mailto:admin@mmrc.org.au) and give some details. **There is a 30% Tax Deduction incentive** available if you are a wage earner and lodge a Tax Return at the end of each financial year. This is a positive way of supporting our parishes. Please consider our appeal.

If there are any retired parishioners who currently donate through the envelopes but who may want to change to a 'non-tax receipt' category, they are asked to please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible so we can organise the changes before the new financial year commences.

All new enquiries are welcome. ☺

### WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA

***Please note the change of date by the group.***

*The World Apostolate of Fatima apologises for the incorrect date as previously advertised please note it should have read as follows...*

The Sydney Archdiocese Committee, of the World Apostolate of Fatima invite you to our May Celebration in St. Mary's Cathedral **NEXT Saturday May, 4<sup>th</sup>** honouring our Lady and intercede for peace in the World and the welfare of Australia. To commence at 11.30am with entrance procession (inside the Cathedral) with the Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima (with the Immaculate Heart) Rosary, Litany of Loreto & Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary followed by Holy Mass at Noon. We look forward to you joining us in Prayer. For further enquiries please contact us on 0403 578 994.



### EUCCHARISTIC RETREAT DAY

Our parish Liturgical Ministers are invited to join the Liturgy Office of the Archdiocese of Sydney and the Dominican Sisters of Saint Cecilia for a Eucharistic Retreat Day. **This will be held on Saturday, 11 May** at St Martha's, 38 Renwick Street, Leichhardt. The doors open at 9.30am and the retreat will be held from 10.00am – 4.00pm.

All liturgical ministers from our parishes are invited, especially those whose contribution can sometimes be overlooked, e.g. Ushers, Greeters, Collectors, AV Operators, etc.

Naturally, other liturgical ministers, such as Readers, Acolytes, Cantors and Musicians, Sacristans, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, etc. are also invited. This day will help you grow in your love for and devotion to the gift of the Holy Eucharist. In addition to talks, a personal testimony, and discussion, the day will include time for silence and prayer during a Holy Hour. An opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available. Morning tea and lunch are provided. **The cost is \$15.**

For more information email: [sydney@op-tn.org](mailto:sydney@op-tn.org) or book <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1162316>

### 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.

### 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.

### GABBIES SEWING ANGELS ANNUAL RAFFLE

If you attend Mass over the next four weeks there will be raffle tickets for sale for the annual fundraising raffle. Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 tickets for \$5.00. There will be four prizes of both quilted and crocheted, double and single sized quilts. We thank you for your continued support.



THE MUSTARD SEED  
BOOKSHOP

# NOW OPEN SATURDAYS

**Come visit our new store at**

**ST MARTHA'S, 38 RENWICK STREET, LEICHHARDT**

**Parking: Monday - Friday.** We have parking available. Enter through the main gate and find positions 40 and 41. **Saturday - Ample parking**

**P: (02) 9307 8350 | [www.mustardseed.org.au](http://www.mustardseed.org.au)**

**New Opening Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm & Sat 10-2pm**

The Mustard Seed Bookshop is an official not-for-profit work of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney.

### THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- From pews to planes to pursue God's call to service
- For many, the Australian story starts in Fairfield
- One million roses for Mary in May
- Our Lady of Fatima procession invites faithful to share the flame
- Fr Jacques Philippe teaches Champion students to pray
- How an extrovert survived a silent retreat

### COVID REMINDER

- Please note that Covid is still all around us and masks are 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 distancing from others who are in the line. Please wait until there is space before joining the queue.

### RECENTLY DECEASED: Victor Romanov

**ANNIVERSARIES:** John Wilmott, Margaret Devi, Rafael Ripoll, John Drake, Jose Roda, Dawn Gaudron, Gertrude Chan, John Tanti, John Foley, Monica Maxwell, Maxwell Kane, Donald Gilmour, Marion Morris and Tony & Yesmine 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.**

ST MARY MACKILLOP'S QUOTE

"God gives me strength for what is necessary."  
26.06.1899

