

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)

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT - 19 & 20 MARCH 2022

Parish Priest – Fr Yacub Barkat



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 – Acting 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 (<i>Italian</i>) 10.30am 6.00pm (<i>Third Sunday only Filipino</i>)	----- 9.00am 5.00pm
WEEKDAY MASSES	9.00am Wednesday 9.00am Friday	7.00pm Tuesday (<i>Devotions, Exposition, Benediction & Rosary from 5.30pm</i>) 9.00am Thursday	9.00am Monday 9.30am Thursday 9.00am Saturday (<i>Benediction at 8.45am</i>)
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>Ex 3:1-8, 13-15</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12</i> ; Gospel: <i>Lk 13:1-9</i>			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 102:1-4,6-8,11

The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
 all my being, bless his holy name.
 My soul, give thanks to the Lord
 and never forget all his blessings. *R/*



It is he who forgives all your guilt,
 who heals every one of your ills,
 who redeems your life from the grave,
 who crowns you with love and compassion. *R/*

The Lord does deeds of justice,
 gives judgement for all who are oppressed.
 He made known his ways to Moses
 and his deeds to Israel's sons. *R/*

The Lord is compassion and love,
 slow to anger and rich in mercy.
 For as the heavens are high above the earth
 so strong is his love for those who fear him. *R/*



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
 Repent, says the Lord;
 the kingdom of heaven is at hand.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Janice 44, is a proud Wagilak woman, a traditional dancer, living in a remote community in the Northern Territory. As elders grow older and pass away, she knows she must share her knowledge with the younger generation. However, the community faces multiple challenges, including a lack of jobs, limited educational opportunities, and socio-economic which can lead to young people becoming disconnected from culture. With your help, Caritas Australia supports Djilpin Arts Aboriginal Corporation, which operates a centre for traditional and contemporary Aboriginal arts and culture, providing employment and generating income for local communities.



Please donate to Project Compassion and help provide employment and training for First Australians, allowing them to remain on country and keep their culture alive. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from our churches or by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.



RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES

- Masks are still recommended in **churches**.
- **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 to join the queue before standing up.**
- Please do not come to the church if you are unwell, even if you do not think you have Covid and just a sore throat or a simple cold which is highly indicative of the Omicron variation.

NATIONAL CHURCH LIFE SURVEY

Our parishes have been requested to take part in a special survey about life in our parishes. The Church Life Survey includes an Attender Survey (paper survey form and online) for churchgoers aged 15 and over, as well as an option of a Child Survey for churchgoers aged 8 to 14 (paper survey form only). These surveys help us to take time to reflect and review key areas of church life, by listening to the voices, experiences and views of our church attenders. It should take you about 20 minutes to complete and each attender is asked to fill in an Attender Survey once only. Attenders can alternatively use a smart device to go to surveys.ncls.org.au and log in using their NCLS Church Code. These surveys are targeted at all churches in Australia, regardless of their faith.

There is a special code for each of our churches that must be filled in on your form on the first page.

TAS11801St Francis Xavier's Catholic Church

TAS11802.....St Joseph's Catholic Church

TAS11803.....St Gabriel's Catholic Church

Also, please mark the boxes with an X - no ticks.

Please return these surveys to the church next weekend or the weekend after 2 / 3 April.

ST JOSEPH'S FEAST DAY

This Saturday, 19th March is the Feast of St Joseph. We send greetings and prayers to Sr Marie RSJ who resides in Rockdale; to the parishioners of Rockdale and the students and staff at St Joseph's Primary School on this special day.

ST JOSEPH'S FAMILY MASS AND FEAST DAY

This Sunday the staff, children and families from St Joseph's Primary will be at the 10.30am Mass to celebrate the Feast of St Joseph (March 19). Please join them for a cuppa after Mass.

BAPTISMS

This weekend we welcome Luca Corsi and Isla Paffas who will be baptised at St Gabriel's on Sunday. We also welcome their families and friends who join them on this special occasion.

MASS AND STATIONS OF THE CROSS

- Mass will be celebrated before the Stations of the Cross at St Joseph's Church, each Friday at 7.00pm during Lent. Stations of the Cross will follow Mass.
- Stations of the Cross will be celebrated at St Francis Xavier's at 7pm each Friday.
- Italian Stations of the Cross will be prayed each Wednesday at 7.00pm in St Joseph's Church.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Please keep our parish children in your prayers as they continue their lessons in the First Reconciliation Program.

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.

OUR PARISH SCHOOLS OPEN DAYS

- St Gabriel's Bexley will have an Open Afternoon **this Tuesday 22 March** from 3.30 - 4.30pm, bookings are essential and to contact the school (9502 1932) to book in.
- St Joseph's Rockdale will have their Open Afternoon **this Wednesday, 23 March** from 3.30 - 5.0pm.
- St Francis Xavier's Open Afternoon which was washed out will be held on another date.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to Zenny and George Stratigos who have donated the funds to purchase and install new carpet on the altar at St Joseph's. Your gratitude is very much appreciated. The couple have also donated some funds to Fr Yacub's children's charity in Pakistan. May God bless you both.

LITURGY ROSTERS AT ST GABRIEL'S

If any St Gabriel's parishioners would like to be on a roster for weekend Masses as a Reader or Eucharistic Minister, please contact the parish office and leave your details. Hopefully we will also have a roster for Eucharistic Ministers in the near future too as we have not been able to have them participate due to Covid.

DAY OF THE UNBORN CHILD

Remembering the lives of unborn children lost to the grave injustice of abortion. Held to coincide with the Feast of the Annunciation, marking the day of Our Lord's conception in the womb of His Blessed Mother. **Next Sunday 27 March**, Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP will celebrate a Mass at St Mary's Cathedral at 10.30am. A rosary procession will follow which will make its way past the NSW Parliament House. It will conclude with Benediction at 1:30pm.

EPETITION AGAINST EUTHANASIA LAWS IN NSW

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP has asked Catholics to support an e-petition launched by Upper House MLC Greg Donnelly opposing proposed euthanasia laws in NSW. A parliamentary committee has recommended that the Legislative Council proceed with consideration of the bill. The unwillingness of the Committee to take a position on the bill means we need to fight even harder. To demonstrate your opposition to the proposed laws, sign the e-petition [here](https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lc/pages/epetition-details.aspx?q=apWMtQo6WVdu1NOOVqOtYA):

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lc/pages/epetition-details.aspx?q=apWMtQo6WVdu1NOOVqOtYA>

RECENTLY DECEASED: Natalina Panto.

ANNIVERSARIES: Mary Haasnoot, George Borg, Patrick Prior, Abdallah Elhage, Antonietta Bilinski, Margaret Graham, Aurelia Evaristo, Nevill Abel, Lylle Warwick and Jason Puac.

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.