



# ST MARY MACKILLOP PARISH ROCKDALE CITY

Three Communities - One Parish

(St Francis Xavier's, Arncliffe, St Gabriel's, Bexley & St Joseph's, Rockdale)



## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A - 2 & 3 MAY 2026

**Parish Priest** – Fr Yacub Barkat     **Assistant Parish Priests** – Fr Norvin Dias and Fr Miguel Perez Campos



**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 Thursday: 9am to 1pm (please phone before coming in.)

**SCHOOLS:** St Francis Xavier's Primary, Arncliffe: 9567 5389 – Principal: Ms Debbie Heckenberg

St Gabriel's Primary, Bexley: 9502 1932 - Principal: Ms Catherine Hodgins

St Joseph's Primary, Rockdale: 9599 2541 - Principal: Ms Rachelle Dopson

	ARNCLIFFE	ROCKDALE	BEXLEY
<b>WEEKEND MASSES</b>	5.00pm Saturday	6.30pm Saturday	-----
<b>Saturday Vigil</b>	9.00am	9.00am (Italian)     10.30am	9.00am
<b>Sunday Masses</b>		12.00pm (First Sunday only Urdu)	5.00pm
		6.00pm (Third Sunday only Filipino)	
<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.		
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading: <i>Acts 6:1-7</i> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: <i>1 Pet 2:4-9</i> ; Gospel: <i>Jn 14:1-12</i>			

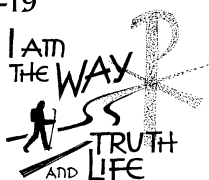
### RESPONSORIAL PSALM 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19

Lord, let your mercy be on us,  
as we place our trust in you.

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;  
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.  
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,  
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. *R/*

For the word of the Lord is faithful  
and all his works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right  
and fills the earth with his love. *R/*

The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in his love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine. *R/*



### CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL

**This weekend 2 & 3 May** there will be a third collection after Holy Communion. The Charitable Works Fund Appeal is the final appeal for the current financial year (and the first of three appeals for this calendar year). This is 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. If you have forgotten some cash, please take an envelope home with you and return it next weekend. Thank you for your ongoing support of these important works.



### MAY ROSARY AT ST JOSEPH'S

The month of May is dedicated to Our Blessed Mother. There will be Rosary recited **each evening at 6.00pm** (including weekends) in St Joseph's Church **until Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> May**. Please come along and join with others reciting the Rosary.



### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

I am the way, the truth and the life, says the Lord;  
no one comes to the Father except through me.

**Alleluia!**



### FATHER YACUB ON LEAVE

Father Yacub is on leave and will return mid May.



### BAPTISMS

This Sunday we welcome Juliana Ferre, Hugh Husband and Olivia Presbitero who will be baptised at St Francis Xavier's. We also welcome their families and friends who join them on their special day.

## FUNERAL

A Requiem Mass will be held for the late Vera Bella in St Gabriel's Church, this coming **Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> May** at 10.30am. Please keep her family in your prayers at this sad time.

## PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Any parishioners, particularly new parishioners, who wish to participate in the Planned Giving Envelope System for the coming New Financial Year 2026-2027, are asked to contact the Parish Office via email: [admin@mmrc.org.au](mailto:admin@mmrc.org.au) and give some contact 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** as it really helps our parish finances if we have a regular weekly income.

If there are any recently 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.** 😊

## OUR LADY OF FATIMA PROCESSION

The Sydney Archdiocesan Committee of the World Apostolate of Fatima invite you to attend the celebration at St. Mary's Cathedral **next Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May** An entrance procession down the main Cathedral aisle with the Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima (with the Immaculate Heart) will commence at 11.30am with the Rosary followed by the Litany of Loreto, the Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and Fatima Prayers. Mass will follow at 12 Noon. Our Spiritual Director Fr. Roberto Keryakos will be the Principal Celebrant. We welcome you to pray for our world in need of so much prayer. For further details please call us on 0403 578 994.

## "HEARTS ON FIRE" PENTECOST CELEBRATION

Jesus Light of the World Community invites you to "Hearts on Fire" Pentecost Celebration on **Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May** from 1.00 – 5.30pm in St Joseph's Hall. The presenter is Ron Maldigri and the day will include rosary, praise and worship, a talk, a prayer of empowerment, and fellowship. Booking Essential, Afternoon Tea Provided. Enquiries: Helen: 0433 455 114 / Esperance: 0407 749 182 / [Email:jlwcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:jlwcommunity@gmail.com)

## THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

Apologies for the lack of Catholic Weekly in recent weeks. It seems we have a different Australia Post deliverer, and they did not deliver them to the Parish Office but in another unknown location. Hopefully they are back on track now.

- Patriarch receives Sydney welcome
- Pope Leo speaks on same-sex blessings
- Young athletes shine nationally
- GyMEA prepares for a new Pentecost
- Debate tests pro-life approaches
- St Joseph, a silent and faithful guardian

## ADOREMUS AT ST BENEDICT'S, BROADWAY

You are invited to join us for an evening of adoration, formation, vespers, and fellowship. Every Wednesday from 5:30pm to 7:00pm at St Benedict's Church, Broadway. Everyone is welcome.

## EUCCHARIST28 PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for the gift of your real presence in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Grant us the grace to receive you reverently, worship you truly and serve you with hearts renewed. By the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen us, so that as you gave yourself to the Father and to us, we too may offer our lives to God and to others. Inspire and help us to serve you in those who are in need, especially the defenceless and homeless, the lonely and lost. Unite us with your sacrifice of the Mass, so that we may truly become what we have received, the Body of Christ, Amen

## SISTINE CHAPEL IMMERSIVE EXHIBITION

From **16 May to 19 July**, the Sistine Chapel Immersive Exhibition will be presented on the forecourt of St Mary's Cathedral in Sydney. For the first time, visitors will step inside a purpose-built structure that evokes the breathtaking scale and splendour of the Sistine Chapel, using cutting-edge projection technology and ultra-high-resolution imagery sourced directly from the Vatican archives. The exhibition unfolds across two distinct spaces. The Introductory Gallery offers an informative and engaging journey through the history, architecture, and purpose of the Sistine Chapel from its construction in the 15th century to its role in papal conclaves and its enduring significance as one of the world's most celebrated artistic achievements. The Immersive Projection Chamber, the centrepiece of the exhibition, presents a spectacular digital recreation of the chapel's interior. Surrounded by artistic masterpieces on a monumental scale and accompanied by guided narration, visitors are drawn into the sweeping story of salvation depicted in one of the most extraordinary works of sacred art ever created. Tickets and information can be found at: <https://sistinechapelsydney.com.au/>

## 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.

## PARISH SAFEGUARDING

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at 9390 5810 or [enquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:enquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Vera Bella, Norma O'Sullivan, Enid Kennedy and Frank Dwyer.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Sr Joan Keating RSJ, Pamela Burns, Basil Kohary, Maxim Gunner, Nuala Ventura, Maria Cehic, Andrej Bauk, Andrew Pike, Vincenzo Colantuono, Maureen Cook and Jose Roda.

**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

"Have courage." 7.4.1870

