



PARISHES OF ST GABRIEL'S, BEXLEY and ST MARY MACKILLOP'S, ROCKDALE CITY

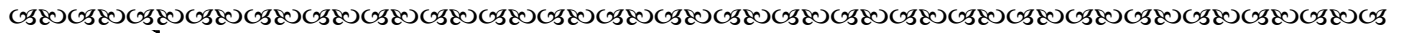
Looking after the Churches of St Gabriel's, Bexley, St Joseph's, Rockdale, and St Francis Xavier's, Arncliffe



EASTER SUNDAY - YEAR B - 3 & 4 APRIL 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	5.00pm Saturday	6.30pm Saturday	-----
Saturday Vigil	9.00am	9.00am (<i>Italian</i>)	9.00am
Sunday Masses		10.30am 6.00pm (<i>Third Sunday only Filipino</i>)	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 7.30pm First Friday each month	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	10.30am 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. The 2 square metre rule and must be strictly observed.		
1 st Reading: <i>Acts 10:34.37-43</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6-8</i> ; Gospel: <i>Jn 20:1-9 (Sunday Morning Mass only)</i>			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Sunday Morning Mass only)

**This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad**

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end. *R/*



The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.

I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. *R/*

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. *R/*

PEACE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia!



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Office will be closed until this Wednesday 7th April at 9am. If you need to contact a priest in an absolute emergency, please phone 0426 715 463.

PROJECT COMPASSION DONATIONS

Please return your Project Compassion envelopes and boxes as soon as possible. Don't forget to fill in **ALL** the details on the slip if you wish to receive a tax deduction.



THANK YOU!

I would very much like to thank all those who have prepared our churches, liturgies and music for the celebration of the Easter Ceremonies during the Sacred Triduum this year. They were beautiful occasions of prayer and praise for our God. Much work goes on behind the scenes and we should be grateful for the generous efforts of so many people.

On behalf of myself, Fr Frank, Fr Peter, Fr Adriano and the Scalabrini Fathers and Sisters and Sister Marie White sj, I wish you and all your families a very happy and Holy Easter. We thank you for your kind Easter greetings and gifts. **May God bless you all, Fr Yacub**

EASTER OFFERING ENVELOPES

Please don't forget that **Easter Offerings** are a vital income for the church. The special envelopes will be found at the doors to each of our churches. The money from the Easter Offerings is remitted to a central fund caring for the needs of priests and deacons of the Archdiocese who need to be supported. Your ongoing prayerful and practical support of the clergy in the Archdiocese is appreciated.

EASTER HOME BLESSING

It is a custom for people to want their houses blessed at Easter. Please feel free to take a bottle of newly-blessed Easter Water. **Please only take one bottle** this weekend to ensure there are sufficient for people attending the other Masses. If you wish to have a priest visit to bless your home, please contact the Parish Office **after Tuesday**.

EASTER SUNDAY

Alleluia! The Lord is Risen! This is the Good News that the Church proclaims to all of us!

Easter Sunday morning tells us that nothing can ever separate us from the love of God. Perfect love, undying love, could not be killed on a cross, could not be held in a grave. Love couldn't help but rise from that horrible death filled with love and peace to share with all. God transformed our darkest moment into the greatest act of love the world has ever known!"

This is RESURRECTION – foundation of Christian joy and Christian hope. With the resurrection of Jesus, we are assured of the fullness of life and we are freed from the fear of death as the end of everything in life. Today we come out of our empty tombs- our empty tombs of failures and disillusionment, past mistakes and discouragements, bitterness and pain. We let go of the past that hinders us to appreciate the beauty, meaning and purpose of the present reality. The resurrection sets us free from all fears.

When we set ourselves truly free, we become a witness of his resurrection. We become joyful, optimistic, courageous and hopeful even when life becomes bleak and gloomy. Our whole direction in life changes from hopelessness and discouragement to one of confidence and joy for the future. We cannot contain the joy of knowing that in Jesus is our Lord and Saviour. Now we are capable of living for God and for others. Now as a community, we share a common faith, love and resources. Now we become supportive of each other in our community as a church. As a Christian community, we pool our resources together for the spread of the gospel. We become a resurrected church.

As a RESURRECTED CHURCH, Jesus Christ becomes the real message, the real essence, the real purpose of EASTER. Because of Him, we can have a forever relationship with God, our Father and be with Him for eternity.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Easter Blessings to everyone!

Fr Yacub

GUARDIAN FUNERALS

I wish to thank Guardian Funerals at Rockdale for their ongoing generosity in donating our Paschal Candles. They have been most generous in donating Paschal Candles for each of our churches every Easter for many years now. If you need any assistance with funerals or have any questions, they are located at 374 Princes Highway, corner of Bestic St Rockdale and may be contacted on 9567 6066.

FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY

Next Sunday, 11th April, is the Second Sunday of Easter and is also the Feast of Divine Mercy. This will be celebrated in St Joseph's Church from 2:00pm with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Divine Mercy Prayers & Reconciliation followed at 3:00pm with Benediction & Mass.

CATHOLICARE - WE ARE HIRING

CatholicCare's Home Care services needs your help to find people of Italian and Greek speaking backgrounds to join our team as Domestic Support Workers to help older people to live in their homes independently. We invite you to place this ad in your bulletin and consider asking families or friends to consider applying. CatholicCare Home Care Liverpool reception: 8778 4222.

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!*

RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES

- Restrictions on church attendance have 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 now allowed in our churches.**
- 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.

MARIST COLLEGE YEAR 7, 2023 ENROLMENTS

Parents of boy currently in Year 5 are reminded that enrolments for Year 7, 2023 will close on **Wednesday, 21st April**.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Phil Smith and Mickey Fraser.

ANNIVERSARIES: Maureen Batty, Fausto Rossi, Jonathan Huntley, Jill Crossley, Mavis Fitzgerald, Giuseppe Baldassare, Domenico Catania, Salvatore Livolsi, Albina Bianco, Jovie & Letty Casuso Reyes.

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.

ST MARY MACKILLOP'S QUOTE

"Great is the strength we possess in our unity."
30.8.1874

