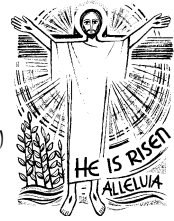




PARISHES OF ST GABRIEL'S, BEXLEY and ST MARY MACKILLOP'S, ROCKDALE CITY

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

ASCENSION OF THE LORD - YEAR A - 20 & 21 MAY 2023



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

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 coming 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 Debbie Heckenberg

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	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	11.30am 2 nd Sunday of the month	10.00am 3 rd Sunday of the month
	Please phone the Parish Office to make an enquiry or booking on 9567 1558 during office hours.		
WEDDINGS	Monday to Saturday by appointment.		
1 st Reading: <i>Acts 1:1-11</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>Eph 1:17-23</i> ; Gospel: <i>Mt 28:16-20</i>			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 46:2-3.6-9

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord

All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High,
we must fear,
great king over all the earth. *R/*

God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
Sing praise to our king, sing praise. *R/*

God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne. *R/*



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Please keep in your prayers the children of our parishes who are commencing their lessons in preparation to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time in next month.



FIRST COMMUNION GIFTS

Each of our three churches have Piety Stalls with appropriate gifts for children who will receive their First Holy Communion. Please support our parishes by giving a Catholic gift and card to celebrate this wonderful occasion in their faith journey.

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 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.

If there are any parishioners who currently donate through the envelopes but who may want to change to a 'non-tax 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.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always,
until the end of the world.

Alleluia!



FAMILY MASS NEXT SUNDAY AT ST JOSEPH'S

Next Sunday the 10.30am Mass at St Joseph's will be a Family Mass for families from St Joseph's Primary and Marist College. Families with children in the public schools are especially invited to attend this celebration. A sausage sizzle will be held in the school grounds after Mass. All welcome. ☺

JESUS LIGHT OF THE WORLD COMMUNITIES

"Day of Outpouring" with Ron Maldigri, Speaker, a Catholic Lay Evangelist in Sydney with the powerful gift of prophecy, deliverance and healing. To be held in St Joseph's Hall, Rockdale, **next Saturday, 27 May** from 9:30am – 4:00pm. Booking Essential, FREE Lunch & Afternoon Tea. Enquiries: Helen – 0433 455 114 Ida – 0424 267 500 Email: jlwcommunity@gmail.com

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Did you complete the training at Rockdale last year? We urgently need your assistance to take Our Lord to Catholics in nursing homes in Bexley, Rockdale and Arncliffe. You will be very well supported in this vital parish ministry. Please contact Maree Ross 0428 103 758.

COME AND JOIN US FOR SOME FUN!

St Gabriel's Playgroup warmly invites all parents / carers with children aged 0-5 to join us for our playgroup on Fridays 9.30-11.00am in the Bexley Parish Hall. The playgroup will run during the school terms throughout the year but not in school holidays. We look forward to seeing you there! For any enquiries, please contact Rebecca via email rebecca.forwood@syd.catholic.edu.au

WALK WITH CHRIST PROCESSION

Sydney's annual Procession of the Blessed Sacrament. "Walk with Christ", is a public Catholic celebration through the heart of Sydney. To be held **on Sunday, 11th June** beginning with a gathering of parishes and groups and entertainment in Martin Place from 1.00pm. The procession to the Cathedral will commence at 2:30pm. The presence of the Eucharist in this joyful liturgical act invokes the benevolent spiritual blessings of Christ onto the city and all who live there. The blessing is derived from He who has been "anointed to proclaim the good news to the poor ... to proclaim freedom for prisoners and sight to the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour." It is in this way that the Walk with Christ is part of the spiritual and civic life of the city and Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney. This is a wonderful opportunity to show our public support for our Catholic faith as the Blessed Sacrament is carried through our city's streets.

THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- Let there be light: Fatima procession illuminates St Mary's
- ACT Government mounts takeover of Calvary Public Hospital
- Monica Doumit: Shutting hospitals and schools won't keep them Catholic
- Sainly spray: Danny Mulyono brightens up Catholic schools
- Should we pray the Our Father with hands outstretched? Fr Flader weighs in
- Tassie Benedictine makes final vows

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.

BAPTISM

This Sunday we welcome Amara Sokota at St Gabriel's. We also welcome her family and friends who join her on this special occasion.



EVANGELIUM FORUM: LUMEN GENTIUM AND SYNODALITY

What can this landmark Vatican II document teach us in our contemporary Church today? The guest Speaker is Rev Prof Gerald Kelly, Lecturer, Catholic Institute of Sydney. To be held **next Sunday 28 May** (Pentecost Sunday) from 12 noon-1:30pm (including Q and A) in St Peter's Parish Hall, 235 Devonshire St, Surry Hills (50 metres from Surry Hills light rail stop). Free Talk

CHORAL EVENSONG IN NEWTOWN

Experience the beauty of Choral Evensong, one of the newest forms of the Divine Office approved within the Roman Rite. **Next Sunday 28 May** in St Joseph's Church 49 Bedford St, Newtown at 4pm. This event is held every 4th Sunday of the month. **All welcome.**

MISSION: TRANSFORM LIVES- THEIRS.... AND YOURS
Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills and knowledge with those who have few other chances for training. Build enduring global relationships while assisting sustainable, self-reliant, community development. Explore 35 positions on our website (www.palms.org.au), where you can also read stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. Contact us for further information on potential assignments for you or someone you know. Phone: 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567.

RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES

- **Masks are still highly recommended in churches, as Covid is still very much in our local community.**
- **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: Basil Kohary and Sr Denise Daly OSU.

ANNIVERSARIES: Sr Margaret Meacham RSJ, Betty Sullivan, Ciro Vitiello, Bruce Beck, Patricia Neylan, Jose Coelho, John Lloyd, Dolia & Jamie Montana and Judith Ann 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 all rest in peace. Amen

ST MARY MACKILLOP'S QUOTE

"I now write, and both for myself and Sisters, beg that you will come to help us on with God's work."
(30.1.1867)

