

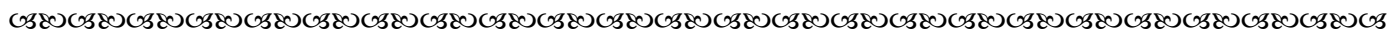
# PARISHES OF ST GABRIEL'S, BEXLEY and ST MARY MACKILLOP'S, ROCKDALE CITY

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

## 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A - 11 & 12 MARCH 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](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 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
<b>WEEKEND MASSES</b> <b>Saturday Vigil</b> <b>Sunday Masses</b>	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
<b>WEEKDAY MASSES</b>	9.00am Wednesday 9.00am Friday	7.00pm Tuesday ( <i>Devotions, Exposition, Benediction &amp; Rosary from 5.30pm</i> ) 9.00am Thursday	9.00am Monday 9.30am Thursday 9.00am Saturday ( <i>Benediction at 8.45am</i> )
<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>Ex 17:3-7</i> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: <i>Rom 5:1-2, 5-8</i> ; Gospel: <i>Jn 4:5-42</i>			

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Come; ring out our joy to the Lord;  
hail the rock who saves us.  
Let us come before him, giving thanks,  
with songs let us hail the Lord. *R/*



Come in; let us bow and bend low;  
let us kneel before the God who made us  
for he is our God  
and we the people who belong to his pasture,  
the flock that is led by his hand. *R/*

O that today you would listen to his voice!  
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as on that day at Massah in the desert  
when your fathers put me to the test;  
when they tried me, though they saw my work.' *R/*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;  
giving me living water that I may never thirst again.

**Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**



**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

Priscilla lives in the Hwange district in Zimbabwe with her husband, Charles, and their two grandsons. Climate change continues to bring unprecedented challenges for people living in the most vulnerable and remote communities in Zimbabwe. With the support of Caritas Hwange, Priscilla learnt conservation farming skills to grow drought-resistant crops to support her family during the current food crisis. Priscilla was able to produce a bumper harvest in her first year of practising conservation farming. Priscilla used the funds from her harvest to start poultry farming, which enabled her to sell eggs to pay for her grandchildren's school fees, books and stationery. While the situation in Zimbabwe and across eastern Africa remains dire, the work of Caritas Hwange means that Priscilla can learn the skills she needs to build resilience and support her family during this current food crisis. **Please donate to Project Compassion.** Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations.



**FAMILY MASS FOR ST JOSEPH'S FEAST DAY**

**Next Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> March,** St Joseph's Primary School families will gather to celebrate the Feast of St Joseph with the parish community at the 10.30am Mass. A sausage sizzle will follow in the school grounds. All welcome. ☺

**PARISH SCHOOL OPEN DAY**

St Francis Xavier's Arncliffe have another open day this coming **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** from 5.00 - 6:30pm.

### BAPTISM

We welcome Alisha Lau who will be baptised at St Joseph's this Sunday. We also welcome her family and friends who join her on this special occasion.



### FUNERAL

A Funeral Mass for the Late Ernest Camps will be held **this Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> March** at 10.00am in St Joseph's Church. Please keep his family in your prayers at this sad time. May Ernest Rest in Peace, Amen.

### MASS AND HEALING LITURGY

**This coming Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> March** at the 7.00pm Mass in St Joseph's we will welcome Fr Justin Torres who is a priest of the Alliance of the Two Hearts of Jesus and Mary. He is visiting Australia from The Philippines to share his ministry, which emphasises the Love of Jesus and Mary for all. Fr Yacub will concelebrate with Fr Justin. Following the Mass there will be an anointing for those who wish to partake in this gift of Healing. We all have a need of some type of healing, whether emotional, physical, or spiritual. **All welcome.**

### FIRST RECONCILIATION

Please keep the children from our parish schools in your prayers as they learn more about God's merciful love. This Sunday they will commence their lessons for the First Reconciliation Program.



### STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

Stations of the Cross will be held on Friday's during Lent at 6.00pm at St Francis Xavier's Church and at 7.00pm in St Joseph's Church followed by Mass at 7.30pm.



### ST PATRICK'S DAY MASS

The Annual St Patrick's Day Mass will be celebrated this coming **Friday, 17 March** in St Mary's Cathedral, commencing at 10:30am with Bishop Emeritus Terry Brady as the Principal Celebrant.

### DAY OF THE UNBORN CHILD

The worldwide Day of the Unborn Child annual procession will be led by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP on **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March**. This is to proclaim that every human life is worth protecting, no matter how young. The day will commence with the 10.30am Mass in St Mary's. The procession will follow towards Parliament House and ends with Benediction back in the Cathedral at 1.30pm. There will also be an address delivered by a special guest speaker from the USA, Steve Mosher of the Population Research Institute. **All welcome.** For further information on the Day of the Unborn Child, please contact the Life and Family Institute via phone 9002 0354 or email [info@lifeandfamily.com.au](mailto:info@lifeandfamily.com.au)

### MISSION: CHANGE THEIR LIVES... AND YOURS

Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills with those who have less opportunity to develop their talents. On our website you can also read news from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know. Phone: 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567 or visit our website: [www.palms.org.au](http://www.palms.org.au)

### 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.

### WALKING WITH OUR LADY THROUGH HOLY WEEK

A Women's Retreat Day with the Dominican Sisters of Saint Cecilia will be held on **Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> April** from 10am-4pm at St Peter Chanel Church, 62 Kingsland Rd, Berala. Along with talks 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. Register online: <https://www.trybooking.com/CGHGO>

### DISCERNMENT RETREAT FOR MEN

This retreat is for men 18-35 years old at all stages of their discernment who are considering a vocation to the Priesthood. This is a great opportunity to immerse yourself in an ideal environment for you to really focus your attention on listening to God. The weekend includes Mass, talks, time for personal prayer, sacraments, adoration, spiritual guidance, Q&A with seminarians and discussions. To be held on 24-26 March at Seminary of the Good Shepherd, 50-58 Abbotsford Rd, Homebush. The Retreat Speakers are:

- Opening Keynote: Bishop Danny Meagher, Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney
- Fr Edmond Travers MSC, External Spiritual Director, Seminary of the Good Shepherd
- Fr Joseph Gedeon, Parish Priest of St Jerome's Parish, Punchbowl

Registration is essential! \$99. All inquirer's/participant's details are kept confidential. For any enquiries, please contact the Vocation Centre on 9307 8424 or email at [vocations@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:vocations@sydneycatholic.org)

### 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 behind others.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Ernest Camps, Flora Rapisardi and Danielle Yepes.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Claude Lucas, Ricardo Damisel, Andres Rodrigues, Dianne Demosthenous, Mark Maric, Victoria Fuentes, Teodoro Tarongoy, Natalina Panto,

**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

"True humility seems to me to be unreal unless accompanied by a sweet and thoughtful charity." 3.6.1870

