

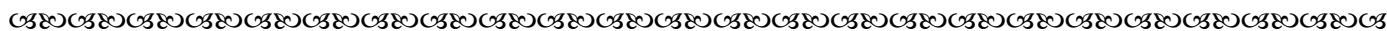
PARISHES OF ST GABRIEL'S, BEXLEY and ST MARY MACKILLOP'S, ROCKDALE CITY

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

17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A -29 & 30 JULY 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 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>1 Kg 3:5, 7-12</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>Rom 8:28-30</i> ; Gospel: <i>Mt 13:44-52</i>			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Ps. 64:10-14

Lord, I love your commands.

My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
is to obey your word.

The law from your mouth

means more to me than silver and gold. *R/*

Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.

Let your love come to me

and I shall live for your law is my delight. *R/*

That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold.

That is why I rule my life by your precepts:

I hate false ways. *R/*

Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.

The unfolding of your word

gives light and teaches the simple. *R/*



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to the little ones
the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!



CONFIRMATION 2023

This information is for the parents of students currently in Years 5 and 6 or older and who have received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. The Parent Information Meeting will be held **this coming Thursday, 3rd August** at 7.00pm in St Joseph's Hall, Parker St, Rockdale. Parking is available in the school grounds. If your son or daughter is to receive the Sacrament this year, it is expected that one of the parents or a carer attends this meeting. The preparation classes will be held on the four Sundays of August and the Confirmations will be held in September.

WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

This Sunday 30th July, the 10.30am Mass at St Joseph's Rockdale is a Family Mass to celebrate World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. The 10.30am Mass today will not be 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time as per the Missal but a special liturgy to honour our grandparents. As part of the celebrations this Sunday, a morning tea will be provided at the conclusion of Mass. **All welcome.** 😊

FUNERAL

A Requiem Mass will be held for the late Grazia Ferrara in St Francis Xavier's Church this coming **Thursday, 3rd August** at 10.00am.

CHARITABLE WORKS' FUND (CWF)

Next weekend, 5 & 6 August will be the first of three appeals for this financial year for the Charitable Works' Fund. The Archbishop uses the money from these appeals to help fund various pastoral activities within the archdiocese: hospital, gaol and university chaplaincies, the deaf community, the aboriginal community, seminarians preparing for priesthood, CatholicCare and resources for catechists visiting state schools to name just a few. A third collection for the CWF Appeal will follow after Holy Communion next weekend.

Each parish is given a quota to fund each appeal. These quotas are determined according to each parish's income and population. If this quota is not met, then the shortfall comes from our parish funds. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible, but please make sure you complete the details required on the envelopes provided. Please take home an envelope and return next weekend with your donation. Many thanks for your ongoing support of this important work within the archdiocese.

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)

Tuesday, 15th August, is the **Feast of the Assumption**.

Catholics are obliged to attend Mass on this Feast Day. Masses to be celebrated in our churches will be at:

8.00am Marist College Kogarah	
9.00am Bexley	9.00am Arncliffe
10.30am Rockdale	7.00pm Rockdale

"TAP & GO" MACHINES IN OUR CHURCHES

Parishioners are asked to give to our parishes via the Tap & Go machines which are located in each of our churches. It is a quick and easy way to donate when people don't bring cash to Mass to put on the collection plates. This money goes directly into the parish account and not sent elsewhere. The benefit for the parish of receiving monies this way is to enable us to receive the money instantly and to allow us to have money available for payment for upkeep of the parishes, the utilities and the facilities. It's an added donation to us and we would love it if you can take more advantage of it. ☺

OREMUS: ONLINE PRAYER SERIES

Strengthen your faith in Christ, your prayer life, and your confidence to pray with others. Join us online for this three-week series on the Foundations of Prayer: on Wednesdays 6, 13 and 20 September from 7:30 – 8:45pm. **Cost: Free.**

Optional in-person retreat to follow on Saturday, 28 October, at St Martha's Leichhardt, from 10am – 4pm, \$28.50 (+booking fees). Register for either or both opportunities at www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events. All welcome.

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.

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.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES & RECEIPTS

If your envelopes or receipts are not in the church, please contact the parish office and collect them from there.

THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- Sydney WYD pilgrims journey to birthplace of Christ
- St Joseph's Palliative Care Hospital to close
- Sisters of Charity come together at Surry Hills
- Wedding day blessing for Tyburn nuns
- Monica Doumit: Big W boycott a victory for common sense
- Reviews: Barbie, Oppenheimer and the end of the world

MEDITATION DAY

You are invited to attend St Benedict's Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia, on Sunday - 20th August, for a Christian Meditation Introduction and Renewal Day. Arrival from 10 am to register for a 10:30 am start, presentations, introduction to meditation, periods of meditation, Mass, information exchange, and conclusion around 3 pm. Book display and morning tea provided, BYO picnic lunch. Masks are optional, recommend social distancing and vaccination for one's own personal protection. Enquiries: Ann Lomas, 9653 2637 or atlomas@bigpond.com

For possible accommodation in the Monastery Guest House please get in touch with Fr Michael Kelly: mkelly@silvestrini.org / 0455 329 607.

CALIX SOCIETY

"We substitute the cup that sanctifies for the cup that stupefies". Stay and sober with the Catholic faith and a 12-Step program. Join is in prayer for: total abstinence, spiritual development, and personal sanctification. Do you "thirst" for more? Contact calixsydney@outlook.com or <https://www.calixsociety.org>

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.

RECENTLY DECEASED Michael Farr and Grazia Ferrara.

ANNIVERSARIES: Terrence McBride, Patricia Quirk, Marie Bates, Carmela Simone, Wally Basha, Susan Cani, Buenaventura & Eugenia Montana, Hermogenes & Alejandra Cuyos, Antonia & Orencio Festa.

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

"Let not your crosses make you unhappy."
(28.02.1890)



REMINDER: PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR MOBILE PHONE AS YOU ENTER THE CHURCH.