

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

4th SUNDAY IN LENT - YEAR B - 13 & 14 MARCH 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 Saturday Vigil Sunday Masses	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
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. All weddings are governed by the 2 square metre rule and must be strictly observed.		
1st Reading: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; 2nd Reading: Eph 2:4-10; Gospel: Jn 3:14-21			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Ps 136:1-6

Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

By the rivers of Babylon

there we sat and wept, remembering Zion;

on the poplars that grew there we hung up our harps. *R/*

For it was there that they asked us,

our captors, for songs, our oppressors, for joy.

'Sing to us,' they said, 'one of Zion's songs.' *R/*

O how could we sing the song of the Lord on alien soil?

If I forget you, Jerusalem, let my right hand wither! *R/*

O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not,

if I prize not Jerusalem above all my joys! *R/*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!



ST JOSEPH'S FEAST DAY

This coming Friday, 19th March is the Feast of St Joseph. We send greetings and prayers to Sr Marie RSJ who resides in Rockdale; to the parishioners of Rockdale and the students and staff at St Joseph's Primary School on this special day.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Arsad, an Indonesian farmer, had no toilet at home and was often sick due to the practice of open defecation. Through Caritas Australia's support, Arsad and his community improved hygiene and sanitation, and funded their own toilets. Arsad has inspired his neighbourhood to "Be More". "We help each other, the 'togetherness' is growing. Our solidarity had increased," Arsad says.



PALM SUNDAY

Palm Sunday will be celebrated on the weekend of **27 & 28 March**. As in past years, you are asked to bring your own piece of palm, olive branch or greenery to be blessed.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent, the Stations of the Cross will be held in St Francis Xavier's and St Joseph's Churches, each Friday at 7.00pm.



EXTRA FRIDAY MASS DURING LENT

Each Friday evening during Lent, there will be a 6.30pm Mass in St Joseph's Church followed by the Stations of the Cross at 7pm. **All welcome.**

BAPTISMS

This Sunday we welcome Celina Cuervo and Layla Kennedy-Medina at St Joseph's. We also welcome their families and friends who join them on this special occasion.

UPDATED 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 not allowed in our churches as we are not going to use the 4 square metre rule as we want to allow more people to attend Mass we will be using the 2 square metre rule.
- 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.

SCHOOL ENROLMENTS FOR 2022

- St Joseph's Primary School will be having an Open Afternoon for next year's enrolments on **Thursday, 25th March** from 3:30-5:00pm. You are asked to call the School Office on 9599 2541 to register to visit on the day.
- Please phone St Francis Xavier's on 9567 5389 and St Gabriel's Primary on 9502 1932 to enquire about their 2022 enrolments.
- Marist College Kogarah will have their Open Afternoon on **Wednesday, 24th March** from 3.00 – 6.00pm. Contact the College on 9587 3211 for more information

VINNIES NEED VOLUNTEERS

The stores in Rockdale and Hurstville would love to have some new volunteers join them. Make a difference for people in need, while giving back to your local community. Meet like-minded people in a supportive team environment. Get creative with killer shop displays & visual merchandising. Learn on the job skills such as pricing & tagging items, organising stock, sorting donations, shop maintenance and customer service. Contribute to the circular fashion movement, helping us reduce landfill from the planet by being part of our ever evolving recycling and second-hand goods business. No experience needed, to us it is much more important that you are friendly, reliable, 16 years or older, available at least 4 hours per week (in one shift) and hopefully have an interest in charity, fashion, sustainability and /or retail. Visit your local Vinnies, ask for the Manager and let them know you are interested in joining them!

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!*

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE RECONCILIATIONS & MASSES

Please note: Once the Easter Triduum begins on Holy Thursday, the Sacrament of Penance will not be available, except in an emergency situation.

First Rite (Individual) **Saturday, 27th March**

8.00am – 8.45am Bexley;
4.00pm – 4.30pm Arncliffe;
5.30pm – 6.00pm Rockdale

Second Rite (Communal celebration)

Tuesday, 30th March at Rockdale - 5.30pm followed by Benediction at 6.30pm and Mass at 7.00pm.

Italian Confessions

Wednesday, 31st March for 30 minutes **before and after** the Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm.

HOLY THURSDAY

1st April
7.00pm Arncliffe 7.00pm Bexley
7.00pm Rockdale (St Joseph's Church will be open after Mass till Midnight for prayer and adoration)

GOOD FRIDAY

2nd April
Stations of the Cross
10.00am Bexley – Rockdale – Arncliffe

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

3.00pm Bexley – Rockdale – Arncliffe

HOLY SATURDAY

3rd April
5.00pm Bexley 5.00pm Arncliffe
6.30pm Rockdale

EASTER SUNDAY

4th April
9.00am Mass Arncliffe
9.00am Mass Bexley
9.00am Mass Rockdale (Italian)
10.30am Mass Rockdale
11.30am Mass Rockdale
5.00pm Mass Bexley

RECENTLY DECEASED: Patricia Parkinson.

ANNIVERSARIES: Claude Lucas, Viccie Mabbutt, Amadeo Giovenco, George & Hannah Raffoul, Adelaide Fonseca, Teodoro, Victoria & Orencio,

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

“St Joseph's humility was of the silent kind... we must be like him in this.” 19.3.1893

