ST MARY MACKILLOP PARISH ROCKDALE CITY

Three Communities – One Parish

(St Francis Xavier's, Arncliffe, St Gabriel's, Bexley & St Joseph's, Rockdale)

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A – 7 & 8 NOVEMBER 2026

Parish Priest – Fr Yacub Barkat **Assistant Parish Priest** – Fr Miguel Perez Campos

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 Thursday: 9am to 1pm (**please phone** before coming in.)

SCHOOLS: **St Francis Xavier's Primary, Arncliffe:** 9567 5389 – Principal: Ms Debbie Heckenberg
St Gabriel's Primary, Bexley: 9502 1932 - Principal: Ms Catherine Hodgins
St Joseph's Primary, Rockdale: 9599 2541 - Principal: Ms Rachelle Dopson

	ARNCLIFFE	ROCKDALE	BEXLEY
WEEKEND MASSES **Saturday Vigil** **Sunday Masses**	5.00pm Saturday 9.00am	6.30pm Saturday 9.00am *(Italian)* 10.30am 12.00pm *(First Sunday only Urdu)* 6.00pm *(Third Sunday only Filipino)*	------- 9.00am 5.00pm
WEEKDAY MASSES	9.00am Wednesday 9.00am Friday	7.00pm Tuesday *(Devotions, Exposition, Benediction & Rosary from 5.30pm)* 9.00am Thursday	9.00am Monday 9.30am Thursday 9.00am Saturday *(Benediction at 8.45am)*
CONFESSIONS	4.00 – 4.30pm 2nd & 4th Saturday of the Month	5.30 – 6.00pm 1st & 3rd Saturday of the Month	8.00 – 8.40am Saturday
BAPTISMS	10.00am 1st Sunday of the month	11.30am 2nd Sunday of the month	10.00am 3rd 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.		
1st Reading: ***Wis 6:12-16;*** 2nd Reading: ***1Thess 4:13-18;*** Gospel: ***Mt 25:1-13***			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM – Ps. 62:2-8

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.



O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. ℟

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. ℟

So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. ℟

On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. ℟



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Be watchful and ready:
you know not when the Son of Man is coming.
Alleluia!

BAPTISM



This Saturday we welcomed Harper Chappell who was baptised at St Joseph's. We also welcome her family and friends who joined her on this special day.

CHARITABLE WORKS FUND (CWF) APPEAL

Many thanks to those who contributed to the Charitable Works Fund Appeal held last weekend. Your ongoing financial support of the Archdiocese's initiatives is very much appreciated. Donations are still being accepted and may be placed in a CWF envelope and put into any of the collections at Mass this weekend.

ST JOSEPH'S ROCKDALE INCIDENT

Last Monday afternoon someone vandalised the lovely garden outside St Joseph's Church that is dedicated to Our Lady. A passerby witnessed it and took photos of the offender who was later arrested by police and is currently in a mental facility. The actual statue of Mary was not damaged but the small angel figurines, the white crosses and the vases that were there were all smashed across the forecourt of the church. Fortunately, no person was injured and the staff at St Joseph's School, put the school into lockdown as the offender tried to get into the school. The gardens have been tidied up thanks to parish volunteers and the crosses replaced. Thank you to all for the phone calls and messages of support we have received. We are all OK but thank those who stepped in and assisted on the day.

Fr Yacub

FUNERAL

A Requiem Mass for the late Michael Corak will be held at St Joseph's at 10.00am this coming **Tuesday, 10th November**. Please keep his family in your prayers.

NOVEMBER MASS OFFERING ENVELOPES

November Mass Offering envelopes are now available at our churches. **There will be no individual Mass offerings during November** as we pray for all our deceased loved ones.

WALK WITH CHRIST

The annual Walk with Christ will take place on **Sunday, 22nd November** commencing at 2:30pm from the corner of Pitt Street and Martin Place. It will be preceded by a festival in Martin Place starting at 1:00pm. Our parish will walk together as a group at this procession, with a parish banner. The annual *Walk With Christ* procession will be a preparation for the International Eucharistic Congress in 2028, Please gather with fellow parishioners and join us.

LOST PROPERTY

A piece of religious jewellery was found after the 10.30am Mass last Sunday at St Josephs. If anyone thinks it is theirs, please contact the parish office on 9567 1558 or email admin@mmrc.org.au

YOU ARE NOT ALONE – A RETREAT FOR COUPLES WITHOUT CHILDREN

On **Saturday, 21 November** there will be a special Retreat Day facilitated by the Emmanuel Community. This retreat day is for married couples who have been unable to have children due to infertility, miscarriage, or stillbirth, including those who are still hoping to conceive. It will be held from 9.00am – 4.00pm at St Martha's Leichhardt, 38 Renwick St, Leichhardt. Please register at https://www.trybooking.com/au/event/1617009

PRAY WITH OTHERS USING THE 2026 SYDNEY ADVENT-CHRISTMAS COMPANION

Many people, including those who do not go to Mass, would welcome an opportunity to pray with someone; they just need someone to invite them! Advent is a wonderful time to learn—or to develop—the art of inviting others to pray with you. If you would benefit from some guidance, ideas, or encouragement, register for one of our online workshops. Companions will be delivered to Sydney parishes in mid-November.

Dates and times:

Option 1: Thursday 12 November, 7:30 - 8:15pm
Option 2: Friday 20 November, 12:00 - 12:45pm

Register at https://www.trybooking.com/DQSRR

SAVE THE DATE FOR EUCHARIST28!

From 24 September to 1 October 2028, Australia will come together to celebrate the 54th International Eucharistic Congress, a moment of renewal for all. Eucharist28 will be a truly transformative moment of renewal centred on the Eucharist, the source and summit of our Christian lives, culminating in a Papal Mass with Pope Leo XIV. A Theological Symposium will precede the Congress from 20 to 22 September 2028. This is a once-in-a-generation moment for the Church in Australia. Will you be there in two years' time? Mark your calendar, share the news, and join the journey. To begin planning your journey with the Official Group Travel Operator, Harvest Journeys, head to eucharist28.org.

EUCHARIST 28 PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for the gift of your real presence in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Grant us the grace to receive you reverently, worship you truly and serve you with hearts renewed. By the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen us, so that as you gave yourself to the Father and to us, we too may offer our lives to God and to others. Inspire and help us to serve you in those who are in need, especially the defenceless and homeless, the lonely and lost. Unite us with your sacrifice of the Mass, so that we may truly become what we have received, the Body of Christ, Amen

THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- Priest urges prayer after church vandalism
- Council backs chapel plans for Bankstown Hospital
- Parish warms up its welcome
- Young ambassadors for the Eucharist commissioned
- Christian persecution worsens worldwide

SYDNEY STREET FEAST-VOLUNTEERS WELCOME

On **Friday 13 November**, Archbishop Anthony Fisher will host a free luncheon for Sydney's homeless in the forecourt of St Mary's Cathedral from 11.00am to 2.00pm. A large number of guests are expected and volunteers from parishes are invited to help serve food and to sit and accompany guests during lunch. A great opportunity to show support and solidarity with fellow Sydneysiders experiencing homelessness. Please register your interest at: https://events.humanitix.com/sydney-street-feast-2026-volunteer-registration

PARISH SAFEGUARDING

If you or someone you know has experienced abuse, or if you are worried about the safety of a child, young person or vulnerable adult, please know that you are not alone and that help is available. The Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office is available to listen, support you, and provide guidance about reporting options. You can contact the Safeguarding Office on 9390 5800 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also wish to speak with your Parish Priest, who can offer pastoral care and assist you in taking the next step. The Archdiocese takes all safeguarding concerns seriously and is required to report criminal matters to police. If there is an emergency or someone is in immediate danger, please contact NSW Police on 000.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISHES



We have several parishioners who are suffering from various serious illnesses, and we ask that you please keep them all in your prayers.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Stephen Hitchings, Michael Corak, Kevin Ryan Marie Giles, David Eccleston and Baby Patrick Costa.

ANNIVERSARIES: Lillian Dorry, Saveria Todisco, Lorenzo Caruso, Medy Perez, Reginald Huthnance, Barbara Vancea, David Mandile, Sarkis Sakr, Mary Antony, Antony Pulpairambil,

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 weakness make you discouraged." 4.7.1876