

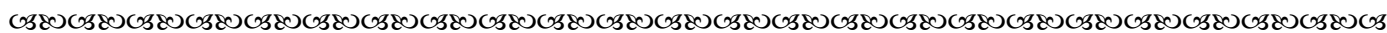
PARISHES OF ST GABRIEL'S, BEXLEY and ST MARY MACKILLOP'S, ROCKDALE CITY

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR C - 5 & 6 APRIL 2025

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 Rachelle Dopson
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 Saturday Vigil Sunday Masses	5.00pm Saturday 9.00am	6.30pm Saturday 9.00am (<i>Italian</i>) 10.30am 12.00pm (<i>First Sunday only Urdu</i>) 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	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>Is 43:16-21</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>Phil 3:8-14</i> ; Gospel: <i>Jn 8:1-11</i>			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM – Psalm 125

The Lord has done great things for us: we are filled with joy.



When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. *R/*

The heathens themselves said:

‘What marvels the Lord worked for them!’

What marvels the Lord worked for us!

Indeed we were glad. *R/*

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. *R/*

They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing:

they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. *R/*



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

With all your heart turn to me,

for I am tender and compassionate.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

The life-changing work of Caritas Australia is only made possible by the unwavering generosity of our supporters and the dedication of our local partners on the ground.

Our partners are the true heroes, working tirelessly on the frontlines every day to transform lives and build brighter, more hopeful futures for their communities.



this Lent

PLEASE DONATE TODAY

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code / online: caritas.org.au/project-compassion / or by calling: 1800 024 413



BAPTISMS THIS SUNDAY

Jayden Tran and Timothee Vidal will be baptised this Sunday at St Francis Xaviers. We also welcome their family and friends who join them on this special occasion.



HOLY WEEK LITURGIES

Please be aware that the Masses and Liturgies during Holy Week are all much longer than normal. If you have health or age problems, please consider this and whether it's wise to attend, particularly for the Holy Saturday Vigil.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE
RECONCILIATIONS & MASSES

Second Rite (Communal celebration)

This Tuesday, 8th April at Rockdale - 5.30pm followed by Benediction at 6.30pm and Mass at 7.00pm.

Italian Confessions 6.30pm this Wednesday 9th April before Italian Stations of the Cross

First Rite (Individual) NEXT Saturday, 12th April

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

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

HOLY THURSDAY 17th April

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

GOOD FRIDAY 18th April

Stations of the Cross

10.00am Arncliffe – Rockdale – Bexley

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

3.00pm Arncliffe – Rockdale – Bexley

HOLY SATURDAY 19th April

5.00pm Bexley 5.00pm Arncliffe
6.30pm Rockdale

EASTER SUNDAY 20th April

9.00am Mass Arncliffe 9.00am Mass Bexley
9.00am Mass Rockdale (Italian)
10.30am Mass Rockdale
5.00pm Mass Bexley

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S ROOF REPLACEMENT:
YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

As a result of the severe storm and heavy rain in July 2022, St Francis Xavier's Church Arncliffe, needs to have the roof replaced. As a heritage-listed church, the replacement requirements are guided by Bayside Council. The roof is the first and major part of a series of restoration projects that have been identified by the Parish Finance Committee for the church. Other matters requiring attention are the stained-glass windows, internal painting, foliage in the brickwork, internal repairs to the tower etc.

Every contribution, big or small, will make a meaningful difference in helping us cover the \$500,000 cost of the roof replacement. Your support ensures that our church remains a place of worship that continues to serve our community and preserves its place in history.

The amount raised so far is \$2195.00. Thank you!

- To make supporting easier, donations can be made via Tap & Go machines at:
 - **Left side of the altar at Arncliffe Church**
 - **Front foyer at Rockdale Church**, next to the piety stall.
- Bpoint on our website (mmrc.org.au) under Support the Parish – Pay/Donate to Rockdale City Parish
Bill Code: Other
Purpose of Payment: Arncliffe Restoration Appeal

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

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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

This coming Friday, 11th April will be the last Stations of the Cross for Lent. Please come along at 6.00pm to St Francis Xavier's Church. St Joseph's Stations of the Cross is at 7.00pm followed by Mass at 7.30pm.

This Wednesday, 9th April is last Italian Stations of Cross at 7.00pm in St Joseph's Church. Italian Confessions will be held before and after the Stations of the Cross.



FIRST RECONCILIATION THANK YOU

Thank you to all who were involved in assisting our parish children to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation last week. Special thanks to Fr Yacub, Fr Norvin and Monique Cohen, Sacramental Co-ordinator. Thanks also to the Catechists and their helpers who assisted for the four weeks of lessons and those who prepared the liturgies for our three churches. Next school term these children will receive their First Holy Communion.

DIVINE MERCY MASS

Sunday, 27th April, is the Second Sunday of Easter and the Feast of Divine Mercy. This will be celebrated at St Joseph's Church, Rockdale with an observance of the Holy Hour, Benediction and Reconciliation at 2pm, followed by Mass at 3:15pm. Come and celebrate with us!

FREE FINANCIAL COUNSELLING

CatholicCare Sydney offers FREE and confidential financial counselling to adults experiencing financial worries and stress. Whether it be harmful gambling behaviours or issues with multiple loans and debts, our fully qualified and experienced counsellors can provide you with information and the support you need to move forward. Financial Counselling provides both in-person and telecare (online and telephone) support, offering you flexibility. If you or a loved one could benefit from this service, contact our team to start your journey with us., call 13 18 19, or catholiccare.org/financialcounselling

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PROCESSION

Walk with Our Lady of Fatima in a candle-lit procession around St Mary's Cathedral as we pray for the needs of the Church and our world. To be held on **Saturday, 10 May**, commencing with 6pm Vigil Mass followed by procession. For more information, visit:

<https://sydneycatholic.org/our-lady-of-fatima-procession>

RECENTLY DECEASED: Josephine Donoghue, Vinka Gagro, Katia Kakary and Dorothy Molachino.

ANNIVERSARIES: Victor Romanov, Maureen Batty, Fausto Rossi, Jonathan Huntley, John Stratigos, Harikleia Stratigos and Nicholas de Guzman.

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

"Do not any of you get discouraged. Be humble, patient and charitable." 17.12.1883

