

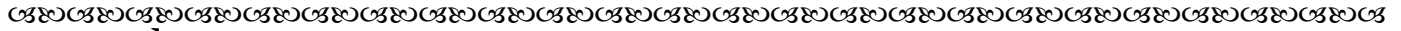
PARISHES OF ST GABRIEL'S, BEXLEY and  
ST MARY MACKILLOP'S, ROCKDALE CITY

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

1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT - YEAR B - 20 & 21 FEBRUARY 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](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 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
<b>WEEKEND MASSES</b> 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
<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 7.30pm First Friday each month	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>	10.30am 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. All weddings are governed by the <b>2 square metre rule and must be strictly observed.</b>		
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Lev 13:1-2; 44-46; 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Cor 10:31-11:1; Gospel: Mk 1:40-45</b>			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Ps 24:4-9

Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.



Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:

for you are God my saviour. R/

Remember your mercy, Lord,

and the love you have shown from of old.

In your love remember me,

because of your goodness, O Lord. R/

The Lord is good and upright.

He shows the path to those who stray,

he guides the humble in the right path;

he teaches his way to the poor. R/

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

No one lives on bread alone,

but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

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



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Jamila is a Rohingya refugee living in a camp in Bangladesh with her elderly mother and baby daughter. With the support of Caritas Australia, and through Caritas Bangladesh, Jamila has been able to access emergency food, shelter, counselling, and vocational training that will help to support her family.



FIRST RECONCILIATION PROGRAM 2021

All Catholic children currently in Year 3 who attend St Gabriel's, St Francis Xavier's, St Joseph's or any of the Public schools within our parish are scheduled to make their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion this year. There will be a Parent Information Evening on **Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> March**, in St Joseph's Hall at 7.00pm for the parents of the children.

Only ONE parent or guardian of a child is allowed to attend this meeting and the children do not attend this meeting. The Registration Form for the programme will be handed out on the night. There will also be some general information about the First Holy Communion program on the night. Please let your friends know about this meeting.

There is parking in the school grounds off Parker St, Rockdale, just up from the Centrelink roundabout.

FUNERAL NOTICE

The Funeral Mass for the late Imelda Leslie will be held in St Joseph's Church, this coming **Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 10am**. Please keep Imelda's family in your prayers at this sad time.

## UPDATED RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES


- From Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February, restrictions on church attendance were 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, 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.
- The dispensation from the Bishops from attending Mass has been extended.
- 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.

## 60<sup>TH</sup> WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

Many congratulations to Rita and Vittorio Napoli who celebrate their Diamond (60<sup>th</sup>) Wedding Anniversary this Sunday at the 9.00am Mass at St Gabriel's. Rita and Victor were married by Monsignor Walsh, the founding Parish Priest of St Gabriel's on 25<sup>th</sup> February 1961. Rita has been the convenor of the Italian Prayer Group at St Gabriel's for the past 35 years. The group meet weekly in the Parish Hall. Rita is also a long-standing member of the Parish Choir. Parishioners are invited to join them for a small morning tea after the Mass today.



## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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

## EXTRA FRIDAY MASS DURING LENT

On Friday evenings 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.**

## JLOW RETREAT

The Jesus, Light of the World Prayer Group who meet in St Joseph's Hall each Saturday are holding a "Hybrid" Retreat on **Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> March** from 9.30 – 4.30 in the Hall at Rockdale. The retreat will be conducted by Fr Matheus Wuwu MGL from Indonesia. The hall is limited to 50 people so if you cannot attend in person and would like to participate, a ZOOM link will be provided to attend online. Please book at <https://www.trybooking.com/BOMRZ> or phone Helen 0488 037 631 or Ida 0424 267 500.

## 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!**

## BAPTISMS



This Sunday we welcome Elise and Phoenix Chung at St Gabriel's. We also welcome their family and friends who join them on this special occasion.

## MEN'S MINISTRY NETWORK BREAKFAST

A Men's Breakfast meeting will be held in St Thomas More's Parish, Brighton-le-Sands on Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> March from 8.00 to 11.45am with a cooked breakfast provided. The keynote topic is ***St Joseph and the Masculine Genius.*** Bishop Richard Umbers will also celebrate Mass. Please contact **Brighton Parish Office on 9567 3589** if you wish to attend. Cost is \$20.00 and numbers are limited to 50.

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The annual World Day of Prayer will be held on **Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> March** at the Salvation Army, 432 West Botany St, Brighton-le-Sands at 10.30am. This service is an ecumenical service prepared by people of a particular country. This year it is prepared by the people of Vanuatu. The theme is "*Build on a strong foundation*". The World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian Women from local churches who welcome all to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. There will be refreshments provided after the service. **All welcome.**

## BETHANY COLLEGE OPEN DAY

Parents of girls in Year 5 are invited to come along to the College on **Tuesday, 2 March** from 3.00pm - 6.00pm if you have girls and are wanting to enrol them for Year 7, 2023. Enrolment packages will be available on the day.

## PALMS AUSTRALIA

Palms Australia are seeking to help low-income communities to develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty. The call is to all trades and professions to assist build the ability of their people and the capacity of their organisations. To properly prepare for a 2022 placement you need to enquire now. Visit [palms.org.au](http://palms.org.au) call 9560 5333 or email [palms@palms.org.au](mailto:palms@palms.org.au)

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Imelda Leslie and John Vaux.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Amadea Scodeller, Colleen Euston, Nancy Parton, Ruby Newton, Giuseppe Valenti, Margaret Goodwin, Santo Caruso, Adam Streater, Horatious Whyte.

**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

"God is good." 8.8.1895

