

# 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)

## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT - 26 & 27 MARCH 2022

**Parish Priest** – Fr Yacub Barkat



**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 – Acting Principal: Ms Debbie Heckenberg  
**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	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>	10.00am 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.		
<i>1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Joshua 5:9-12; 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 2 Cor 5:17-21; Gospel: Lk 15:1-3, 11-32</i>			

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM 33:2-7**  
**Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.**



I will bless the Lord at all times,  
his praise always on my lips;  
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
The humble shall hear and be glad. *R/*

Glorify the Lord with me.  
Together let us praise his name.  
I sought the Lord and he answered me;  
from all my terrors he set me free. *R/*

Look towards him and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.  
This poor man called; the Lord heard him  
and rescued him from all his distress. *R/*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**  
I will rise and go to my father and tell him:  
Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.  
**Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**



### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Rosalie 44 is an ex-combatant who lives with her husband and seven children in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Forced to join the army when she was just 15 years old, Rosalie experienced significant trauma and hardship during her years in the military. After she was demobilised from the army, Rosalie, like other ex-combatants, was left to fend for herself in the community. With your generous support and through our local partners, Rosalie was able to connect with other members of her community and participate in business skills training to help her to reintegrate into society.



Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 and help women like Rosalie to succeed in the future, providing hope for all future generations. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow for all future generations. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting [lent.caritas.org.au](http://lent.caritas.org.au), or by calling 1800 024 413.



### FIRST RECONCILIATION

Please keep our parish children in your prayers as they continue their lessons in the First Reconciliation Program.

**FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY**  
**Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> April**, is the Second Sunday of Easter and is also the Feast of Divine Mercy. This will be celebrated in St Joseph's Church from 2:00pm.

### MARIST COLLEGE KOGARAH MASS

Once a term during the school year, the students from Marist College Kogarah will be celebrating a Mass at St Joseph's Rockdale. The first Mass will be next Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 10.30am. To mark this special occasion, Bishop Richard Umbers will be the celebrant with Fr Yacub. Please make him welcome to our parish.

### NATIONAL CHURCH LIFE SURVEY

You can still do the survey on a smart device or website. To go to [surveys.ncls.org.au](https://surveys.ncls.org.au) and log in using the NCLS Church Code. These surveys are targeted at all churches in Australia, regardless of their faith.

There is a special code for each of our churches that must be filled in on your form on the first page.

TAS11801 ..... St Francis Xavier's Catholic Church

TAS11802..... St Joseph's Catholic Church

TAS11803..... St Gabriel's Catholic Church

Also, please mark the boxes with an X - no ticks.

**If you took a survey home last week, please return to the church by next weekend 2 / 3 April at the latest.**

### PARISH SAFEGUARDING TRAINING UPDATE

All parish volunteers who are Acolytes, Readers, Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers and Choir members, are required to update their status by attending a training session. Unfortunately, due to current COVID-19 concerns the Safeguarding Office has decided to present all training for the first six months of 2022 either online or via zoom. The most important thing is to ensure the wellbeing and safety of our communities and we can do this by presenting via zoom or online. Volunteers can register for the new Refresher Training via this link <https://forms.gle/XuQFsRsvq3BYtXqT9> (which is a different link from the other online training registrations). Just a reminder that volunteers only need to complete the Refresher Training if they have completed the Induction Training a minimum of three years ago. Volunteer Refresher training is available online or via Zoom. Below are the available dates for the Zoom Refresher Training, volunteers will simply need to register their attendance by emailing: [safeguardingtraining@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@sydneycatholic.org)

Date	Time
Thursday, 31 March	9.00am – 10.00am
Wednesday, 6 April	4.00pm – 5.00pm

Parishioners who do not have access to a computer or zoom are invited to a Safeguarding update session which will be held in St Gabriel's Parish Hall on **Wednesday April 6 from 4.00 – 5.00pm. Please arrive by 3.45pm.**

### MASS AND STATIONS OF THE CROSS

- Mass will be celebrated before the Stations of the Cross at St Joseph's Church, each Friday at 7.00pm during Lent. Stations of the Cross will follow Mass.
- Stations of the Cross will be celebrated at St Francis Xavier's at 7pm each Friday.
- Italian Stations of the Cross will be prayed each Wednesday at 7.00pm in St Joseph's Church.



### RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES

- Masks are still recommended in churches.
- Please do not come to the church if you are unwell, even if you do not think you have Covid and just a sore throat or a simple cold which is highly indicative of the Omicron variation.

### 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.

### ANNUAL ARCHDIOCESAN CATECHIST MASS

The Mass will be held in St Mary's Cathedral **next Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April**. Two of our parish Catechists will be honoured at the Mass.

- Josefina Gonzaga – Cardinal James Freeman Medal for 25 years of service
- Dawn Petersen – Apostolic Blessing for 20 years of service.

Congratulations and thank you to these two ladies for their dedication and commitment to educating local State School children in the Catholic Faith.

### ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S OPEN DAY

St Francis Xavier's Arncliffe Open Afternoon will be held this coming **Tuesday 29 March** from 5:00 - 6:30pm.

### HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE RECONCILIATIONS & MASSES

#### First Rite (Individual) Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> April

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

#### Second Rite (Communal celebration)

**Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> March at Rockdale** - 5.30pm followed by Benediction at 6.30pm and Mass at 7.00pm.

#### Italian Confessions Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> April

for 30 minutes **before and after** the Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm.

#### HOLY THURSDAY 14<sup>th</sup> April

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

#### GOOD FRIDAY 15<sup>th</sup> April

##### Stations of the Cross

10.00am Arncliffe – Rockdale – Bexley

##### Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

3.00pm Arncliffe – Rockdale – Bexley

#### HOLY SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup> April

5.00pm Bexley 5.00pm Arncliffe  
6.30pm Rockdale

#### EASTER SUNDAY 17<sup>th</sup> April

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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Josefina Ocampo, Louis Ferre and Eddie Jabbour.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Andrew Satti, Grace Di Matteo, Giovanni Santoro, Tamara Jordanoski, Leslie Chapman, Una Devine, Merlyn Faro and George & Hanna Raffoul.

**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.**