

ST MARY MACKILLOP PARISH ROCKDALE CITY

Three Communities – One Parish

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

16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A – 18 & 19 JULY 2026

Parish Priest – Fr Yacub Barkat

Assistant Parish Priests – Fr Norvin Dias and Fr Miguel Perez Campos

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**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 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                                                                                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>WEEKEND MASSES</b><br><b>Saturday Vigil</b><br><b>Sunday Masses</b>                                                      | 5.00pm Saturday<br>9.00am                                                                                                                        | 6.30pm Saturday<br>9.00am <i>(Italian)</i> 10.30am<br>12.00pm <i>(First Sunday only Urdu)</i><br>6.00pm <i>(Third Sunday only Filipino)</i> | -----<br>9.00am<br>5.00pm                                                             |
| <b>WEEKDAY MASSES</b>                                                                                                       | 9.00am Wednesday<br>9.00am Friday                                                                                                                | 7.00pm Tuesday <i>(Devotions, Exposition, Benediction &amp; Rosary from 5.30pm)</i><br>9.00am Thursday                                      | 9.00am Monday<br>9.30am Thursday<br>9.00am Saturday<br><i>(Benediction at 8.45am)</i> |
| <b>CONFESSIONS</b>                                                                                                          | 4.00 – 4.30pm<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday of the Month                                                                         | 5.30 – 6.00pm<br>1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the Month                                                                    | 8.00 – 8.40am Saturday                                                                |
| <b>BAPTISMS</b>                                                                                                             | 10.00am<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month<br>Please phone the Parish Office to make an enquiry or booking on 9567 1558 during office hours. | 11.30am<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month                                                                                              | 10.00am<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month                                        |
| <b>WEDDINGS</b>                                                                                                             | Monday to Saturday by appointment.                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                       |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading: <b>Wis 12:13, 16-19</b> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: <b>Rom 8:26-27</b> ; Gospel: <b>Mt 13:24-43</b> |                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                       |

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** – ps 85:5-6,9-10,15-16

**Lord, you are good and forgiving.**

O Lord, you are good and forgiving,  
full of love to all who call.

Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer

and attend to the sound of my voice. *R/*

All the nations shall come to adore you  
and glorify your name, O Lord:

for you are great and do marvellous deeds,

you who alone are God. *R/*

But you, God of mercy and compassion,  
slow to anger, O Lord,

abounding in love and truth,

turn and take pity on me. *R/*



**FATHER NORVIN IS LEAVING NEXT WEEKEND**

Father Norvin is leaving our parish after more than four years with us. This weekend 18/19 and next 25/26 July, we will have a third collection following Holy Communion to give to Father as a thank you from our parish. You do not have to give on both weekends. A special con-celebrated Mass will be held at 10.30am on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July and Father Norvin will leave after the Mass. We thank him for all he has done here and wish him well in his new parish.

## PLANNED GIVING RECEIPTS

The Planned Giving receipts are now available in your preferred church. Please collect them as soon as possible. There are still a few packets of envelopes to be picked up. Please take them this weekend from the church or contact the parish office to pick them up there between Monday and Thursday from 9am to 1pm.



**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Blessed are you, Father,

Lord of heaven and earth;

you have revealed to the little ones

the mysteries of the kingdom **Alleluia!**

## BAPTISMS

This Sunday we welcome Harry and Billie Bywater and their family and friends who join them at St Gabriel's for their special day.



## PARISH SAFEGUARDING

A reminder from the Archdiocese of Sydney that child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at 9390 5810 or [enquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:enquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN MUSICAL THEATRE?

**Courage: The Legend of St George and The Dragon** is a new musical theatre piece which will be premiered at St Peter's 1880 Hall, Surry Hills. It retells the life of St George in an epic musical that mixes old and new music styles to retell the timeless tale of St George's courage in the face of evil. Auditions will take place on July 18, 19 and 26. We have assembled a stellar production team from St Peter's Parish at Surry Hills and Artes Christi Musical Theatre members and are now inviting far and wide for all who are interested in being part of our cast, crew and orchestra.

### Audition details:

**This Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2:30 - 6.00pm**

**Next Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July: 2:30 - 6.00pm**

**Venue:** St Peter's Parish 1880 Hall, 235 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills. Register your interest for acting, singing, crew or backstage roles via email to:

[brightstarsproductioncompany@gmail.com](mailto:brightstarsproductioncompany@gmail.com)

## UNLOCKING THE MYSTERY OF THE BIBLE

Be part of 7 simple and engaging presentations, where you will get to know the Bible, deepen your understanding of the texts, and enrich your faith knowledge and wisdom. Together with the presenter, Charbel Raish, you will unpack the Bible from start to finish, creating a deeper connection to the Scriptures and your faith. These presentations will be held from Wednesday, 29 July to Wednesday 2 September at 6.30pm (6.00pm for refreshments & fellowship) at Australian Catholic University, Strathfield - Main Building 600, 25a Barker Rd, Strathfield. The cost is a "donation". Please register to attend via Google Doc at: [bit.ly/4aPx5sP](https://bit.ly/4aPx5sP)

## THEOLOGY AT THE PUB

In celebration of ACU's Annual Mission Week, ACU Campus Ministry and the MacKillop Bakhita Law Students' Society invite all Sydney Young Adults to a fun evening at the pub. Dr. Robert Haddad will be unpacking "The legal situation for Christians during the persecutions of the Roman Empire: The response of St Justin Martyr". This will be held on **Monday 10 August** from 6.00pm. Head up to Level 3 of the Orient Hotel. The Rocks, Sydney. Doors open upstairs at 6pm where you can order food and drinks from the bar. This is a FREE event (18+), but please register to attend by filling in the form at: <https://forms.gle/S9tTqq3Du8TDapYb8>

## 7 CHURCHES PILGRIMAGE WALK

The tradition of visiting the seven most historically significant basilicas in Rome was established by St Philip Neri in the 16th Century. It was a pilgrimage designed as a joyful, communal alternative to the city's secular nightlife. Borrowing from this tradition, the Emmanuel Community is once again pleased to invite all to the 7 Churches Pilgrimage on the Solemnity of the Assumption, **Saturday 15 August**. The walk will commence at Mary MacKillop Chapel, North Sydney at 9am and end at St Brigid's Coogee. Join us for a joy-filled and prayerful day. All welcome. Parish groups encouraged to attend. Register your interest here: <https://forms.gle/Uv3BsZTpxH4LUTLS9>

## REQUIEM MASS

A Requiem Mass will be held **this coming Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> July** in St Joseph's Church at 12.30pm for the late Lorenzo Pezzullo. Please keep his family in your prayers.

## 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

- Finding hope in Lebanon's ruins
- Pope Leo shares meal with homeless, refugees
- Kate's journey from culture wars to faith
- The parish sharing faith through theatre
- A forgotten church site that is worth a visit
- A day of fertility help for women

## CATHOLICCARE SERVICES / HOME CARE SERVICES

CatholicCare Sydney offers a range of services to help you or a loved one remain happy and safe at home for longer. Our qualified and caring team can help you with:

- Domestic assistance
- Day-to-day tasks like shopping
- Connecting with others
- In-home respite care
- Personal care
- Health and wellness activities
- Allied Health & Clinical Support

To learn more, please call 13 18 19 or visit [catholiccare.org](https://catholiccare.org)

## AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The next event for the Australian Catholic Historical Society will be held in the crypt of Saint Patrick's, Church Hill, at 2:00pm on **this Sunday, 19 July**. The Topic is the Parramatta Cathedral Fire, presented by Mgr John Boyle. Members, their guests, and visitors are most welcome and there is no charge. Details of the programme of the ACHS as well as resources on church history and YouTube videos are at: <https://australiancatholichistoricalsociety.com.au/>

## 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: Lorenzo Pezzullo.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Bartolina Manfre, Grazia Ferrara, Betty Jarvis, Giuseppe Vetrivano, Catherine Baggott, Jane Breen, Jean D'Souza, Marianna Ciraolo, Norma Dunne and Rebecca Baby Catimbang.

**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

"Try to make yourself happy and do not give way to low spirits or anxiety of any kind." 12.4.1873

