

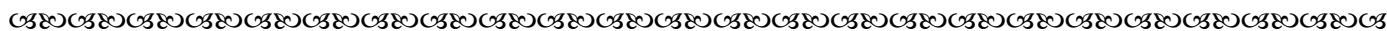
# PARISHES OF ST GABRIEL'S, BEXLEY and ST MARY MACKILLOP'S, ROCKDALE CITY

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

## 25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A - 23 & 24 SEPTEMBER 2023

**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](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 coming 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 Debbie Heckenberg

**St Gabriel's Primary, Bexley:** 9502 1932 - Principal: Ms Catherine Hodgins

|   | 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> )<br>10.30am<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 ( <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: <i>Is 55:6-9</i> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: <i>Phil 1:20-24, 27</i> ; Gospel: <i>Mt 20:1-6</i> |  |  |  |

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** - ps. 144:2-3.8-9.17-18

**The Lord is near to all who call him.**

I will bless you day after day  
and praise your name for ever.  
The Lord is great, highly to be praised,  
his greatness cannot be measured. *R/*

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures. *R/*

The Lord is just in all his ways  
and loving in all his deeds.  
He is close to all who call him,  
who call on him from their hearts. *R/*



**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Open our hearts, O Lord,  
to listen to the words of your Son.  
**Alleluia!**



**LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR - THANKS**

Thank you to those who gave generously to the Little Sisters of the Poor collections last weekend. This will enable the sisters to do much to assist the elderly in their care, especially many of our retired priests who reside with them at Randwick. This is a message we received from the Sisters this week. *We the Little Sisters are very grateful for your support and by your hospitality in receiving us and being so encouraging. Your parishioners from the 3 churches in Arncliffe, Bexley and Rockdale were so generous to us. We received the total \$5,020.60. May God reward you and each one of them and their families for their kindness in help God's poor. We continue to pray for all.*  
Sr. Elizabeth Lee lsp



**FATHER YACUB ON LEAVE**

Fr Yacub is overseas on leave until late October. This is his first leave in over four years, so it is long overdue. We wish him safe travels as he journeys to Scotland, Jordan and The Holy Land with a short visit home to Pakistan before the end of his holidays. Please keep him in your prayers. Father will be celebrating Masses everyday where possible and will keep us all in his daily prayers.

Each Sunday morning, there will be a visiting priest at the 9am Mass at Bexley or Arncliffe. Please make our visitors welcome. ☺

**REMINDER: PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR MOBILE PHONE AS YOU ENTER THE CHURCH.**

## ANNUAL CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL

**Next weekend, 1 and 2 October**, there will be a **third collection after Holy Communion** at all Masses to support the annual Catholic Mission Appeal. There are envelopes on the pews, and we ask that you take one home and return it next weekend. If you require a tax-deduction, please tick the box and fill in all the required information, **especially the amount** you are giving.

Tuberculosis, malnutrition and maternal mortality are conditions all too familiar for the people of Timor-Leste. The work of the Salesian Sisters desire to see better outcomes for their community. You have the opportunity to partner with this life-giving work, and your prayers and generosity are crucial in ensuring this program can continue. This opportunity is a great way to commit to the missionary movement, as He reminds us in Luke 24:13-35, the fire of Christ burns within us and encourages us to take action for those in most need.

### PARISH WEBSITE: [www.mmrc.org.au](http://www.mmrc.org.au)

Have you visited our parish website yet? The website combines the Mary MacKillop Rockdale City (Arncliffe and Rockdale) and St Gabriel's Bexley. The Parish Bulletin is uploaded each week if you can't get to Mass. You can make secure online payments and donations through the "Support the Parish" page or contact the Parish Office through the "Contact Us" page to make enquiries, Mass offerings or to volunteer your time in any of our Parish ministries.

### 7 CHURCHES PILGRIMAGE

The Emmanuel Community invites parishioners and families to the "7-Churches Pilgrimage" on **Saturday, October 14**. Join pilgrims as they walk to significant church sites in Sydney and reflect on the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Starting at 9:00am at Mary MacKillop Place North Sydney and finishing at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Randwick. Please register to receive more information and updates: <https://forms.gle/3bAFMmpyXmm3muN27>



### LIFE, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY SUNDAY

All families are invited to come to **10:30 Mass** at St Mary's Cathedral on **Sunday 22 October**, with an opportunity for renewal of marital promises and a special blessing for families. Join us after Mass at the Cathedral Hall to witness and celebrate couples celebrating significant wedding anniversaries. Registrations are essential to receive a certificate. RSVP by no later than **6 October** at <http://www.trybooking.com/CJTNF>

### VIRTUOUS MAN: MEN'S SILENT RETREAT

The Sydney Vocations Centre is holding organising a Silent Retreat for Men from **20-22 October** at St Mary's Towers, Douglas Park. The retreat will allow participants to come away and grow in love for our Lord and kindle their desire to give Him glory by their way of living. For more information and to register, please visit: <https://vocationcentre.org.au/events/mens-silent-retreat-2023/>

### PRAYERS FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISHES

We have a number of parishioners who are suffering from cancer and other serious illnesses, and we ask that you please keep them all in your prayers.

## 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.

### CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S EMERGENCY APPEALS MOROCCO / LIBYA

Caritas Australia needs your support to respond to the devastating earthquake in Morocco and floods in Libya. Thousands of people have died, and others have been injured. Communities need shelter, food, water and medical assistance. Please support Caritas Australia's emergency appeals. Donate at [www.caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au)

### YOU ARE NOT ALONE RETREAT DAY

"You are not alone" is a retreat day for couples who are struggling or have been unable to have children due to infertility, miscarriage or stillbirth. The day will be held on the **7th October** at Mt Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre, Mulgoa and will include meals, talks, prayer, reflection, and sharing. The Emmanuel Community will facilitate the retreat with the support of the Life Marriage and Family Team. Due to the sensitive nature of this experience, spaces will be limited. Couples should RSVP by the 2nd of October at <http://www.trybooking.com/CKWXP>

### THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- Christians must radiate the Gospel, not point fingers, pope says
- Fr Joseph Carola SJ lectures on true development of doctrine

### 2024 COLUMBAN CALENDAR

The 2024 Columban Calendar is now available in the Piety Stalls for \$10.00 each. These make a lovely Christmas gift.

### RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES

- **Masks are still recommended in churches, as Covid is still very much in our local community.**
- **Please do not come to Mass if you are Positive for Covid, unwell or even if you just have a sore throat or a simple cold.**
- When preparing to receive Holy Communion, parishioners are asked to go seat by seat to enable distancing from others who are in the line. Please wait until there is space before joining the queue.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Elvis Vaz and Margaret Owen.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** John Farrell, Domenico Rizzo, Emma Trovato, Luigi Mainente, Evelina Dellosa and Cecil Baker.

**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

"God's love for us is best shown in times of aridity."  
25.3.1870

