

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)

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B - 13 & 14 NOVEMBER 2021

Parish Priest – Fr Yacub Barkat

Assistant Priest – Fr William Chow



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 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
WEEKEND MASSES 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
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>Dan 12:1-3</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>Heb 10:11-14, 18</i> ; Gospel: <i>Mk 13:24-32</i>			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 15:58-11

Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
 it is you yourself who are my prize.
 I keep the Lord ever in my sight;
 since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. *R/*

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
 even my body shall rest in safety.
 For you will not leave my soul among the dead,
 nor let your beloved know decay. *R/*

You will show me the path of life,
 the fullness of joy in your presence,
 at your right hand happiness for ever. *R/*



BAPTISMS

This weekend at St Joseph's we welcome; and at St Gabriel's we welcome Adryel Datuin and Abigail & Brendan Lu. We also welcome their families and friends who join them on their special day.



We are endeavouring to catch up with Baptisms that were missed during the lockdown.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Please keep in your prayers the children who will receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time during the coming week and next weekend at separate First Holy Communion Masses. These Masses are for the children and their families only due to Covid restrictions.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful, pray constantly,
 that you may be worthy to stand
 before the Son of Man.

Alleluia!

PRAYERS FOR OUR HSC STUDENTS

Please keep in your prayers, those students from our twinned parishes who are currently participating in their HSC exams over the coming weeks. We wish you all good luck with your exams.

NOVEMBER MASSES

November Mass Envelopes may be found in the Church foyers or on the offertory tables. These envelopes may be then placed in the special Remembrance Basket on the offertory table, which will be placed on the Altar. The Stipend for a November Mass is a preferred minimum of \$20.00. November Masses will be offered for all Holy Souls collectively, rather than for individual requests. Individual Mass requests cannot be made in November. They are available the rest of the year.

RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES

- We now have a **two-square metre rule**. **Please do not sit in seats that are not available.**
- Families may sit together, but if people do not belong in the same household, they must observe physical distancing of 1.5 metres.
- Vaccination is recommended for all parishioners.
- **Masks are still compulsory for attending Mass.** Only the priest and reader (when reading) are exempt.
- Congregational singing is not allowed yet.
- 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.**
- 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 at the doors.
- 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.
- If a confirmed case of COVID-19 occurs in our 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.
- The situation with weddings and funerals is complicated! Even though unvaccinated people are normally allowed to gather in the church, in the case of weddings and funerals, if some of the attendees are not vaccinated, then the numbers are limited to 5 at a wedding and 10 at a funeral. If all the attendees at a wedding or funeral are fully vaccinated, there is no limit on numbers (subject to the 4sqm rules).

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

As we get back to regular Masses, please assist the parish and those who count the money each week by making it easier for them. If you use the Planned Giving Envelopes, we ask that you **do not** put a donation in every single envelope for the weeks you have missed. Please just put your total donation in ONE envelope. The computer recording system only records the total donation on any given date, not the individual donations for every week that you put an envelope in. e.g. you have missed 10 weeks of Mass, just use one envelope and put your donation in any one of dates. If you normally give \$5 a week, then put \$50 in one envelope not \$5 in 10 envelopes. Please recycle the unused envelopes.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING

Sexual abuse is a crime. 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. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes.

ST MARY MACKILLOP'S QUOTE

"Make allowances for human weakness and difference of dispositions." 5.11.1877



A PRAYER TO ST JOSEPH

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted His only Son; in you Mary places her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father, and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.

ASSISTANCE NEEDED TO VISIT AGED CARE HOMES

If there are any Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist who have some spare time the Parish is really in need of your help taking Holy Communion to the residents of local aged care facilities. We only have a few volunteers and really need some more to cover the numbers of Catholics in these homes. If you are willing to have flu and Covid vaccines and Police Checks, we would love to have your help. Please contact the Parish Office and leave your contact details.

FIRST COMMUNION GIFTS

Each of our three Church Piety Stalls has appropriate gifts for children who will receive their First Holy Communion. Please support our parishes by giving a Catholic gift and card to celebrate this wonderful occasion in their faith journey.

ARCHBISHOP FISHER URGES CATHOLICS TO ACT ON EUTHANASIA

Archbishop Anthony Fisher has called on Catholics to voice their concerns about proposed euthanasia laws directly to MPs undertaking an inquiry into the matter. The NSW Legislative Council's Standing Committee on Law and Justice is undertaking an inquiry into the provisions of the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021 with debate commencing on the bill on 12 November. Archbishop Fisher has condemned the proposed legislation as a sad move towards state sanctioned killing and a terrible attack on the sanctity of life in our state. You will find more information on the bill and the Terms of Reference for the inquiry on the parliamentary website: <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/inquiries/Pages/inquiry-details.aspx?pk=2838>

NSW residents concerned about the bill are invited to participate in an online questionnaire which you'll find <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XRQNHFZ>

The online questionnaire closes on 22nd November.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS & CHRISTMAS CARDS

The 2022 Columban Calendars are now available at the Piety Stalls for \$10 each. **Religious Christmas cards are also available.**

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISHES

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

ANNIVERSARIES: Virgilio Carrabs, Chiara Morici, Wendy Allen, Michael Giardullo, Maria Giardullo, Tina Fasanella, Francis Xavier Ca Huu Nguyen, Kathleen Moberley, Fr Joseph Carroll CSsR, Milada Kochen, Stefano, Maria & Carmeno Barbaro, and all the Holy Souls for whom November Masses have been offered.

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.