

ST MARY MACKILLOP PARISH ROCKDALE CITY

Three Communities – One Parish

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

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE - YEAR C - 22 & 23 NOVEMBER 2025

Parish Priest – Fr Yacub Barkat

Assistant Parish Priest – Fr Norvin Dias

PARISH OFFICE: 13 Parker St, Rockdale 2216. Phone: 9567 1558

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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 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
WEEKEND MASSES Saturday Vigil Sunday Masses	5.00pm Saturday 9.00am	6.30pm Saturday 9.00am <i>(Italian)</i> 10.30am 12.00pm <i>(First Sunday only Urdu)</i> 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: 2 Sam 5:1-3 ; 2 nd Reading: Col 1:12-20 ; Gospel: Lk 23:35-43			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 121:1-5

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced when I heard them say:

'Let us go to God's house.'

And now our feet are standing within your gates,

O Jerusalem. *R/*

Jerusalem is built as a city strongly compact.

It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. *R/*

For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name.

There were set the thrones of judgement

of the house of David. *R/*



FAMILY MASS THIS SUNDAY

This Sunday, 23rd November, the 10.30am Mass at St Joseph's will be a Family Mass for the students, families and staff of St Joseph's Primary and Marist College Kogarah. Morning tea will follow the Mass.

BAPTISMS

This Sunday we welcome Joseph Eshaghi Gharagouz at St Joseph's and Zander Shah at St Gabriel's. We also welcome their families and friends who join them today.



FUNERAL

A Requiem Mass will be held for the late Pino Simone in St Joseph's Church, this coming Tuesday, 25th November at 11.30am. Please keep his family in your prayers.

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - CANDLELIGHT PROCESSION

Join us in a beautiful torchlight procession as we honour Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception. The evening begins at the church. The Recital of the Rosary will take place with a candlelit walk to the grotto, where we will conclude in prayer. Candles will be available at the church doors. This will be held on Monday, 8th December at 7:30pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Earlwood (Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes). All are welcome and bring your family and friends to share in this special night of faith and community.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed is he who inherits

the kingdom of David our father;

blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Alleluia!

NOVEMBER MASS OFFERINGS

November Mass Offering envelopes are available in our Churches. Please place them in the collection plates. The donation for a November Mass is a preferred minimum of \$20.00. November Masses will be offered for all Holy Souls collectively.

LAST SISTER OF ST JOSEPH IN OUR PARISH

Last week Father Yacub received a letter from the Regional Leader of the Sisters of St Joseph to inform us that the last Sister has left our Parish. She was one of the last to move in to the Convent in Walz St before it closed and loved being here so much that she moved to the independent Aged Care in Frederick St after the Sisters vacated the convent. Those of us who knew Sr Marie White will miss her quiet and gracious presence that has been with us for many years at Rockdale. We wish her good health and ask that you keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

Dear Father Yacub

I write to inform you that with declining health Sr Marie White has accepted a room St Joseph's Aged Care, Hunters Hill. Sr Marie has lived in the Rockdale Parish and until recent years has been supportive of the school staff and students. She enjoyed living amongst the people of Rockdale and participating in the life of the Parish.

The Sisters of St Joseph took leadership of St Joseph's School Rockdale in 1912.

Sadly, Sr Marie's move to Hunters Hill brings to a conclusion one hundred and thirteen years of Josephite ministry and presence in Rockdale. We leave in sadness but grateful for the opportunities presented, friendships forged and, we hope that our presence within the community will see a lasting legacy of our Josephite Heart.

On behalf of the Sisters of St Joseph, thank you to the Parish for a wonderful partnership, and personal best wished for your ministry, Fr Yacub.

Yours sincerely

Sr Anne Porter rsj

NSW Regional Leader

CHRISTMAS CAROLS IN KING ST MALL

Christmas Carols will again be sung in King Street Mall Rockdale this December! This will be held on **Sunday, 21st December from 8.00pm**. Please gather your family and friends and come along to support our parishioners and show the real joy of the Christmas Season with fellow local residents. **Everyone is welcome!**



CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL 2025

Mark your calendars! Christmas at the Cathedral returns next month from **17 to 25 December!** Join family and friends at the forecourt of St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, for nine fun-filled nights of market stalls, delicious food, roaming entertainment and live performances. Experience stunning light projections that bring the beloved Christmas song "The Little Drummer Boy" to life, transforming the cathedral into a beautiful spectacle. The event will be on each of the nights from 5:30 – 10:30pm with lights on at 8:30 PM each night in the forecourt of St Mary's Cathedral. For more information, visit <https://christmasatthecathedral.org.au>.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS

The 2026 Columban Calendars are now available at the Piety Stalls for \$10 each. They assist the Columban Missionaries in meeting the needs of the poor and make a great Christmas gift.

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.

FATHER NORVIN ON LEAVE

Father Norvin is on annual leave for the next two weeks. Please keep him in your prayers that he will travel safely and enjoy this time with his family.

THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- A day of celebration for Sydney's vulnerable and marginalised
- Despite challenges, Australia's priests and deacons are thriving
- Grace Abounds, a new podcast about how God is transforming lives
- Sydney Catholic Schools to bring joy to Christmas at the Cathedral
- Help fund historic cathedral choir this Christmas

ABIDING IN LOVE

University Catholics invites you to a Night of Eucharistic Adoration as we begin to prepare for the International Eucharistic Congress to be celebrated here in Sydney in 2028. This will be held next Friday, 28 November at 5:30pm in St Patrick's, Church Hill (starting in The Crypt) For catering purposes, please register at <https://unicatholics.org.au/abiding-in-love>

CATHOLIC BUSHWALKING CLUB

The Catholic Bushwalking Club holds at least one walk each weekend, with other activities including abseiling, cross-country skiing, caving, canyoning and cycling. For more information, go to www.cbcnsw.org.au or phone Robert on 0478919427.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING

A message 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. 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.

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.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Pino Simone

ANNIVERSARIES: Fr Peter Maher, Gustavo Giusti, Biagio Di Ferdinando, Damiano Bonfa, Peter Paoloni and Darcy Tosh.

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
"Bear with and help one another." 8.9.1881

