

# ST MARY MACKILLOP PARISH ROCKDALE CITY

Three Communities – One Parish

20<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C - 16 & 17 AUGUST 2025

**Parish Priest – Fr Yacub Barkat**

**Assistant Parish Priest – Fr Norvin Dias**

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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 Friday: 9am to 1pm (**please phone** before coming in.)

**SCHOOLS:** **St Joseph's Primary, Rockdale:** 9599 2541 - Principal: Ms Rachelle Dopson

**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> 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,<br/>Exposition, Benediction<br/>&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><i>Jer 38:4-6, 8-10</i></b> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: <b><i>Heb 12:1-4</i></b> ; Gospel: <b><i>Lk 12:49-53</i></b> |                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                       |

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM 38:2-4,18**

**Lord, come to my aid!**

I waited, I waited for the Lord

and he stooped down to me; he heard my cry. *R/*

He drew me from the deadly pit, from the miry clay.

He set my feet upon a rock and made my footsteps firm. *R/*

He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God.

Many shall see and fear and shall trust in the Lord. *R/*

As for me, wretched and poor, the Lord thinks of me.

You are my rescuer, my help, O God, do not delay. *R/*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;

I know them, and they follow me.

**Alleluia!**



**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION**

The 130 children from our parishes are halfway through their preparation for Confirmation this weekend. Please keep them all in your prayers as they seek guidance from the Holy Spirit.



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

## ASSISTANCE NEEDED

Each of our churches need people to volunteer to be Acolytes and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to assist at weekend Masses. You will need to have a Working With Children Check which is obtainable through Service New South Wales website. There is no charge for this for volunteers. If you feel you would be available to assist, please speak with Father Yacub or Father Norvin.

## REUNION FOR ST GABRIEL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

A class reunion for the **1972 Kindergarten** class from St Gabriel's Bexley is being organised for **Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> October** at the Oatley Pub. Please contact John McLaughlin on 0449 740 373 for more information.

## FIRST SYDNEY SYNOD CONSULTATION

Can you give Archbishop Fisher positive, practical, and faithful ideas to address the three longings of Sydney Catholics: that our liturgies be more prayerful, our communities more Christ-centred, and our Church in Sydney more mission-oriented? The first consultation will be held on **Saturday 30 August** from 9 am-12pm at Aquinas College, Menai (next to Holy Family Church). **Registration is essential** through the QR code attached or email to: [sydneycatholic.org/sydney-synod](mailto:sydneycatholic.org/sydney-synod)



### SPECIAL MASS OFFERING ENVELOPES

There are special Mass Offering envelopes in our churches. Please use these when you request a Mass Offering for a deceased relative or friend, special intentions, thanksgiving and those who are sick. Only names for Recently Deceased or Death Anniversaries will be published in the parish bulletin. If you wish a Mass to be celebrated on a particular date, a **minimum of one week's** notice must be given.

### THE CAMINO OF ST JOSEPH 2025

An overnight pilgrimage for men in honour of our Spiritual Father, St Joseph will be held Friday 5 September from 7:00pm to Saturday 6 September at 8:00am. The entire walk from start to finish will include six churches. Each stop will feature a reflection on St Joseph and a short time in Adoration for spiritual nourishment and an opportunity for a quick bathroom break.

The itinerary from start to finish is:

1. St Joseph's, Como - Opening Mass
2. St Patrick's, Sutherland
3. St Catherine's, Gymer
4. Our Lady Star of the Sea, Miranda
5. Our Lady of Fatima, Caringbah
6. St Aloysius, Cronulla - closing Mass

The cost is \$35 pp and includes a bus ticket: \$24 return trip from 7.00pm sharp on Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> from Holy Family Menai and return at 7.30am on Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> from St Aloysius Cronulla. To register and for more information, visit <https://www.trybooking.com/CXLAO>.

### ANOINTED WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Catholic Women's Network presents their inaugural Women's Conference. Anointed is more than just a conference—it's a celebration of the sacred identity and vocation of women in the Church. Join us for a full day to reconnect with your divine identity, be renewed in prayer, and hear Spirit-led messages that speak directly to the heart of womanhood. Through worship, fellowship, and encounter, we'll explore what it means to walk in the anointing God has placed upon our lives—whether in our homes, our workplaces, our parishes, or our communities. We are thrilled to host international guest speaker Sr Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, in her exclusive tour with the Archdiocese of Sydney. Enjoy keynote sessions, food, stallholders, music and access to the Sacraments. **Date:** Saturday 27th September at Royal Randwick Racecourse, from 9am - 5pm (Doors open from 8:30am) This is an Adults Only event (18+) Registration: \$125 per person (meals included). Group discounts and further information: [www.catholicwomensnetwork.org/conference](http://www.catholicwomensnetwork.org/conference)

### WALKING TO EMMAUS: MINISTRY WITH THE YOUNG & SEARCHING

This gathering is designed to support and encourage those working with young people across parishes, schools, and the wider Catholic community. It's a chance to reconnect, share ideas, and be renewed in our mission. Together, we'll explore practical tools, spiritual insights, and fresh approaches to walking alongside young people who are searching for meaning, belonging, and deeper faith. The gathering will be held **next Saturday, 23 August** from 1:30 – 4:45pm in St Benedict's Hall, University of Notre Dame, Broadway Campus. Free entry – **registration essential** (places limited) at: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1421909>

### 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.

### THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- “Awe-inspiring” universality of the church evident at Jubilee of Youth
- NSW Premier Chris Minns speaks warmly of his faith
- Melbourne Bishop Peter Elliott mourned
- Sr Miriam James Hiedland SOLT set to visit Sydney this September
- The Assumption of Mary and the church's future

### CALLED & GIFTED DISCERNMENT PROCESS: ONLINE WITH IN-PERSON WORKSHOP

If you are wondering how God is calling you to serve Him, the Called & Gifted Discernment Process is for you! This Process is designed to help Christians identify and nurture their spiritual gifts (charisms), both to represent Christ and to be a channel of God's goodness for others. Commencing Monday, 8 September with limited places. Register at [gomakedisciples.org.au/called-gifted-discernment-process](http://gomakedisciples.org.au/called-gifted-discernment-process).

### CATHOLIC SPIRITUALITY FOR ADDICTION OR ALCOHOLISM

The Calix Society is for people who are clean and sober in 12-step recovery and wish to explore Catholic Spirituality. Anyone is welcome to join us in prayer for Total Abstinence, Spirituality, and Personal Sanctification. Contact Kevin at 0435 668 382 or Tim at 0401 600 422. Venerable Matt Talbot, pray for us.

### 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](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.

### 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.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Alexis Blades, Daniel Hill, Mary Arena, Michelle Szendroi, Baby Toby Szendroi, Mario Desisto, Soon Hoe Boey, Bill Bela Gerber, Danielle Ypes, Agustin Canda, Gregorio Canda sr. and Anney Nguyen.

**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

“I hope that you have had more charity and trust and that you have not judged by appearances.”  
5.3.1900

