

ST MARY MACKILLOP PARISH ROCKDALE CITY

Three Communities – One Parish

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

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A – 29 & 30 AUGUST 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

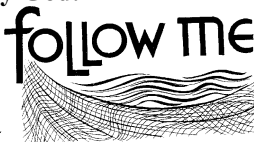
**St Joseph's Primary, Rockdale:** 9599 2541 - Principal: Ms Rachelle Dopson

|                                                                                                                      | 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,<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: <i>Jer 20:7-9</i> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: <i>Rom 12:1-2</i> ; Gospel: <i>Mt 16:21-27</i> |                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                       |

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** – ps. 62:2-6.8-9

**My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for you  
like a dry, weary land without water. *R/*



So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
to see your strength and your glory.  
For your love is better than life,  
my lips will speak your praise. *R/*

So I will bless you all my life,  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy. *R/*

For you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.  
My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast. *R/*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ  
enlighten the eyes of our heart  
that we might see how great is the hope  
to which we are called.

**Alleluia!**



**FAMILY MASS THIS SUNDAY AT BEXLEY**

**This Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> August**, the 9.00am Mass at St Gabriel's is a School Mass with students, families and staff from St Gabriel's Primary School attending. We also welcome students and families from our local public schools who join them.

**PRIEST'S RETIREMENT FOUNDATION  
PASTORAL APPEAL**

**Next weekend, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> September** we will be having the annual appeal to support the Priests who are no longer working full-time in the Sydney Archdiocese. When priests move from full-time ministry they need support, so that they are not disadvantaged with respect to housing, living expenses, health care and transport, etc. To provide this support, we need to actively participate to the Retirement Fund, by raising funds through this annual appeal. People continually value our ministry and are keen to support, and your contributions are truly appreciated.

Let us be generous as God is with us. Contributions are tax deductible. Thank you for supporting your brother priests, through the Priests' Retirement Foundation. There are special envelopes on the seats this weekend. Please take one home return next weekend with your donation. There will be a third collection at all Masses next Sunday for this appeal.

### PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPE #112

Can the Arncliffe parishioner who has the packet of Planned Giving Envelopes #112 for this financial year, please contact the parish office by email: [admin@mmrc.org.au](mailto:admin@mmrc.org.au) We need some further information from you please.

### PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES & RECEIPTS

These are now available from the Parish Office if you have not picked yours up. Office hours are Monday to Thursday 9am to 1pm but please call the office before coming in on 9567 1558.

### PLEASE SUPPORT "MARY MACKILLOP TODAY"

For some years now, Tien Te is one of our parishioners has been raising funds to support *Mary MacKillop Today* by running City to Surf and other distance races. *Mary MacKillop Today* is an organisation dedicated to standing with those who are poor and marginalised. Their mission is to empower individuals and communities through education, self-determination, and practical life-skills development. Inspired by Saint Mary MacKillop's legacy, "Never see a need without doing something about it,"

Tien is committed to doing her part to support the Sisters of St Joseph and their works and we invite parishioners to join her as she runs in the 2026 Sydney Marathon (42km) **this Sunday, 30 August**, not by running with her but to please consider supporting the cause by donating through here: <https://sm26.grassrootz.com/mary-mackillop-today/tien-te> or via this QR Code. It only takes a minute, and any contribution, large or small will make a meaningful difference in helping Mary MacKillop Today continue transforming lives. Donations are also tax-deductible. Thank you sincerely for your generosity.



### SPECIAL MASS OFFERING ENVELOPES

Each of the churches have special Mass Offering envelopes for your use. Please use these when you request a Mass Offering for a deceased relative or friend, special intentions, thanksgiving and those who are sick. A minimum donation for each offering is \$20.00. You are asked to place the request at least a week before you wish to have a Mass celebrated. Only names for Recently Deceased or Death Anniversaries will be published.

### SPRING TASTERS FOR YOUR SOUL

Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Australia Limited (JISA) invite you to three Spring Tasters, evenings to slow down and savour the gifts of the spring season through prayer, personal reflection, and meaningful spiritual conversation. We look forward to welcoming you to notice where the Spirit is bringing new life, and discover anew God's invitation to hope, life, and transformation. Bought to you by JISA's First Spiritual Exercises Ministry, and Michael Hansen SJ. These sessions will be held Online via Zoom on **September 8, 9 and 10** (Attend one, two, or all three sessions) from 6.30-7.45pm. The zoom link will be forwarded to you 2 days prior to the first session. **The cost is Nil** - You are invited to contribute financially towards the ongoing work of our not-for-profit ministry, at the checkout when booking. We are grateful for your generosity, which enables us to continue sharing the transformative experiences of Ignatian spirituality.

### 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

- The night Sydney's streets belonged to St Joseph
- Telehealth not needed for VAD access: Quinlan
- The archbishop who refused to manage decline
- What do newly-weds need? We're asking them
- Archbishop Fisher calls for balance between protest and worship

### GRACE & TRUTH

You are invited to join the Dominican Friars and Sisters on **Friday, 4 September** for an evening of prayer, formation, and fellowship. This event is open to men and women of all ages. The evening will consist of Eucharistic Adoration, Vespers and Benediction, a light dinner, and a talk by Professor Hayden Ramsay and Father James Baxter, OP. The event will run from 5.00-8.30pm, starting in the St Mary Cathedral Crypt and moving to the Cathedral Hall. To register to attend: <https://www.trybooking.com/DOIVM> **The fee for the evening is \$20.** For more information, contact the Dominican Sisters at [sydney@op-tn.org](mailto:sydney@op-tn.org).

### PARISH SAFEGUARDING

If you or someone you know has experienced abuse, or if you are worried about the safety of a child, young person or vulnerable adult, please know that you are not alone and that help is available. The Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office is available to listen, support you, and provide guidance about reporting options. You can contact the Safeguarding Office on 9390 5800 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also wish to speak with your Parish Priest, who can offer pastoral care and assist you in taking the next step. The Archdiocese takes all safeguarding concerns seriously and is required to report criminal matters to police. If there is an emergency or someone is in immediate danger, please contact NSW Police on 000.

### RECENTLY DECEASED: Concettina Meola.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Antonius Widjaja, Bob Thomson, Mark Delfino, Maria Salis, Margaret Owen, Pierina Crivici, Alfredo Lopes, Rocco Lo Russo, Jovie Casuso-Reyes, Maria D'Ambrosio, Dragica Zmoda, Mary MacKenzie Mitchell, Frank & Carol Sbisà and Lorna & Nestor Sarmiento.

**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

"Live in charity and peace." (20.8.1886)

