

ST MARY MACKILLOP PARISH ROCKDALE CITY

Three Communities – One Parish

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

29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C - 18 & 19 OCTOBER 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 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.                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                       |
| <b>1st Reading:</b> Ex 17:8-13; <b>2nd Reading:</b> 2 Tim 3:14-4:2; <b>Gospel:</b> Lk 18:1-8 |                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                       |

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM 120

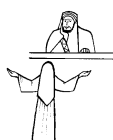
**Our help is from the Lord,  
who made heaven and earth.**

I lift up my eyes to the mountains:  
from where shall come my help?  
My help shall come from the Lord  
who made heaven and earth. *R/*

May he never allow you to stumble!  
Let him sleep not, your guard.  
No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,  
Israel's guard. *R/*

The Lord is your guard and your shade;  
at your right side he stands.  
By day the sun shall not smite you  
nor the moon in the night. *R/*

The Lord will guard you from evil,  
he will guard your soul.  
The Lord will guard your going and coming  
both now and for ever. *R/*



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

The word of God is living and active;  
it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.  
**Alleluia!**



## ROSARY IN OCTOBER

The month of October is dedicated to Our Lady and the Rosary. There will be Rosary recited **each evening at 6.00pm** until Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> October in St Joseph's Church, including weekends. All welcome.



## NOVEMBER MASS OFFERINGS

November Mass Offering envelopes may be found in our Churches. These envelopes may be then placed 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.

**Please note** that individual Mass requests cannot be made in November, they are only available during the other months of the year.

## VOLUNTEERS REQUESTED

We would like to request a few new volunteers from the Bexley end of the parish to assist with money counting on Monday mornings at 8.00am. Previous cash handling experience would be an advantage. Please speak with Father Yacub if you can help.

## 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.

## BAPTISMS

This Sunday we welcome Isabella Cahill, Khaean Dacullo, Ariana Palumberi and Valentina Hitchcock who will be baptised at St Gabriel's. We also welcome their family and friends who join them on this very special occasion.



## ANNUAL CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL

Many thanks to all those who contributed to the Catholic Mission Appeal last weekend. Your ongoing prayerful and practical support is very much appreciated. Donations are still being received, please place your offering in one of the special envelopes and place it in a collection plate at Mass. Final donations will be accepted next weekend.

## CELEBRATING THE CANONISATION OF BLESSED PETER TO ROT

Communities are preparing to celebrate the canonisation of Blessed Peter To Rot, Papua New Guinea's first saint. Peter To Rot was a lay catechist and martyr who continued his Christian ministry during the Japanese occupation of PNG in WWII. Let us come together in faith and thanksgiving to celebrate his inspiring witness. **This Sunday, 19 October**, a special Mass at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Randwick, beginning at 2:30 pm. Refreshments will be held afterwards. All are welcome.

## ALPHA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE: THE WAY OF HOPE

You are invited to the national Alpha Catholic Conference: The Way of Hope, on **Friday 31 October and Saturday 1 November** in the Liverpool Catholic Club. This is an opportunity for the Church to gather to be inspired and formed for mission. This conference will be focused on mission and is for everyone, not just those who are involved with or interested in Alpha. It will be an opportunity for delegates to encounter and grow in their relationship with Christ; and then be equipped to step out in faith and service to build up the kingdom of God in whatever way God is calling them to at this time. We will welcome Bishop Michael Gielen from Christchurch, New Zealand, as our keynote speaker and we will have other fantastic speakers such as Sr Elena Marie OP who will share their experience and wisdom with us. We will hear stories from across the Church and different mission fields such as schools, prisons and of course parishes, for youth and adults. The conference will include plenary sessions, breakout sessions, morning tea and lunch on both days and dinner on Friday, Mass and Adoration. For more information and to register, visit <https://www.alpha.org.au/catholicconference>.

## SISTERS OF LIFE - ADVENT RETREAT

Set aside an afternoon to enter into the stillness and quiet and deepen your relationship with the Lord. Catholic Women's Network are delighted to be hosting the Sisters of Life for an Advent retreat on **Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> November** from 1-5pm at St Joachim's Catholic Church, Lidcombe. Join us for an afternoon of reflection and quiet prayer time in preparation for the Advent season under the theme 'No longer forsaken: the Lord delights in you' (Isaiah 62). The mini-retreat will include input from the Sisters of Life, quiet time, access to the Sacrament of Confession and a Holy Hour. Cost: \$25 per person. Group discounts available. Limited spaces available and light refreshments included. Register at: <https://www.trybooking.com/DFBJT>

## 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

- St Luke's in Revesby unveils six new statues
- Ruddick, Howe unite to ban sex-selective abortions in NSW
- Marvin Do's unexpected journey from gym sessions to Jesus
- Amid historic deal, Gaza pastor says little is left after 'tsunami' of destruction
- 'Dilexi te': the pope's passionate plea for the poor
- \$10 million ACU bequest for philosophy and theology

## FINDING SOLACE AND SUPPORT WITH HEARTFELT

In times of grief, finding a compassionate and understanding community can make all the difference. Heartfelt is based on Catholic teachings and offers online gatherings, support groups, and events, accessible to anyone navigating their grief journey. For more information, visit <https://heartfelt.community>

## 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](http://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](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.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Patrick McBrearty, Gerard Mandile and Maria Thi Dung Nguyen.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Darcy and Joan Kearney, Mary Mohareb, Francesco Zirilli, Giovanni Sias, Franjo Srnc, Rita Caforio, Rita Barbaresco, Noel & Kitty Cooney,

**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

"Don't you remember, 'The foxes have holes and the birds of the air their nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head'? I always loved that but now more than ever." (26.9.1871)



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