



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



ASCENSION OF THE LORD - YEAR B - 15 & 16 MAY 2021

Parish Priest – Fr Yacub Barkat

Assistant Priest – Fr Frank Regala



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	5.00pm Saturday	6.30pm Saturday	-----
Saturday Vigil	9.00am	9.00am (Italian)	9.00am
Sunday Masses		10.30am	5.00pm
		6.00pm (Third Sunday only Filipino)	
WEEKDAY MASSES	9.00am Wednesday 9.00am Friday	7.00pm Tuesday (Devotions, Exposition, Benediction & Rosary from 5.30pm) 9.00am Thursday	9.00am Monday 9.30am Thursday 9.00am Saturday (Benediction at 8.45am)
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	10.30am 1 st Sunday of the month	11.30am 2 nd Sunday of the month	10.00am 3 rd Sunday of the month
	Please phone the Parish Office to make an enquiry or booking on 9567 1558 during office hours.		
WEDDINGS	Monday to Saturday by appointment. The 2 square metre rule and must be strictly observed.		
	Reading: Acts 1:1-11; 2nd Reading: Eph 4:1-13 Gospel: Mk 16:15-20		

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 46:2-3,6-9

**God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**

All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth. *R/*

God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise. *R/*

God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne. *R/*



BAPTISMS

This weekend we welcome Mila Gottardi and Zyan Munhoz at St Gabriel's. We also welcome their families and friends who join them on their special day.



SYDNEY MALE CHOIR PRESENTS "WE RISE AGAIN!"

Gather some friends and come along on **Sunday 30th May, at 2:00pm to St Joseph's Church Rockdale** to hear featuring songs from Musicals - Miss Saigon, Guys & Dolls, Les Miserables - and by Queen, Billy Joel, Paul Simon, and more! A wonderful afternoon of great music will be enjoyed by all attending!

All tickets: \$20.00 (school age children – FREE!)

Book online: www.sydneymalechoir.com or pay on the day

Proceeds from the concert will be donated to "Mary MacKillop Today" to assist the St Joseph's nuns with their work in Timor Leste, one of the world's newest and most disadvantaged nations.

Help needed please! If there are people from each of our 3 church communities, St Gabriel's, St Francis Xavier's and St Joseph's, who could help with distribution of publicity flyers and posters, or if anyone has a business, or know someone has a business, and would be happy to display a publicity poster, please contact Kevin Burg 0432 390 217.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always,
until the end of the world.

Alleluia!



THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Please keep the young ones preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation in your prayers. May the Holy Spirit guide them and deepen their faith and commitment.

150 FEMALE/MALE 'HEAD COUNT' THIS WEEKEND

As this is a Census year, during the month of May at all weekend Masses, we will be doing a head count of people who are attending Mass. This weekend we have also been asked to specify the female/male numbers as well as the total attending Mass. Someone will be attending to this as you enter the church.

Next weekend, we have been asked to specify 'age-range' groups of people attending. We ask that you please readily give this information as asked when you enter the churches. This information will be reported back to the Archdiocese as per their instructions.

CHILD PROTECTION WEEK

The Archdiocesan Safeguarding Office is planning to develop an activity book for children based on emojis/emotions. If you have talented and creative children between 5 and 12 years they are invited to enter a competition to have their work included in the book. If parents would like the information to enter their child's work, please email the parish office and we can email you a copy of the information. These are due by Friday, 21st May.

BOOKING BAPTISMS

If families wish their child to be Baptised in our twinned parishes it is highly advisable to book well ahead of time. Currently due to restrictions we are only able to hold two Baptisms on the designated Sundays. At this point in time, we are booked for every weekend up to September in our three churches. If you have a child due later this year it would be a good idea to book early if you want a particular date this year. Please see the Baptism times and our Churches on the front page.

LITANY TO ST JOSEPH

On the feast of St Joseph, the Worker (1st May) the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments published an updated version of the Litany of St Joseph, approved by Pope Francis. The 112-year-old litany now includes invocations mainly taken from modern papal texts about St. Joseph, including Pope Francis' December Apostolic Letter proclaiming a Year of St Joseph and St John Paul II's 1989 Apostolic Exhortation, "Redemptoris Custos". The seven additions to the litany are: "Custos Redemptoris" (Guardian of the Redeemer); "Serve Christi" (Servant of Christ); "Minister salutis" (Minister of salvation); "Fulcimen in difficultatibus" (Support in difficulties); "Patrone exsulium" (Patron of exiles); "Patrone afflictorum" (Patron of the afflicted); and "Patrone pauperum" (Patron of the poor). To receive a copy, please email the Parish Office and we can email it.

ARCHBISHOP FISHER'S PASTORAL LETTER

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP has released a new Pastoral Letter, "*Lead us Back to Mass for the Church's Birthday!*" inviting Catholics to return to Mass on **Pentecost Sunday 23 May** and beyond. A copy is available online on this web site www.gomakedisciples.org.au

FEAST OF MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PATRONESS OF AUSTRALIA

A procession will be held from 3.00pm, **next Sunday 23 May** from St Peter's Surry Hills with a pilgrim blessing and then on to St Mary's Cathedral for the 5.00pm Solemn Choral First Vespers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Please contact Steven Buhagiar from the Archdiocesan Life Marriage and Family team on 9307 8480 if you require more information.

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.

RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES

- Restrictions on church attendance have eased further to allow a **two-square metre rule**. **Our three churches are still limited for numbers attending.**
- Families can sit together, but if people do not belong in the same household, they must observe physical distancing of 1.5 metres.
- Masks are currently compulsory for attending Mass.
- **Congregational singing is currently suspended.**
- 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.
- 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.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney 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.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Anne Boyce

ANNIVERSARIES: Carol York, Petronila Fidow, Gladys Oakes, Glorie Black, Elizabeth Workman, Elizabeth Kotevski and Hilario Ragasa.

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.

ST MARY MACKILLOP'S QUOTE

"I can only say I am most happy. I have my little annoyances and humiliations, it is true, but these only make me more happy." 26.4.1873

