



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
5th SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR B - 1 & 2 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 Saturday Vigil Sunday Masses	5.00pm Saturday 9.00am	6.30pm Saturday 9.00am (Italian) 10.30am 6.00pm (Third Sunday only Filipino)	----- 9.00am 5.00pm
WEEKDAY MASSES	9.00am Wednesday 9.00am Friday	7.00pm Tuesday (Devotions, Exposition, Benediction & Rosary from 5.30pm) 9.00am Thursday 7.30pm First Friday each month	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 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. The 2 square metre rule and must be strictly observed.		
1st Reading: Acts 9:26-31; 2nd Reading: 1 Jn 3:18-24; Gospel: Jn 15:1-8			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 21:26-28.30-32

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

My vows I will pay before those who fear him.
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.
May their hearts live for ever and ever! R/

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families of the nations worship before him.
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. R/

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:
'These things the Lord has done'. R/



CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL (CWF)

This weekend, we will have the final appeal for the current financial year. The envelopes will be available at the entry doors to the church for this appeal. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible. **Please ensure you complete the all the information required for a 100% tax-deductible receipt.**

Please take an envelope home with you this week and return it next weekend with your donation.

WALZ STREET ROCKDALE CLOSURE

NEXT SATURDAY, vehicles will not be permitted to park in Walz Street between 4.30pm to 11.00pm and no vehicle will be allowed to enter or exit Walz Street between 5.00pm on Saturday to 2.00am on Sunday morning. The Council is closing the street for the celebration of Ramadan.

The Walz Street entrance to St Joseph's Church grounds will be closed and all those coming by car for the 6:30pm Mass are asked to enter the church/school parking area via Parker Street.

N.B. All our gates will be locked immediately following the 6.30pm Mass. If you wish to attend the festival after Mass please park on surrounding streets before Mass or risk your vehicle being locked in for the night.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!

BAPTISMS

This weekend we welcome Elleana Agne and Reuben Blain at St Francis Xavier's and Danielle Yepes at St Gabriel's. We also welcome their families and friends who join them on their special occasion.



FUNERAL

The Funeral Mass for the late Rafael Ripoll will be celebrated this coming **Monday, 3rd May** at 11.00am in St Gabriel's Church. Please keep her family in your prayers at this sad time.

CENSUS 'HEAD COUNT' DURING MAY

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. Someone will be counting our numbers attending and we will report this back to the Archdiocese as per our instructions.

CONFIRMATION 2021

This information is for the parents of students currently in Years 6 or older and they have received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. The Parent Information Meeting will be held on **Thursday, 13th May** 7.00pm, St Joseph's Hall in Rockdale. If your son or daughter is to receive the Sacrament this year, it is imperative that one of the parents or a carer attends this meeting.

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.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY – SUNDAY 30TH MAY

The **Sydney Male Choir** will be presenting "*We Rise Again!*" an afternoon of music and song in St Joseph's Church, Rockdale. We invite all our parishioners to come and enjoy this event. It would be wonderful to have a big audience, so please invite your families and friends too. Proceeds from the concert will be donated to "Mary Mackillop Today" to assist in their work of supporting disadvantaged communities in East Timor. For more information go to www.sydneymalechoir.com More information to come in future parish bulletins.

ANNUAL CATECHIST MASS

The Annual Catechist Mass for the Southern Area will be held this coming **Friday, 7th May** at 11.30am at Our Lady of Fatima Parish, 825 Forest Rd, Peakhurst. There is plenty of parking in the grounds. Please contact Lee Kendrick if you would like to attend. Please share plate for lunch.

ASSISTANCE NEEDED TO VISIT AGED CARE HOMES

If there are any Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist who have some spare time the Parish needs your help taking Holy Communion to the residents of local aged care facilities. We only have a few volunteers and really need some more to cover the numbers of Catholics in these homes. If you are willing to have flu and Covid vaccines and Police Checks, we would love to have your assistance. Please contact the Parish Office and leave your details.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Please keep Fr Brendan in your prayers as he's recently been hospitalised for a back issue. He's now home and recovering but still suffering some pain and discomfort.

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.**
- Masks are no longer compulsory to attend Mass but are still recommended.
- **Congregational singing is now allowed.**
- 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, even with a simple cold.
- 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 equiries@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: Gayus Donoghue, Rafael Ripoll and Aurelia Evaristo.

ANNIVERSARIES: Margaret Devi, Andrew Pike, Gertrude Chan, Jose & Adelino Roda, John Drake, Vincenzo Colantuono, Maria Cehic, Allan Latham, Milka Slavin, Tommaso Rizzo, John Tanti and Herbert Adams.

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

"God loves those best who help the weak become whole." 2.9.1906

