

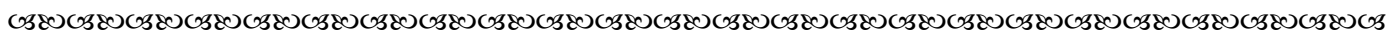
PARISHES OF ST GABRIEL'S, BEXLEY and ST MARY MACKILLOP'S, ROCKDALE CITY

(Looking after the Churches of St Gabriel's, Bexley, St Joseph's, Rockdale, and St Francis Xavier's, Arncliffe)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR C - 29 & 30 MARCH 2025

Parish Priest – Fr Yacub Barkat

Assistant Parish Priest – Fr Norvin Dias



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 coming in.)

Italian Chaplain: Fr Adriano Pittarello: 8068 1595

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
WEEKEND MASSES Saturday Vigil Sunday Masses	5.00pm Saturday 9.00am	6.30pm Saturday 9.00am (<i>Italian</i>) 10.30am 12.00pm (<i>First Sunday only Urdu</i>) 6.00pm (<i>Third Sunday only Filipino</i>)	----- 9.00am 5.00pm
WEEKDAY MASSES	9.00am Wednesday 9.00am Friday	7.00pm Tuesday (<i>Devotions, Exposition, Benediction & Rosary from 5.30pm</i>) 9.00am Thursday	9.00am Monday 9.30am Thursday 9.00am Saturday (<i>Benediction at 8.45am</i>)
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	10.00am 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.		
<i>1st Reading: Joshua 5:9-12; 2nd Reading: 2 Cor 5:17-21; Gospel: Lk 15:1-3, 11-32</i>			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 33:2-7
Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.



I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. *R/*

Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord, and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. *R/*

Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress. *R/*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I will rise and go to my father and tell him:
Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Irene lives in the Kongolo Region in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and faced immense challenges after losing her father to war and raising her children in poverty. With support from Caritas Australia, Irene received vocational training in sewing and farming and can now support her whole family.



PLEASE DONATE TODAY

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code / online: caritas.org.au/project-compassion / or by calling: 1800 024 413



PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO BERRIMA SHRINE

Unfortunately, due to lack of response the Jubilee Pilgrimage to the Shrine of our Lady of Mercy at Penrose Park has been cancelled.

HOLY WEEK LITURGIES

Please be aware that the Masses and Liturgies during Holy Week are all much longer than normal. If you have health or age problems, please consider this and whether it's wise to attend, particularly for the Holy Saturday Vigil.

BAPTISM THIS SUNDAY

Juliet Briscoe-Hough will be baptised this Sunday at St Gabriels. We also welcome her family and friends who join her on this special occasion.



HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE
RECONCILIATIONS & MASSES

Second Rite (Communal celebration)

Tuesday, 8th April at Rockdale - 5.30pm followed by Benediction at 6.30pm and Mass at 7.00pm.

Italian Confessions 6.30pm on Wednesday 9th April before Italian Stations of the Cross

First Rite (Individual) Saturday, 12th April

8.00am – 8.45am Bexley;
4.00pm – 4.30pm Arncliffe;
5.30pm – 6.00pm Rockdale

Please note: Once the Easter Triduum begins on Holy Thursday, the Sacrament of Penance will not be available, except in an emergency situation.

HOLY THURSDAY 17th April

7.00pm Arncliffe – Rockdale – Bexley
(St Joseph's Church will be open after the Mass till Midnight for prayer and adoration)

GOOD FRIDAY 18th April

Stations of the Cross

10.00am Arncliffe – Rockdale – Bexley

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

3.00pm Arncliffe – Rockdale – Bexley

HOLY SATURDAY 19th April

5.00pm Bexley 5.00pm Arncliffe
6.30pm Rockdale

EASTER SUNDAY 20th April

9.00am Mass Arncliffe 9.00am Mass Bexley
9.00am Mass Rockdale (Italian)
10.30am Mass Rockdale
5.00pm Mass Bexley

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S ROOF REPLACEMENT:
YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

As a result of the severe storm and heavy rain in July 2022, St Francis Xavier's Church Arncliffe, needs to have the roof replaced. As a heritage-listed church, the replacement requirements are guided by Bayside Council. The roof is the first and major part of a series of restoration projects that have been identified by the Parish Finance Committee for the church. Other matters requiring attention are the stained-glass windows, internal painting, foliage in the brickwork, internal repairs to the tower etc.

Every contribution, big or small, will make a meaningful difference in helping us cover the \$500,000 cost of the roof replacement. Your support ensures that our church remains a place of worship that continues to serve our community and preserves its place in history.

The amount raised so far is \$2195.00. Thank you!

- To make supporting easier, donations can be made via Tap & Go machines at:
 - **Left side of the altar at Arncliffe Church**
 - **Front foyer at Rockdale Church**, next to the piety stall.
- Bpoint on our website (mmrc.org.au) under Support the Parish – Pay/Donate to Rockdale City Parish
 - Biller Code: Other
 - Purpose of Payment: Arncliffe Restoration Appeal

REMINDER: PLEASE SILENCE YOUR MOBILE PHONE AS YOU ENTER THE CHURCH.

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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

The Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday during Lent. Please come along at 6.00pm to St Francis Xavier's Church. St Joseph's will have the Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm followed by Mass at 7.30pm.

Italian Stations of Cross will be held on Wednesdays at 7.00pm in St Joseph's Church. Italian Confessions will be held before and after their Stations of the Cross.



DIVINE MERCY MASS

Sunday, 27th April, is the Second Sunday of Easter and the Feast of Divine Mercy. This will be celebrated at St Joseph's Church, Rockdale with an observance of the Holy Hour, Benediction and Reconciliation at 2pm, followed by Mass at 3:15pm. Come and celebrate with us!

THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- Pope Francis returns home from hospital
- Pro-life rally and prayer events draw thousands
- Friendship unites faith leaders
- Candlelight vigil held for massacred Syrians

PARENT LINE NSW

Managed by CatholicCare Sydney, Parent Line NSW is proud to support families across the state. Our experienced and qualified counsellors work to find solutions that best support parents or carers and their family. Top concerns people calling Parent Line for include...

- bullying
- anxiety in children
- school refusal
- feeling alone or frustrated as a parent
- family separation
- concerns about your child's behaviour
- parenting a child with a disability
- or something else.

Parent Line can support parents and carers by providing positive parenting strategies, useful information and referrals to other services. They can also call Parent Line to chat and discuss concerns. We're here to support you, helping families to thrive in 2025. Call 1300 1300 52 or visit parentline.org.au

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.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Brian Dwyer, Vinka Gagro Na Setiawan, Joe Bishara and Dorothy Molachino.

ANNIVERSARIES: Patricia Roach, Vittorio Lombardi, George Sakr, Albert D'Souza, Danielle Yepes and Goder Bet.

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

"A little patience will in the end be rewarded." 17.10.1871

