

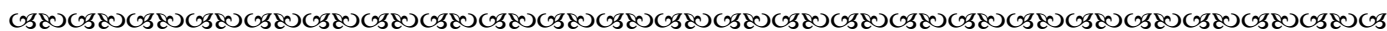
PARISHES OF ST GABRIEL'S, BEXLEY and ST MARY MACKILLOP'S, ROCKDALE CITY

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

15th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A - 15 & 16 JULY 2023

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 Carolyn Yeats

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 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.		
1 st Reading: <i>Is 55:10-11</i> ; 2 nd Reading: <i>Rom 8:18-23</i> ; Gospel: <i>Mt 13:1-23</i>			

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Ps 64:10-14

The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

You care for the earth, give it water,
you fill it with riches.
Your river in heaven brims over
to provide its grain. *R/*

And thus you provide for the earth:
you drench its furrows,
you level it, soften it with showers,
you bless its growth. *R/*

You crown the year with your goodness.
Abundance flows in your steps,
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. *R/*

The hills are girded with joy,
the meadows covered with flocks,
the valleys are decked with wheat.
They shout for joy, yes, they sing. *R/*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!



CONFIRMATION 2023

This information is for the parents of students currently in Years 5 and 6 or older and who have received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. The Parent Information Meeting will be held on **Thursday, 3rd August** at 7.00pm, St Joseph's Hall in Rockdale. If your son or daughter is to receive the Sacrament this year, it is expected that one of the parents or a carer attends this meeting. The preparation classes will be held on the four Sundays of August and the Confirmations will be held in September.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

If you haven't picked up your Planned Giving Envelopes for the 2023/24 Financial Year please do so as soon as possible. They will be returned to the Parish Office after this weekend and you will then need to pick them up from there.

**** Your receipts are now available in your preferred church.****

PASSING OF FATHER NORVIN'S MOTHER

Please keep Father Norvin in your prayers as he mourns the passing of his mother, Leena Dias. Father has gone home to India for a few weeks to be with his family.

During his absence, Fr Geoff Plant will be assisting Father Yacub with Masses at St Gabriel's.

BAPTISMS



This weekend we welcome Ellie Botterill and Maya Vella who will be baptised at St Gabriel's. We also welcome their families and friends who join them on this special occasion.

"TAP & GO" MACHINES IN OUR CHURCHES

Parishioners are asked to give to our parishes via the Tap & Go machines which are located in each of our churches. It is a quick and easy way to donate when people don't bring cash to Mass to put on the collection plates. This money goes directly into the parish account and not sent elsewhere. The benefit for the parish of receiving monies this way is to enable us to receive the money instantly and to allow us to have money available for payment for upkeep of the parishes, the utilities and the facilities. It's an added donation to us and we would love it if you can take more advantage of it. ☺

RETREAT DAY

Jesus Light of the World Communities invite you to join them on **Saturday, 29 July** from 9:30 am – 4:30 pm in St Joseph's Church Hall, Rockdale. "You are Victorious" is the theme with Marina George, who is a devoted Catholic preacher lady who loves sharing her deep relationship with God the Father, the love of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Booking Essential, FREE Lunch & Afternoon Tea. Enquiries: Helen – 0433 455 114 or Ida – 0424 267 500
[Email: jlwcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:jlwcommunity@gmail.com)

BE TO ME A PRIEST AND A FATHER EVENT

University Catholics are excited to host this event with international guest speaker Fr Carter Griffin from the U.S. who will be speaking on the topic of priesthood, celibacy and how we can support our priests in living out their spiritual fatherhood. Visit the University Catholics website for more information and to register for the event <https://unicatholics.org.au/howtohelppriestslivetheirfatherhood>. To be held on **Wednesday 19th July** at 6.30pm in St Joachim's Parish Hall, John St, Lidcombe.

WEEKEND RETREAT

Join the MGL Sisters in a weekend retreat exploring what happens we say yes to the Holy Spirit. Experience the life-changing power of deepening in God's love, surrendering to Jesus and living under the grace of the Holy Spirit. "*Overshadowed: Filled with the Power of the Holy Spirit*", Will be held from **18-20 August** at Carmel House, 345 St Andrews Rd, Varroville. Booking at: <http://www.trybooking.com/CFBQX> (by 11 August)
Contact Katherine mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com

THIS WEEK IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- Bread from Heaven: the charity feeding Sydney
- Synod on Synodality delegates announced
- PNG Cardinal Ribat visits Sydney
- Fr Chris de Sousa: How I found my vocation at WYD
- Monica Doumit: Tasmanian education woes
- Catholic Schools NSW CEO: COVID lockdowns held kids back

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.

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.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: JOIN MARY MACKILLOP PLACE!

Mary MacKillop Place (MMP) holds a special place in Australia and for our Church. In the spirit of Saint Mary MacKillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods, our mission is to create sacred oasis of welcome peace, pilgrimage, education, community engagement, personal and spiritual growth, and social action for all.

At its core is the Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel, where the tomb of St Mary MacKillop rests, together with the Museum that shares the inspiring story of her life. Situated in North Sydney and conveniently accessible by public transport, MMP is currently in search of enthusiastic volunteers who will warmly welcome and assist visitors to the MMP Museum.

If you enjoy interacting with people and have some spare time, please get it touch! Whether it's for a couple of hours, a day or two a week, fortnightly or month, we would love to have you on board! Rest assured, all necessary training and support will be provided.

For more information or to express your interest, please contact Sr Annie Bond, Ministry & Mission Manager, or send an email to annie.bond@mmp.org.au.

RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES

- **Masks are still highly recommended in churches, as Covid is still very much in our local community.**
- **Please do not come to Mass if you are Positive for Covid, unwell or even if you just have a sore throat or a simple cold.**
- When preparing to receive Holy Communion, parishioners are asked to go seat by seat to enable distancing from others who are in the line. Please wait until there is space before joining the queue.

RECENTLY DECEASED Tjiptono Herwanto Gandarasa, Serenella Zanolli, Leena Dias, Roberto Jorquera and Martha Topoti Costa.

ANNIVERSARIES: Angela Gharami, Catherine Baggott, Ines Bergamo, Thi Cam Huong Nguyen, Mario Mercia, Monica Littler, Christopher Lyons, Armando Scacciotti, Francesco Dalle-Nogare, Donald Turnbull, Denise Day, Mario Sancandi, Demir Alispahic, Paul Girardi, Laura Baker, Carmen Abela, Idalina & Francesco Melo, Matthew & Joseph D'Souza.

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

"If you knew the peace and calm, the almost joyful passionate love for God's will, you would not trouble about having to convey your disappointment to me." (2.2.1871)

