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)

31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C – 2 & 3 NOVEMBER 2019

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
Italian Chaplain: Fr Adriano Pittarello: 8068 1595

SCHOOLS:
St Francis Xavier's Primary, Arncliffe: 9567 5389 **Principal**: Mr Kevin Bryson
St Joseph's Primary, Rockdale: 9599 2541 **Principal**: Ms Carolyn Yeats
St Gabriel's Primary, Bexley: 9502 1932 **Principal**: Ms Catherine Hodgins

	ARNCLIFFE	ROCKDALE	BEXLEY
WEEKEND MASSES **Saturday Vigil** **Sunday Masses**	 5.00pm 9.00am	 6.30pm 9.00am *(Italian)* 10.30am 6.00pm *(Third Sunday only in Filipino)*	 ------- 9.00am 5.00pm
WEEKDAY MASSES	9.00am Wednesday 9.00am Friday	7.30pm Tuesday *(Devotions, Exposition, Benediction & Rosary from 6.00pm)* 9.00am Thursday	9.00am Monday 9.30am Thursday 9.00am Saturday *(Benediction at 8.45am)*
CONFESSIONS	4.00 – 4.30pm 2nd & 4th Saturday of the Month	4.00 – 4.30pm 1st & 3rd Saturday of the Month	8.00 – 8.40am Saturday
BAPTISMS	10.30am 1st Sunday of the month	11.30am 2nd Sunday of the month	10.00am 3rd Sunday of the month
	By appointment. Please book by phoning the Parish Office on 9567 1558 during office hours.		
WEDDINGS	Monday to Saturday by appointment.		

1st Reading: ***Wis 11:22 - 12:2;*** 2nd Reading: ***2 Thess 1:11 - 2:2;*** Gospel: ***Lk 19:1-10***

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 144:1-2.8-11.13-14

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

I will give you glory, O God my King,
I will bless your name for ever.
I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever. ℟

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. ℟

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God. ℟

The Lord is faithful in all his words
and loving in all his deeds.
The Lord supports all who fall
and raises all who are bowed down. ℟

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
God loved the world so much,
he gave us his only Son,
that all who believe in him
might have eternal life.
Alleluia!

CHARITABLE WORKS FUND (CWF) APPEAL

The final Appeal for 2019 will be held **this weekend, 2nd & 3rd November with a third collection after Holy Communion**. Each parish is given a quota to fund each Appeal. These quotas are determined according to each parish's income and population. If the quota is not met, then the amount is taken from parish funds. Donations over $2 are tax deductible but please make sure you have completed the details required on the envelopes provided.

KEEP THIS DATE FREE

All parishioners are invited to the ***Installation of Fr Yacub as Parish Priest*** of St Mary McKillop's Parish, Rockdale City. This will take place on **Sunday 22 December** at the 10:30am Mass at St Joseph's Church. Bishop Umbers will be celebrating the Mass.

NOVEMBER MASSES

November Mass Envelopes may be found in the Church foyers and on the Offertory Tables. These envelopes may be then placed in the special Remembrance Basket on the offertory table, which will be brought forward with the Offertory Gifts at Mass and placed on the Altar.

November Masses will only be offered for all Holy Souls collectively, rather than for individual requests.

Please Note that individual Mass requests cannot be made in November, they are available the rest of the year.

BISHOPS' PRAYERS FOR THE DROUGHT

In last weekend's bulletin, there was an article from The Catholic Bishops of Australia announcing a National Prayer Campaign for the Drought to take place during November. People across the country are encouraged to pray for the gift of rain, for people affected by the drought and to provide practical support, where possible. The Bishops note that large parts of the country are directly affected by the drought, but the impact is national – and so should the response be national. To do our share of the praying as a parish, we will be replacing the Prayer for Australia with suggested prayers for rain or the ending of the drought that has consumed so much of our country, especially in NSW. It is suggested that these prayers continue until there is significant rain to end the drought. This is a very small way we can help end this devastation.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY LADIES BEXLEY

The Bexley St Vincent de Paul Ladies Society are looking for some new members. They meet on each **3rd Thursday** in the St Gabriel's Hall, beside the church at 3.00pm. Anyone from our twinned parishes are most welcome to join. They visit Nursing Homes and people who are lonely at home. Please contact Rita on 9502 4672.

PILGRIM STATUE OF THE VIRGIN MARY

The Legion of Mary at Rockdale have a beautiful statue of Our Lady of Fatima. It is known as the Pilgrim Virgin Statue because it is available to any parishioner to take home and pray the Rosary with their families, friends and neighbours for a week at a time. The statue is kept in the candle shrine, along with a book to enter your details. If you would like to borrow the statue at any time, just enter the information in the book, including the week you would like to nominate, perhaps around a family member's birthday or death anniversary.

You can pick up the statue when it is your turn, after the 10.30am Sunday Mass and return it the following week before the 10.30 Sunday Mass. If you have any questions, please ask at the Piety Stall.

NEW CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED

The Saturday Vigil Choir in Rockdale would like to welcome some new members to join them in singing or playing any musical instruments for the Mass. People of any age are most welcome to join, no experience is needed, just the willingness to come to practise. Please approach one of the choir members after the Saturday Vigil Mass or contact Vania on 0451 052 562 if you have any questions or would like to know more.

ACU CENTRE FOR LITURGY - "BE NOT AFRAID: PREPARING AND CELEBRATING SACRAMENTS OF HEALING"

What do Catholics believe about Sacraments of Healing? How do Catholics celebrate reconciliation and forgiveness? How do priests, deacons and lay ministers care for the sick? What is Viaticum and how is Communion ministered to the sick? These questions will be investigated by the ACU Centre for Liturgy team during a pastoral formation day called: "Be not afraid: preparing and celebrating sacraments of healing" at ACU Strathfield 25A Barker Road, Strathfield **next Saturday 9 November** from 9am to 4.45pm (registration from 8.30am). **All welcome.** For more information ph 9701 4751. Cost $60. Registration (includes lunch) essential at: http://www.acu.edu.au/pastoral_formation_days.

PRAYER IN TIME OF DROUGHT

O God, Lord of all creation, by whose power the whole earth came to be, look upon our parched land, we pray, and bestow upon it abundant rain, that pastures, fields and paddocks may by your goodness thrive once more. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

The RCIA program has commenced and we ask parishioners to continue to pray for the candidates as they learn what it means to be a Catholic and follow the teachings of Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

FATHER FRANK RETURNS THIS WEEK

Father Frank will be returning from his leave during this coming week. We welcome him home and hope he had a restful holiday.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Join the Sutherland Shire Choral Society for a relaxing afternoon Christmas concert of beautiful Christmas music, including Renaissance classics, Bach's Cantata BWV 191, and the Hallelujah chorus! James Paul will conduct the choir and an instrumental ensemble. To be held on **Sunday 1 December** at 2 pm in Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church, 389 Port Hacking Road, Caringbah. Prices: Adults $25, Concessions $22, Students $12 Children under 12 are free, tickets available at the door. http://www.sutherlandshirechoralsociety.com

SYDNEY STREET FEAST – CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

On Friday, 15 November 2019 the Archdiocese of Sydney is hosting the Sydney Street Feast in response to Pope Francis' call to commemorate an annual World Day of the Poor. If you would like to volunteer for the day by helping to serve meals and drinks, welcome guests and hopefully share a meal with people who are sleeping rough in Sydney please get in touch with Ruth at the Justice and Peace Office as soon as possible via email: jpoinfo@sydneycatholic.org. We would need you to be available from 11am to 3pm at St. Mary's Cathedral Forecourt.

2020 COLUMBAN CALENDARS

The 2020 Columban Calendar is now available in the Piety Stalls for $9 each. A great Christmas gift idea! Christmas cards are also available.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Antonio Festa and Micae Nguyen.

ANNIVERSARIES: Fr John Kerrigan, Paul Martin, Pietro Talarico, Victoria and Maria Lay, Marco Da Silva, Annie Forbes, Fillomena Giovanni.

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 is stronger that the world which opposes God's teachings." 28.6.1874