

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)

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A - 7 & 8 NOVEMBER 2020

Parish Priest – Fr Yacub Barkat

Assistant Priest – Fr Frank Regala

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**PARISH OFFICE:**

13 Parker St, Rockdale 2216.

**Phone:** 9567 1558

**Parish website:** [www.mmrc.org.au](http://www.mmrc.org.au)

**Email:** [admin@mmrc.org.au](mailto: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: Mr Kevin Bryson

**St Gabriel's Primary, Bexley:** 9502 1932. Principal: Ms Catherine Hodgins

|                                                                                                                           | ARNCLIFFE                                                                                                                                                      | ROCKDALE                                                                                                                                 | BEXLEY                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>WEEKEND MASSES</b><br><b>Saturday Vigil</b><br><b>Sunday Masses</b>                                                    | 5.00pm Saturday<br>9.00am                                                                                                                                      | 6.30pm Saturday<br>9.00am <i>(Italian)</i><br>10.30am<br>6.00pm <i>(Third Sunday only in Filipino)</i>                                   | -----<br>9.00am<br>5.00pm                                                          |
| <b>WEEKDAY MASSES</b>                                                                                                     | 9.00am Wednesday<br>9.00am Friday                                                                                                                              | 7.00pm Tuesday <i>(Devotions, Exposition, Benediction &amp; Rosary from 5.30pm)</i><br>9.00am Thursday<br>7.30pm First Friday each month | 9.00am Monday<br>9.30am Thursday<br>9.00am Saturday <i>(Benediction at 8.45am)</i> |
| <b>CONFESSIONS</b>                                                                                                        | 4.00 – 4.30pm<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday of the Month                                                                                       | 5.30 – 6.00pm<br>1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the Month                                                                 | 8.00 – 8.40am Saturday                                                             |
| <b>BAPTISMS</b>                                                                                                           | 10.00am<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month<br>Please phone the Parish Office to make an enquiry or booking on 9567 1558 during office hours.               | 11.30am<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month                                                                                           | 10.00am<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month                                     |
| <b>WEDDINGS</b>                                                                                                           | Monday to Saturday by appointment. Currently weddings can have 100 people, <b>but the 4 square metre rule and social distancing must be strictly observed.</b> |                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                    |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading: <b>Wis 6:12-16</b> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: <b>1 Thess 4:13-18</b> ; Gospel: <b>Mt 25:1-13</b> |                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                    |

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - ps. 62:2-8

**My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for you  
like a dry, weary land without water. *R/*

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
to see your strength and your glory.  
For your love is better than life,  
my lips will speak your praise. *R/*

So I will bless you all my life,  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy. *R/*

On my bed I remember you.  
On you I muse through the night  
for you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. *R/*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Be watchful and ready:

you know not when the Son of Man is coming.

**Alleluia!**



**CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL**

Thank you to those who gave generously to the Catholic Mission Appeal last weekend. If you have taken home an envelope, please put it in one of the collection plates this weekend or next.

**CHARITABLE WORKS FUND (CWF) APPEAL**

The only CWF Appeal for 2020 will be held **next weekend, 14 & 15 November**. There will be an extra collection plate in our churches for your donations. As we have not had a CWF collection this year due to Covid-19, we ask that you give generously. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible but please make sure you complete the details required on the envelopes provided which will be found at the Church doors and not on the seats as we have done in the past. This is to prevent handling by many people as this is recommended to prevent virus spreading.

**BAPTISMS**

This Sunday we welcome Jonash Mempin and Jathniel Victoria at St Joseph's. We also welcome their families and friends who join them on this special occasion.



**PRAYERS FOR OUR HSC STUDENTS**

Please pray for our parish students who are participating in their HSC exams. The exams conclude this Wednesday.



## RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES

- From Friday 23 October, restrictions on church attendance were eased further to allow for up to 300 attendees at Mass. The rules still state that **churches must follow a four-square metre rule. Our three churches are limited for numbers attending and none can hold even 100 people.** If there are too many people attending then those coming late may be asked to attend elsewhere.
- Parishioners are urged to wear face masks as a safeguard to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Congregational singing, the sign of peace and passing of the collection plate continue to be suspended at this time.
- 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.
- The dispensation from the Bishops from attending Mass is still ongoing.
- ANYONE who enters the church must give their names and contact details before entering the church. These records will be kept for four weeks.
- Only one door will be opened to enable accurate recording of those attending.
- Hands must be sanitised when entering the church.
- Parishioners must not mingle before, during or after Mass since social distancing rules cannot be easily observed.
- 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 a 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.
- The Parishes will comply with privacy requirements.
- Live streamed Masses are available by following this link - <https://www.sydneycatholic.org/live-masses/>

## NOVEMBER MASS OFFERINGS

November Mass Envelopes may be found in the Church foyers or on the Offertory Tables. These envelopes may be then placed in the special Remembrance Basket on the table where you sign in for Mass.

November Masses will 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 during the rest of the year.**

## FILIPINO MASS

The Filipino Masses have resumed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month in St Joseph's Church at 6.00pm. This Mass will be held next **Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> November**. All welcome.

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISHES

We have a number of parishioners who are suffering from cancer and other serious illnesses, so we ask that you please keep them all in your prayers.

## A PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

Blessed are you, Father, who, in your infinite love sent us your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, that we may have life, and have it in abundance.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, renew our Eucharistic communities. May they be places of encounter with the living Christ, centres of evangelisation and outreach to our community in love and mercy.

Grant us the gifts of faith, hope and love to be faithful disciples of Jesus and radiant witnesses to the people of Sydney.

Our Lady, Help of Christians. *Pray for us!*

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Star of the New Evangelisation. *Pray for us!*

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. *Pray for us!*

## GO MAKE DISCIPLES- PRAYER FOR RENEWAL CAMPAIGN

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP will be launching a new Archdiocesan Mission Plan *Go Make Disciples* on 12 December, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Star of the New Evangelisation. The new plan is aimed at renewing our parishes as places of encounter with the living Christ and centres of evangelisation and outreach to our community in love and mercy. In the weeks and months ahead we hope you will join us in an Archdiocesan-wide prayer campaign beginning this Sunday on the Feast of All Saints (1 November), calling on the Holy Spirit, to prepare the hearts of each of us and of all our parishes and Eucharistic communities to receive anew the fire of God's love and the desire to be ever more faithful witnesses of Jesus Christ. For more information contact Parish Renewal Team at the Sydney Centre for Evangelisation, Archdiocese of Sydney on 9390 5307 or [elizabeth.arblaster@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:elizabeth.arblaster@sydneycatholic.org)

There are special prayer cards in each of our churches. Please take one with you and pray the special prayer (above) regularly. This prayer will take the place of our Prayer for Australia for the time being.

## BORROWED PIX AT ST FRANCIS XAVIERS

If you have 'borrowed' one of the Pix from St Francis Xavier's Church at anytime and still have it in your possession, you are asked to contact the Parish Office to let us know. There were ten Pix that are no longer in the Sacristy safe. If you are not using one to take Holy Communion to someone at home or in an aged care facility, we would like to have it back so that others may use it. They are not for personal use and were purchased to be used by everyone.

## COLUMBAN CALENDARS & CHRISTMAS CARDS

The 2020 Columban Calendars are now available at the Piety Stalls for \$10 each. **Religious Christmas cards are also available.**

**ANNIVERSARIES:** David Mandile, Reginald Huthnance, Medy Perez, Barbara Vancea, John Hickey, Maria Meola and Dr Mary Keating.

**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

"Love one another and help one another." 9.7.1873

