

# 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)

## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD - YEAR A - 23 & 24 MAY 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 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                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>WEEKEND MASSES</b>                                                                                                  | 5.00pm and 5.30pm                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 6.30pm and 7.00pm                                                                                                                                  | -----                                                                                   |
| <b>Saturday Vigil</b>                                                                                                  | 9.00am and 9.30am                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 9.00am ( <i>Italian</i> )                                                                                                                          | 9.00am and 9.30am                                                                       |
| <b>Sunday Masses</b>                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 10.30am and 11.00am                                                                                                                                | 5.00pm and 5.30pm                                                                       |
| <b>WEEKDAY MASSES</b>                                                                                                  | 9.00am Wednesday<br>9.00am Friday                                                                                                                                                                                  | 7.30pm Tuesday ( <i>Devotions,<br/>Exposition, Benediction<br/>&amp; Rosary from 6.00pm</i> )<br>9.00am Thursday<br>7.30pm First Friday each month | 9.00am Monday<br>9.30am Thursday<br>9.00am Saturday<br>( <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                                                                                                                                           | 4.00 – 4.30pm<br>1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the Month                                                                           | 8.00 – 8.40am Saturday                                                                  |
| <b>BAPTISMS</b>                                                                                                        | 10.30am<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month<br>Baptisms are now possible with a maximum of 10 persons attending. 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 only be conducted with ten (10) people, in addition to the couple and the celebrant. The 4 square metre rule and social distancing must be observed.     |                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                         |
| <b>FUNERALS</b>                                                                                                        | Currently funerals must be limited to no more than 20 mourners for a church funeral. The 4 square metre rule and social distancing must be observed.                                                               |                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                         |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading: <i>Acts 1:1-11</i> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: <i>Eph 1:17-23</i> ; Gospel: <i>Mt 28:16-20</i> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                         |

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM 46:2-3,6-9

**God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:  
a blare of trumpets for the Lord**

All peoples, clap your hands,  
cry to God with shouts of joy!  
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,  
great king over all the earth. *R/*

God goes up with shouts of joy;  
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.  
Sing praise for God, sing praise,  
Sing praise to our king, sing praise. *R/*

God is king of all the earth.  
Sing praise with all your skill.  
God is king over the nations;  
God reigns on his holy throne. *R/*



### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always,  
until the end of the world.

**Alleluia!**



### KEEPING UP TO DATE

For more news, go to our website: [www.mmrc.org.au](http://www.mmrc.org.au)

Look under these headings:

**Parish Bulletins**

**News Updates**

**Support Your Parish**

### PLANNED GIVING

The Parish would like to thank those of you maintaining your Planned Giving commitment in this difficult time. Envelopes can be dropped into the Parish Office (please phone first) or under the Presbytery front door (please DO NOT ring the doorbell). If your financial situation is such that you are unable to give to Planned Giving until everything settles down, we understand that completely.

PLEASE CONSIDER ASSISTING OUR PARISH BY ON-LINE PLANNED GIVING. If you read the link here there are various methods of giving, depending on whether you are from St Mary MacKillop or St Gabriel's parishes. This is available on the webpage - <https://www.mmrc.org.au/publications> by clicking on the red button – Financial Support for our Parishes during COVID-19

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION AS OUR CHURCHES ARE REOPENED

- **Currently a maximum of 10 people** are allowed to attend the church for Mass.
- Bookings are essential and by phone only. If you wish to make a booking for a weekend Mass, please phone the Parish Office between 9am and 1pm on weekdays. You will need to give your name/s, a contact phone number and email or postal address.
- You do not have to book for weekday Masses.
- At this time, we ask that parishioners only make one booking per fortnight to allow others to attend a Mass.
- Spaces are limited to parishioners from our twinned parishes, not visitors from neighbouring parishes.
- All parishes must keep written records with names and contact details of everyone who comes into the church at any time and these records must be kept for at least 4 weeks.
- Catholics across the country have also been asked to register their attendance at their local parish via [www.massregister.com.au](http://www.massregister.com.au) in line with the Federal Government's 3-step framework for the easing of COVID-19 restrictions.
- 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.

### BAPTISM



This Sunday we welcome Sienna McKellar who will be baptised at St Francis Xavier's. We also welcome her family and friends who join her on her special day.

### PROJECT COMPASSION DONATIONS

Please return your Project Compassion envelopes and boxes to the Parish Office as soon as possible to enable us to forward the donations to Caritas. Please fill in your complete details (name, address, contact number) on the slip provided if you wish to receive a tax-deductible receipt at the end of the financial year. If you wish to make an online donation, please phone Caritas (toll free) 1800 024 413 or go to their website:

<https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/online-donation>



### THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY ONLINE

The Catholic Weekly has temporarily transitioned to a digital only presence due to the government's decision to close all Churches during the COVID-19 pandemic. While it has brought challenges, they have adapted and are continuing to produce the Weekly paper in digital form, making it available to everyone online: [www.catholicweekly.com.au](http://www.catholicweekly.com.au) What is a digital edition? It is the current paper delivered on their website. It is formatted identically to the print edition and reads just like a regular paper.

### PRAYER RESOURCES DURING TIME OF PANDEMIC

The Archdiocese of Sydney has a dedicated webpage with prayers and scriptural reflections to help nurture your faith during these difficult times. You'll find the webpage here- <https://www.sydneycatholic.org/coronavirus-updates/prayer-resources-for-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>

### 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.

### CYBERSAFETY SURVEY

The Archdiocese of Sydney has developed a 5 minute CyberSafety Survey for adults and children that will enable the Safeguarding Office to gain a better understanding about the knowledge adults, children and young people have about eSafety as well as develop resources that are targeted the needs of our Archdiocese community.

The CyberSafety Survey is made up of 26 questions, 13 of these questions are to be answered by adults and the other 11 questions are to be answered by children and young people. The survey is anonymous and will only take 5 minutes to complete, very quick and easy. We are encouraging as many people as possible to get involved, you don't have to have children in order to participate in the survey. The questions have been designed to be fun and gauge an individuals basic understanding of eSafety. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TC7CYQ3>

### PERSONAL SUPPORT DURING COVID-19

In these unprecedented times of social distancing we do not need to feel isolated and alone. As the outbreak of COVID-19 impacts Australian communities, the focus is on protecting those who are vulnerable or at risk. Social distancing can create a sense of loneliness, particularly if we live by ourselves and are unable to get out for essential items. CatholicCare and the Parishes of the Sydney Archdiocese are here to support vulnerable people in our local communities during lockdown. We can connect local volunteers to people who need help with their shopping and errands or even just for a regular friendly chat over the phone. If you, or someone you know, could use a little help during this time, CCareline 13 18 19 can connect you with a local volunteer from your community. CCareline 13 18 19 is a free and confidential helpline for counselling, relationships, parenting, ageing, disabilities, addictions and mental health. CCareline is here to help. Call 13 18 19 Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm.

### PRAYERS FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISHES

Please keep those suffering from cancer and other illnesses in your prayers.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Andrew Pike, Pamela Burns, Bernie Morris, Brendan Ramsay, Margaret Devi and Gabrielle Haasnoot.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Sr Margaret Meacham, Jose Coelho, Franca Savo, Ciro Vitiello, Betty Sullivan, Bruce Beck, Patricia Neylan, John Lloyd and John Coll.

**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

"It is by love that God has always led me, by love that God reproves me, by love that God lets me see love in all." 15.7.1873

