

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve Wednesday 24th December -

St Anthony's. Alexandra Hills: 4:30pm Christmas Carols
5:00pm (Children's Pageant) and Mass
St Mary MacKillop Birkdale: 6:30pm Christmas Carols
7:00pm (Children's Pageant) and Mass

Christmas Day Thursday 25th December

St Luke's. Capalaba: 7:00am Mass
St Mary MacKillop Birkdale: 8:00am Mass
St Anthony's. Alexandra Hills: 9:00am Mass



Happy Birthday



*We thank God for the gift of life.
We wish all the blessings to those who
are celebrating their birthdays in the
month of December*



Advent and Christmas Resources for Children

You can find all the resources at tinyurl.com/AdventWithKids



The Second Candle of Advent: The Candle of Peace

The second candle of Advent is known as the Candle of Peace. This candle is lit during the second week of Advent and represents the peace that Christ brings to the world. The message of peace is deeply interwoven with Advent themes as believers prepare their hearts for the coming of Jesus, who is often referred to as the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6).



We are now taking reservations for niches or memorial plaques in our Columbarium. Please contact the Parish Office on 3822 2139 if you have any enquiries or to arrange a suitable time to discuss your requirements.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & VULNERABLE ADULTS PREVENTION & PROTECTION POLICY STATEMENT

...for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Mark 10:14

Children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm. They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded. This means that everyone in the church must ensure that the fundamental rights of children, young people and vulnerable adults are respected. This will be achieved through the development of respectful relationships and a commitment to safety embracing appropriate boundaries, behaviours and practices, in accordance with the Archdiocese of Brisbane Code of Ethical Behaviour for employees and volunteers who work in service of the Church as well as adherence to the legislative imperatives of the State.

Support Your Parish

Thank you so much to all who support our Parish financially. Our planned giving bank account details for Electronic Funds Transfer deposits are:

BSB: 064 786 Account No: 1000 17027

Account Name: Birkdale Parish Planned Giving

(this account number is NOT for over the counter deposits at the Bank).

Kindly reference your deposit with your surname and your planned giving number/envelope number.



The Archdiocese of Brisbane holds that children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm.

They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded by all.



St Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish

Birkdale

"Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish is called to be a community of faith, hope and love centred on Christ, seeking to recognise the relevance of God in our lives., to live our Christian faith in a way that demonstrates and communicates the relevance of God in our lives, our Parish and the wider community"

Our Priests

Fr Regimon Gervasis Mcbs
(Parish Priest)
Email: gervasisr@bne.catholic.net.au
Fr Prem Rethnamony
(Associate Parish Priest)
Priest Emergency Contact:
Phone 3822 2139, Option 3

Parish Office

12 Hardy Rd Birkdale, Qld 4159,
Phone: 3822 2139
Email: birkmmack@bne.catholic.net.au
www.stmarymackillopparish.org.au,
Facebook: [stmarymackillopparishbirkdale](https://www.facebook.com/stmarymackillopparishbirkdale)
Office Hours
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday:
9am to 2pm
Lisa Knight (Parish Secretary, WH&S and Safeguarding officer)
Catherine Robinson (Pastoral Ministry Co-Ordinator)
Parish Finance Council
John Devine (Chair,)
Parish Pastoral Council
Chris Mahoney (Chair)
Therese Evans, Cathy McGrath, Kirsteen Devine, Rachael Chiang

Education

St Mary MacKillop Primary School
Principal: Gabrielle Jansen
10 Hardy Rd, Birkdale Qld 4159
Phone: 3822 5500
Email: pbirkdale@bne.catholic.edu.au
www.marymackillop.qld.edu.au
St Mary MacKillop OSHC
(Before - After School/Vacation Care)
10 Hardy Rd, Birkdale QLD 4159
Phone: 0477 550 445
Email:
birkdaleoshc@catholicearlyyedcare.qld.edu.au
catholicearlyyedcare.qld.edu.au

Welfare groups

St Vincent De Paul Society
1800 846 643. Meets every
second Tuesday at 7:00pm.
Next Meeting : 9th December

STOpline

To report 'reportable conduct' under the Archdiocesan Whistleblower Policy
Phone: 1300 30 45 50 or email to:
bnecatholic.stoplينerreport.com

7th December 2025

Second Sunday of Advent

Dear Parishioners and visitors,

Why did John the Baptist prophesy that the Messiah would come and "baptise with the Holy Spirit and with fire" (Matthew 3:11)? Fire in biblical times was often associated with God's presence and with his action in the lives of his people. God sometimes manifested his presence by use of fire, such



as the burning bush which was not consumed when God spoke to Moses (Exodus 3:2). The image of fire was also used to symbolize God's glory (Ezekiel 1:4, 13), his protective presence (2 Kings 6:17), his holiness (Deuteronomy 4:24), righteous judgment (Zechariah 13:9), and his wrath against sin (Isaiah 66:15-16). Fire was also used as a sign of the Holy Spirit's power and presence (Matthew 3:11). When the Holy Spirit was poured out on the day of Pentecost, tongues of fire appeared over the heads of the apostles and disciples of Jesus (Acts 2:3). The fire of the Holy Spirit purifies and cleanses us of sin, and it inspires a reverent fear of God and of his word in us. Do you want to be on fire for God and for the return of the Lord Jesus when he comes again in his glory?

John the Baptist's life was fuelled by one burning passion - to point others to Jesus Christ and to the coming of his kingdom. Who is John the Baptist and what is the significance of his message for our lives? Scripture tells us that John was filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother's womb (Luke 1:15, 41) by Christ himself, whom Mary had just conceived by the Holy Spirit. When Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth John leapt in her womb as they were filled with the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:41). Like the prophets of the Old Testament, John devoted his entire life to prayer and the word of God. He was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness where he was tested and grew in the word of God. John's clothing was reminiscent of the prophet Elijah (see Kings 1:8). The Holy Spirit prepared John for the mission entrusted to him as forerunner of the Messiah, Jesus Christ - the Word of God who became man for our salvation (John 1:1,14). John pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who would take away the sins of the world by offering his life on the cross as the atoning sacrifice for our sins and the sin of the world (John 1:29).

John's baptism was for repentance - turning away from sin and taking on a new way of life according to God's word. Our baptism in Jesus Christ by water and the Spirit results in a new birth and entry into God's kingdom as his beloved sons and daughters (John 3:5). The Lord Jesus gives us the fire of his Spirit so that we may radiate the joy and truth of the Gospel to a world in desperate need of God's light and truth. His word has power to change and transform our lives that we may be lights pointing others to Christ. Like John the Baptist, we too are called to give testimony to the light and truth of Jesus Christ. Do you point others to Christ in the way you live, work, and speak?

source: mobilegabriel.com



We wish our St Mary MacKillop school students, teachers and staff a happy holiday and a peaceful and holy Christmas



MASS TIMES 8th - 14th December 2025		
MONDAY	9.00 AM	ST LUKE'S CHURCH, CAPALABA
TUESDAY	6:00PM	ST MARY MACKILLOP CHURCH, BIRKDALE
WEDNESDAY	5:00PM	ST ANTHONY'S CHURCH, ALEXANDRA HILLS
THURSDAY	9:00AM	ST ANTHONY'S CHURCH, ALEXANDRA HILLS
FRIDAY	9:30AM	ST MARY MACKILLOP CHURCH, BIRKDALE (Anointing Mass on 2nd Friday of each month)
SATURDAY	4.30 PM	ST ANTHONY'S CHURCH, ALEXANDRA HILLS
	6.15 PM	ST MARY MACKILLOP CHURCH, BIRKDALE
SUNDAY	7.00 AM	ST LUKE'S CHURCH, CAPALABA
	8.00 AM	ST MARY MACKILLOP CHURCH, BIRKDALE
	9.00 AM	ST ANTHONY'S CHURCH, ALEXANDRA HILLS

The Sacrament of Reconciliation	Eucharistic Adoration	Anointing Mass
MONDAY 8.30 am: St Luke's Church, Capalaba TUESDAY 5.30pm: St Mary MacKillop Church, Birkdale SATURDAY 4.00pm: St Anthony's Church, Alexandra Hills. OR by appointment (phone 3822 2139 or 3820 0100)	<i>First Friday of the Month, (10.00 am to 11.00 am) at St Mary Mackillop Church, BIRKDALE.</i> (NO ADORATION FOR DECEMBER)	Second Friday of each month at 9.30am. The next Anointing Mass will be on Friday 12th December

We remember and pray	We pray for the sick
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For recently died: Gerard Gilhooley, Mike Quilty, Ron Watson, Kaylene White, Ron Pokarier, John Wellington, Noela Murphy

Anniversaries for Remembrances December: Joanna Versluis, Les and Ruby Richards, Alberto & Vittorio Poloniato, John Jorna Snr, Antonio Cailotto, Amalia Bandiera, John Williams, Madeline Gauci, Eve Buckmaster, Peter Moores, Carmen Jagga, Hans Adam, Fayline Fraser, Alma Prove, Mary Boyle, Josefina Wilcox, Rita Fantov, Michael Newman, Maria Bosso, Mark Ciavarella, Ron Tamatea, Meg Griffiths, Mal Carlson, Luigi Santarossa, Arnold Splatt, Arthur McCarthy, Ray Murphy, David Kearney, Sr Dot Newberry, Jack and Mary Ward, Graeme & Sonia Giles, David Boyd, Irene Kearney, Llewellyn Mills, Clare Rubach, Ivan Randall, Jordan Smith, Vladga Smith, Franco Peressini, Dorothy McInroy, Annie Neale, Fr Tom Boland, Departed members of Kakucska Family.

Evelyn Mawn, Gilbert Briscoe, Lena Bandiera, Antoinette Lucy Lo Presti, Jack Maitland, Christine Dickinson, Tina Ryan, Steve Knight, Frank Thompson, Terence Walsh, Peter Murphy, John Tucker, Dawn Montgomery, Cody-Lea Knight, Gwen and John Dillon, Raymond Davis, Ned Robinson, Ava Voorn, Finn Voorn, Heather Voigt, Maureen Phillips, Terry Coles, Rosita Ganac, Liana Lo Presti, Amanda Ward, Ed Moloney, Colleen Van den Bosch, Clara Elms, Henk Hoonhout, Paul McKean, Kevin Harrop, Charles Lilley, Ann Brown, Sally Legarda, James Thomas, Cindy Cummins, John Bacon, Jodie Bromiley, Trish Swan, Ian Splatt, Ava Loda, Joan Thorpe, Belinda Wheeler, Cely Salisbury, Bade Family, Brian Crimmins, Brian Johnston, Page Brosnan, Amelia Ramsay, Jeanette Moore, Christiana Becker, Pauline McNamee., Paulina Pitts.

Roster 13th & 14th December			Scripture Readings
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Readers	6:15pm	8:00am
First Reading	Brigid B	Therese T
Second Reading	Suzy P	Louise W
Welcome & POF	Tom M	Maria S
Communion	Anne Maree C	David M, April M,
Ministers	Betty A, Matty M	Kerry B
Music	Group 2	Group 4
PowerPoint	Lisa K	Clinton T
Counting	-----	Group 2

This Sunday, Second Sunday of Advent
 First Reading: Isa 11:1-10
 Psalm: Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17
 Second Reading: Rom 15:4-9
 Gospel: Matt 3:1-12

Next Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent
 First Reading: Isa 35:1-6,10
 Psalm: Ps 145:6-10
 Second Reading: James 5:7-10
 Gospel: Matt 11:2-11

Parish Diary

Monday 8th December
 1:00pm Rosary Group
 2:00pm Activities Group

Tuesday 9th December
 7:00pm St Vincent de Paul Meeting

Wednesday 10th December
 10:00am Rosary

Friday 12th December
 9:00am Rosary
 10:00am Divine Mercy Prayers
 10:00am Morning tea following the Anointing Mass

Feast Days for this week

Mon 8th Dec: Immaculate Conception of Mary
Tue 9th Dec: St Juan Diego (Guadalupe)
Wed 10th Dec: Our Lady of Loreto
Thu 11th Dec: St Damasus I - Pope
Fri 12th Dec: Our Lady of Guadalupe, St Jane Frances De Chantal
Sat 13th Dec: St Lucy
Sun 14th Dec: 3rd Sunday Advent; St John of the Cross

Anointing Mass

Anointing Mass will be celebrated on **Friday 12th December**

All are welcome to give support to the sick, elderly and housebound of the parish. Please bring a plate of food to share for morning tea following the Mass.

Daily Reflection for Advent.



IN HOLY STILLNESS

A new prayer reflection resource for groups and individuals.

You are welcome to join our Parish Advent Group. Meetings will be at the Church on Wednesdays at 10:00am during Advent.

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

Join Us for the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal 2025

We are truly **ble**ssed to share the love and spirit of Christmas with families and children in our community! We warmly invite you to be part of this season of giving.

St Vincent de Paul Giving Tree

From the weekend of **22nd and 23rd November 2025**, on a table **outside the church**, you'll find our **Giving Tree** ready to bring smiles and happiness to children and families in need. You are warmly invited to **take a tag from the tree and place your gift in the tubs** near the church entrance. **Each tag shows the child's age and gender** (for example: *Girl, age 6 or Boy, age 9*), so you can **choose a gift suitable for their age**. Please return your **Giving Tree gift with age tag attached by Sunday, 14th December 2025** so we can share the joy with everyone in time for Christmas. If you would like to make a monetary donation, our giving envelopes will also be available from the wishing tree. **EFT donations** can be made to the following account (please note not for over-the-counter deposits at the bank) BSB: 064 786 Account Number: 1000 26127 Account Name: SVDP St Mary MacKillop

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Food Hampers

On the weekends of **6th & 7th and 13th & 14th December** donations of non-perishable food can be brought to Masses and placed in the baskets provided. **Thank you** for your generosity and kindness. Your gifts truly bring happiness and hope to children and families in our community.



Children's Nativity Pageant

We are inviting children to help tell the Christmas story at Christmas Eve Mass again this year.

There are a variety of speaking and non speaking roles suitable for various ages. Costumes are available. **We are seeking the following donations (Adult sizes also welcome):**

- * Halo, wings and white dresses for angels,
- * Costumes for Kings, Shepherds and Roman soldiers
- * Crowns for Kings

Children must be available on Christmas Eve, at 6:30 pm (Mass starts at 7:00pm) as well as rehearsals. Rehearsals will be held at the church from 3:00 – 4:00 pm on

- Thursday, 11 December
- Monday, 15 December
- Thursday, 18 December
- Monday, 22 December

For more information, please contact Catherine in the Parish Office 3822 2139 or Tania Logan on 0407436643 or britania@optusnet.com.au



Are you New to the Parish? WELCOME!!

You can register your family details at <https://stmarymackillop.flocknote.com/register> or by phone 3822 2139 or email birkmmack@bne.catholic.net.au

Tick this box to receive our weekly newsletter by email

Tick this box to receive information about our Planned Giving Programme

(Place this completed form in the collection plate)

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____