

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



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
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@catholicearlyedcare.qld.edu.au
catholicearlyedcare.qld.edu.au

Welfare groups

St Vincent De Paul Society
1800 846 643. Meets every
second Tuesday at 7:00pm.
Next Meeting : 6th January

STOpline

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

14th December 2025

Third Sunday of Advent

Dear Parishioners and visitors,

Why did Jesus praise John the Baptist as the greatest person born of a woman and then in the same breath say that those who enter God's kingdom will be greater than John (Matthew 11:11)? John is the last and greatest of the prophets of the old covenant. He fulfilled the essential task of all the prophets - to be fingers pointing to Jesus Christ, God's Anointed Son and Messiah. John prepared the way for the Messiah and he pointed others to Jesus the Messiah at the River Jordan when he exclaimed, Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29).

John saw from a distant what Jesus would accomplish through his death on the cross - our redemption from bondage to sin and death and our adoption as sons and daughters of God and citizens of the kingdom of heaven. When King Herod tried to silence John by throwing him into prison, John sent his disciples to Jesus after John had heard the reports about Jesus performing signs and wonders and speaking to people about the coming of God's kingdom. John wanted his disciples to hear and see firsthand what Jesus was doing to bring the kingdom of God to those who were receptive and ready to receive his message.

Jesus confirmed for John that the miracles and healings which he performed were in direct fulfillment of the Messianic prophecies announced by Isaiah some 700 years previously. Isaiah had prophesied that when the Messiah would come to save his people he would "open the eyes of the blind and the ears of the deaf, the lame would leap, and the tongue of the dumb sing for joy" (Isaiah 35:5). Jesus' miracles are a demonstration of the power of God's kingdom at work in the midst of his people. When God acts to save his people he turns their sorrow and weeping into joy and singing, and their fear and weakness into strength and hope.

Jesus knew that what the Father in heaven had sent him to accomplish for our sake would supersede all that the prophets had done and foreseen in the past. Jesus' atoning death on the cross cancels the debt of our sins and sets us free to live as citizens of his kingdom. He gives us pardon, healing, and abundant life through his Holy Spirit, and the promise of unending joy with him in his everlasting kingdom.

source: mobilegabriel.com



The Third Candle of Advent: The Candle of Joy

The third candle of Advent is known as the Shepherd Candle, this candle reflects the joy that comes through Jesus' arrival, and through the salvation he has gifted us.



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.

MASS TIMES 15th - 21st 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. (NO ADORATION FOR DECEMBER)</i>	Second Friday of each month at 9.30am. The next Anointing Mass will be on Friday 9th January

We remember and pray	We pray for the sick
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For recently died: Evelyn Mawn, Gerard Gilhooley, Mike Quilty, Ron Watson, Kaylene White, Ron Pokarier.

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.

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 20th & 21st December		
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Readers	6:15pm	8:00am
First Reading	Roisin B	Margaret M
Second Reading	Vern D	Brian H
Welcome & POF	Tanina D	Tony M
Communion	Barb M, John E	Elaine H, Christine M,
Ministers	Therese E	Maria S
Music	Group 1	Group 2
PowerPoint	Alan B	Clinton T
Counting	-----	Group 3

Scripture Readings

This 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

Next Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent
 First Reading: Isa 7:10-14
 Psalm: Ps 23:1-6
 Second Reading: Rom 1:1-7
 Gospel: Matt 1:18-24

Parish Diary

Monday 15th December

1:00pm Rosary Group 
 2:00pm Activities Group
 3:00pm Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

Wednesday 17th December
 10:00am Lent Group Meeting


Thursday 18th December
 3:00pm Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

Friday 19th December
 9:00am Rosary
 10:00am Divine Mercy Prayers

Feast Days for this week

Sun 21st Dec: 4th Sunday Advent,
 St Peter Canisius - Priest/Doctor of the Church

Parish Office

 The Parish Office will be closed for our Christmas break from **Tuesday 23rd December 2025** and will reopen on **Monday 5th January 2026**

If you need a Priest in the event of an emergency please phone 3822 2139 and choose Option 3.

HELP NEEDED

If you would like to join our small group of volunteers who prepare & serve refreshments after Mass on the first weekend of the month, please contact the Parish Office on 3822 2139 or Mary on 0404 460 251. *Your commitment may be only 2 or 3 times a year.*


Mass Intentions:
 Envelopes are available from the Parish Office and at the entrance of the Church. Please **PRINT** the **NAME** and **DATE**.

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

Join Us for the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal 2025
 We are truly **blessed** 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: _____