

# CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

## Christmas Eve Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> 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 25<sup>th</sup> December

St Luke's. Capalaba: 7:00am Mass

St Mary MacKillop Birkdale: 8:00am Mass

St Anthony's. Alexandra Hills: 9:00am Mass

## Happy New Year!

### New Years Eve Wednesday 31st December 2025

5:00pm St Anthony's Church, Alexandra Hills

### New Years Day Thursday 1st January 202

9:00am St Anthony's Church, Alexandra Hills

### The Fourth Candle of Advent:

#### The Candle of love

The fourth candle of Advent represents love, a central theme in the Christmas story. This candle serves as a reminder of the profound love that God has for humanity.



### 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: birkmack@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.stoplinereport.com

21st December 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent

### Dear Parishioners and visitors,

Do you hold on to the promises of God at all times, especially when you are faced with uncertainty or adversity?



Mary had to face an enormous challenge to her faith and trust in God and to the faith of her family and Joseph, the man she chose to marry. She was asked to assume a burden of tremendous responsibility. It had never been heard of before that a child could be born without a natural father. Mary was asked to accept this miraculous exception to the laws of nature. That required faith and trust in God and in his promises. Second, Mary was not yet married. Pregnancy outside of wedlock was not tolerated in those days. Mary was only espoused to Joseph, and such an engagement had to last for a whole year. She was asked to assume a great risk. She could have been rejected by Joseph, by her family, by all her own people. Mary knew that Joseph and her family would not understand without revelation from God. She nonetheless believed and trusted in God's promises.

Like Mary, Joseph is a model of faith for us. He is a faithful witness and servant of God's unfolding plan of redemption. Are you ready to believe in the promises of God, even when faced with perplexing circumstances and what seems like insurmountable problems? God has not left us alone, but has brought us his only begotten Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Let us celebrate Christmas, the feast of the Incarnation, with joyful hearts and let us renew our faith and hope in God and in his redeeming work.

source: mobilegabriel.com

### Archbishop Shane Mackinlay's response to the Bondi attack

The tragic events that occurred at Bondi on Sunday were confronting to witness and appalling to even consider. I thank those first responders and other heroes who intervened and helped in the awful scenes before them.

The Catholic community in Brisbane joins with people of all faiths and cultural traditions across Australia in expressing our deepest condolences and are praying for those who are grieving and affected by this terrible attack.

MASS TIMES 22nd - 28th December 2025		
MONDAY	9.00 AM	ST LUKE'S CHURCH, CAPALABA
TUESDAY	6:00PM	ST MARY MACKILLOP CHURCH, BIRKDALE
WEDNESDAY		SEE CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES ON BACK PAGE OF THE NEWSLETTER
THURSDAY		SEE CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES ON BACK PAGE OF THE NEWSLETTER
FRIDAY		NO MASS
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
<b>MONDAY</b> 8.30 am: St Luke's Church, Capalaba <b>TUESDAY</b> 5.30pm: St Mary MacKillop Church, Birkdale <b>SATURDAY</b> 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>  <b>NEXT ADORATION:            FRIDAY 2ND JANUARY</b>	Second Friday of each month at 9.30am. The next Anointing Mass will be on  <b>Friday 9th January</b>

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 27th & 28th December	Scripture Readings
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Readers	6:15pm	8:00am
First Reading	Mary S	Louise W
Second Reading	Martin M	Tim F
Welcome & POF	Christine M	Sarah M
Communion	Elaine R, Gemma C	April M, Matty M,
Ministers	Catherine R	Michael K
Music	Volunteer needed	Group 4
PowerPoint	Emma M	David C
Counting	-----	Group 4

**This 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

**Next Sunday:**  
**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**  
 First Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14  
 Psalm: Ps 127:1-5  
 Second Reading: Col 3:12-21  
 Gospel: Matt 2:13-15, 19-23

### Parish Diary

**Monday 22nd December**  
 11:00am Rosary Group (change of time for this week only. Back to 1:00pm next week.)  
 3:00pm Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

**Wednesday 24th December**  
 10:00am Rosary

### Feast Days for this week

**Thurs 25th Dec:** The Nativity of the Lord  
**Fri 26th Dec:** St Stephen, the first Martyr  
**Sat 27th Dec:** St John, Apostle  
**Sun 28th Dec:** the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

### 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.**



### Hospitality Volunteers

Fr Regi, Fr Prem, the office staff and the Parish Pastoral Council members would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

A special thank you to the Parishioners who contribute to the finances of our Parish, your generosity is appreciated. Thank you to all volunteers who have been involved in our many and varied ministry groups for their commitment and dedication over the year. Many hands make light work, and we look forward to your continued support in 2026.

**May you have a happy and holy Christmas and many blessings for the coming year.**

### Week Day Masses

There will be no Mass at St Mary MacKillop on Friday 26th December 2025.

### St Vincent de Paul Thank you

The St Mary MacKillop Birkdale Conference of St Vincent de Paul extends Christmas greetings and heartfelt thanks to our generous parish community for your support throughout the year.

Your financial donations and food contributions have made a real difference. Without your generosity, many of Christ's poor and homeless would have experienced hardship. A special thank you to St Mary MacKillop Primary School and Carmel College for their wonderful support through their Christmas Appeals.

We pray that God will bless you abundantly this Christmas and that you will be comforted knowing you have shared love and care with those less fortunate in our local area. Join us in serving our community with St Vincent de Paul – fortnightly meetings Tuesdays at 7 pm, at the MMK Parish Centre starting again 6th January 2026.

**EFT donations can still 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  
**Happy Christmas to all in this season of giving. God bless,**  
**St Vincent de Paul, St Mary MacKillop Birkdale**

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

### 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](mailto: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: \_\_\_\_\_

