

Epiphany Blessing – Marking homes with Blessed Chalk for the New Year.

The ancient custom of marking the door of the home with blessed chalk is a way of incorporating the liturgical feast of the Epiphany as a domestic ritual into the prayer life of your family.

Chalk is first blessed at Mass for Epiphany and the families are invited to take some home and to mark the lintel of their front door as follows:

20 C+M+B 26

The letters C, M and B stand for the traditional names for the Three Wise Men who come seeking Jesus: Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. The letters also represent the words Christus Mansionem Benedicat (May Christ Bless this Abode).

Chalk Mark	Words to be said at home
	Peace be upon this house and with all of us who live here. Amen Matthew 2:1-2, 10-11 The wise men from the East came to Jerusalem asking : <i>where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage.</i> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. THE THREE WISE MEN
C	CASPAR
M	MELCHIOR
B	BATHASAR
	FOLLOWED THE LIGHT OF THE STAR TO FIND JESUS, THE SONE OF GOD, WHO CAME TO LIVE AMOUNG US TWO THOUSAND
20	AND TWENTY-SIX YEARS AGO.
26	MAY CHRIST BLESS OUR HOME TODAY AND REMAIN WITH US THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.
+	
+	Let us pray. God of Mercy, fill our home with the light and love of Christ that is may be a place of hospitality and welcome. May Christ be our shelter when we are home, our companion when we are away, and our welcome guest when we return. Through Christ our Lord. Amen In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Happy New Year all volunteers and thank you for your continued support to our Parish.....
It's time to check your Volunteer information is correct and make sure you are up to date with Compliance and training. Please visit our Volunteer website to ensure all your information is correct and complete any required training. <https://welcome.brisbanecatholic.org.au/>

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](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@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:
bnecatholic.stoplينerreport.com

4th January 2026

The Epiphany of the Lord

Dear Parishioners and visitors,

Epiphany arrives as a season of revelation. Following the quiet wonder of Christmas, it invites us to lift our eyes and see more clearly who Christ is and what his coming means for the world. The word epiphany means "manifestation" or "appearing," and on this day the Church celebrates God made known—not only to a chosen few, but to all nations.



The Gospel story of the Magi captures this beautifully. Guided by a star, these wise seekers from afar set out on a journey marked by curiosity, courage, and hope. They cross borders and traditions, trusting that the light they follow will lead them to truth. When they finally kneel before the child Jesus, their gifts—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—speak of kingship, divinity, and sacrifice. In their worship, we glimpse a profound message: God's salvation is not confined by geography, culture, or status. Christ is revealed as light for the whole world.

Epiphany challenges us to consider how we, too, respond to that light. Like the Magi, we are invited to be seekers who are attentive to God's presence in unexpected places and open to being changed by the journey. Their return home "by another way" is more than a travel detail; it is a sign of transformation. Encountering Christ sends us back into our daily lives differently to be more attentive, more compassionate, more courageous.

This season also reminds us, that God often reveals himself quietly. A star in the night sky. A child in a humble home. A moment of clarity in the midst of ordinary days. Epiphany teaches us to watch for these signs, to listen for God's voice amid noise and distraction, and to trust that light still shines even when the path feels uncertain.

As a community, Epiphany calls us outward. The light we receive is not meant to be hidden but shared. We are invited to reflect Christ's love in our words and actions. Welcoming the stranger, seeking justice, caring for the vulnerable, and bearing hope where it is most needed. In doing so, we become, in small but real ways, stars for others on their journey.

May this Epiphany in this New Year, helps us to follow the light with faith, offer our best gifts with joy, and return to our lives transformed, ready to shine Christ's light in a world longing for hope.

Lord's blessings, *Fr Regi*

MASS TIMES		
29th December 2025 - 4th January 2026		
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		NO MASS
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> NEXT ADORATION: FRIDAY 6th February	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: Lew Harris, Evelyn Mawn, Gerard Gilhooley, Mike Quilty, Ron Watson, Kaylene White.

Anniversaries for Remembrances January: Ray Tiernan, Lionel Browning, Nancy Greco, Alberto Bandiera, Joan Bevan, Pastor Calunod Obligado, Tom Curran, Philip Pitts, Alaister Pitts, Nicola Pasqualini, Serena Ragagnin, William Peterson, Brian Cannon, Stefanie Boyd, Melinda Simo-Swer, Tina Toomey, Katerina Grudina, Maree Kearney, Margaret Campbell, Reina Irmer, Ellen Martin, Else Peters, David Stark, William Maclean, Harry Copas, John Harrison, Br Pat Doolin, Barry Logan, Bette Risson, Garth Brown, Nancy Greco, Frank Shearif, Lionel Browning, John Pearce, Aleida Wishey, Mario Vitali, Charles Brown, Josepha Malaniuk, Liam Maher, John Boon, Doris McInroth, Baby Samuel, Fre Caterina, Margaret Duncan, Ray Stephenson, Theresa & Laurence Gormley, Irene Harrison, Peter Knights, John Bergin, Gianna Santarossa, Winnie D'Souza, Frances Nell, Billie Riley, Jenni McPhee, John Gormley, Thomas McNamee, Helen McNamee.

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 10th & 11th January	Scripture Readings
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Readers	6:15pm	8:00am
First Reading	Suzy P	Louise W
Second Reading	Tom M	Maria S
Welcome & POF	Brigid B	Therese T
Communion	Anne Maree C,	David M, April M,
Ministers	Betty A, Matty M	Kerry B
Music	Group 2	Group 4
PowerPoint	Jed T	Chris M
Counting	-----	Group 2

This Sunday, The Epiphany of the Lord
 First Reading: Isa 60:1-6
 Psalm: Ps 71:1-2, 7-8,10-13
 Second Reading: Eph 3:2-3, 5-6
 Gospel: Matt 2:1-12

Next Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord
 First Reading: Isa 42:1-4, 6-7
 Psalm: Ps 28:1-4, 9-10
 Second Reading: Acts 10:24-38
 Gospel: Matt 3:13-17

Parish Diary	
Monday 5th January	Rosary Group
1:00pm	Activities Group
2:00pm	Tuesday 6th January
7:00pm	St Vincente de Paul Meeting
	Wednesday 7th January
10:00am	Rosary
	Friday 9th January
9:00am	Rosary
10:00am	Divine Mercy Prayers
10:00am	Morning tea following the Anointing Mass

Feast Days for this week

Tues 6th Jan: Epiphany of the Lord (celebrated Sunday 4th Jan)
Wed 7th Jan: Raymond of Penyafort
Sun 11th Jan: Baptism of the Lord


Weekday Masses

There will be no THURSDAY MASSES at St Anthony's Church, Alexandra Hills on **8TH, 15TH, 22ND and 29TH JANUARY.** Masses will recommence on 5th February.

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

Anointing Mass
Anointing Mass will be celebrated on Friday 9th January
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.

Happy Birthday

 <p>We thank God for the gift of life. We wish all the blessings to those who are celebrating their birthdays in the month of January</p>
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CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

2ND AND 4TH SUNDAY of each month during the 8:00am Mass.

Sessions for January
SUNDAY 11TH JANUARY AND SUNDAY 25TH JANUARY 2026

<p>COMING TO ST MARY MACKILLOP PARISH CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 14TH JANUARY!!</p> <p>BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL</p>	  <p>Summer Holiday Program For Primary Aged Children</p> <p>Join us at one of 5 locations on the summer school holidays for 'Catch the Wave' a day of fun, faith and friends. From Wednesday 14th to Thursday 22nd Jan Hosted at Birkdale, Redcliffe, Sunnybank, Petrie and Surfers Paradise.</p>  <p>SCAN HERE TO FIND OUT MORE</p> <p>WWW.ENCOUNTERCATHOLICKIDS.COM.AU/SUMMER-HOLIDAY-PROGRAM</p>
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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: _____