



Saint Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish

Birkdale · Thorneside · Wellington Point

(This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws)



Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year C - 19th December 2021

Our God is with us.... "Jesus is the Reason for the Season"

This weekend, while celebrating the last Sunday of Advent prior to the feast of Christmas Day, we connect with the greatest joy of the Blessed Virgin Mary who awaited the coming of Baby Jesus into the world. Christ is born for us. Christ's life is given to us, not just to receive as we would material Christmas gifts but to receive Him as He gives Himself to us at Christmas. For us to more fully welcome the Christ Child, the ideal time to prepare is the season of Advent. Here we are with Christmas just a couple of days away. It is getting very close. We can use this time well, too. To begin with, we fix our heart on the season: the coming of Christ our Saviour. Let us prepare our hearts for Christmas, to welcome our God who comes to us in the form of a child. May the child Jesus fill us with His peace and heal all the wounds deep within so that His light may shine in our world.

With Gratitude....

On a personal note, as I come to the end of my time here at St Mary MacKillop Parish and St. John Vianney's Parish, Manly and begin a new chapter at Camp Hill in the New Year, I thank God for the 2 years I have been with you. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude and appreciation to you all for your contribution and commitment to the life and growth of our faith community. Thank you for all you have done to assist me in the midst of this pandemic. Especially thanks to the Parish Finance and Pastoral council members, sacristans, and all our wonderful volunteers. And I thank Lisa Knight, our parish secretary for all the good works she is doing for the parish. Fr. Prem was a great support and a good friend over the last 24 months. Thank you Fr. Prem.

It has been a real blessing for me to have been involved in the life of our St Mary MacKillop school at their special Masses. I thank all our teachers for their generosity and commitment to the education and care of the children. Our parish sacramental programmes have played such an important part in the life of our parish. I am grateful to all the MMK teachers and sacramental coordinators who have been so generous over the years in helping our children and their parents to come to know the Lord.

Please give a warm welcome in the New Year to your new priest, Fr. Regimon Gervasis MCBS, who is coming to you from Hervey Bay Catholic Parish. From the very bottom of my heart, I thank you for these precious years together. **Thank you..... Christmas Blessings,** May God bless you all.

Fr. Dantus Thottathil.

This Week's Readings:

First Reading: Micah 5:1-4 – Out of you will be born the one who is to rule over Israel.

Psalms Response: Save us O Lord, carry us back, Rouse your power and come. Rescue your people, show us your face, bring us back.

(Alternative Psalm Response if spoken): Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Second Reading: Heb 10:5-10 – I am coming to do your will.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. I am the servant of the Lord: May his will for me be done. Alleluia.

Gospel: Luke 1:39-44– Why should it happen that I am honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord?



QUOTE OF THE WEEK:
*Everyone is unique
in their own way.
In a different
and beautiful way.
Appreciate each
other.
It will be a
wonderful world.*

Next week's Readings

First: 1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28

Second: 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

Christmas Mass Times and Booking Details

Christmas Eve Friday 24th December - 7:00pm (with Children's Pageant) <https://www.trybooking.com/BWIUU>

Christmas Eve Friday 24th December - 11:30pm <https://www.trybooking.com/BWIUM>

Christmas Day Saturday 25th December - 8:00am <https://www.trybooking.com/BWIVU> (NO SATURDAY EVENING MASS)

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Sunday 26th December - 8:00am (no bookings required)

Mass Times: Saturday 6:15pm & Sunday 8:00am

Reconciliation: Thursday 5:30pm

Parish Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:00am to 2:00pm.

Parish Council Members: Chris Mahoney, Therese Evans, Cathy McGrath, Lorraine Kumar, John Spillane

Pastor: Fr Dantus Thottathil thottathild@bne.catholic.net.au

Associate Pastor: Fr Prem Rethnamony

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Emergency Contact: 3207 4566

Safeguarding Officer: Lisa Knight ☎ 3822 2139

STOPLINE Contact: A0B@stoline.com.au

A VOCATION VIEW:

Can you honestly pray:

"I have come to do your will, O God"?

Blessed are you who trusts that the

Lord's words to you will be fulfilled.

Vocation Brisbane. P: (07) 3336 9392 E: vocation@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Primary School

Principal: Mr John Spillane

10 Hardy Rd, Birkdale Q 4159

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pbirkdale@bne.catholic.edu.au

www.marymackillop.qld.edu.au

Please be mindful of our sick & all who care for them: Lynne Gage, John Jorna, Agatha Ravaneschi, Liana Lo Presti, Andrew Hodgson, Amanda Ward, Ed Moloney, Colleen Van den Bosch, Janice McAnlen, Rebecca Harvey, Clara Elms, Beth Riegler, Henk Hoonhout, Tony Dickinson, Elizabeth Smit, Pat Cochrane, Patricia Briscoe, Paul McKean, Geoffrey Whall, Kevin Harrop, Judy Mullan, Charles Lilley, Ann Brown, Sally Legarda, Gemma Paxman, James Thomas, Cindy Cummins, John Bacon, Jodie Bromiley, Casey Whitby, Trish Swan, Ian Splatt, Steven West, Ava Loda, Joan Thorpe, Patricia Haines, Belinda Wheeler, Cely Salisbury, The Bade Family, Brian Crimmins, Brian Johnston, Medi Camelli, Hazel Foster, Dan Mullan, Stana Matic, Page Brosnan, Dot Abrahams, Amelia Ramsay, Jeanette Moore, Nola Murphy, Christiana Becker, Cathy Leane, Pauline McNamee, Pat Crimmins, Gina Mather.

May God embrace all who have recently died: Michael McMahon, Gina Basso, Carmel Hickey.

Anniversaries & Remembrances December: 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.

Please record any further names in the Anniversaries & Remembrance Diary at the Welcome Desk

Fr Dantus, 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 and to thank all volunteers who have been involved in our many and varied ministry groups at St Mary MacKillop for their commitment and dedication over the year. Many hands make light work, and we look forward to your continued support in 2022.

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

Support Your Parish: Thank you so much to all the Parishioners who continue to support our Parish financially. Our planned giving bank account details for Electronic Funds Transfer deposits are as follows: **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 if you have one.

EAST TIMOR RAFFLE Tickets will be on sale at Masses \$5 each or 3 for \$10. Lots of great prizes!!!! Many thanks for your support. Raffle will be drawn on 1st January 2022.

Our Lady of Graces, Metinaro A retiring collection will be held at the Christmas Masses with all funds raised going towards supporting our sister parish in Metinaro.

Parish Office will be closed from Monday 20th December 2021 to Friday 7th January 2022 for Staff Annual Leave. The Office will reopen on Monday 10th January 2022 and 9:00am. This will be the last Parish Newsletter for the year. The next Parish newsletter will be printed for Sunday 16th January 2022.

Weekday Masses there will be no weekday Masses from 28th December to 31st December. Regular weekday Masses will recommence on Thursday 6th January at 6:00pm (Reconciliation at 5:30pm).

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. Local Safeguarding Officer for Birkdale Parish is Lisa Knight: 3822 2139 birkmmack@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Office

will be closed from Monday 20th December to Friday 7th January (reopen on Monday 10th January)

Parish Diary:

Monday 20th December

1:00pm Rosary Group and Private Prayer

Tuesday 21st December

3:30pm Christmas Pageant Rehearsals

Wednesday 22nd December

7:30am HEARTfit
11:00am Rosary Group and Private Prayer

Thursday 23rd December

3:30pm Christmas Pageant Rehearsals
5:30pm Reconciliation

6:00pm Mass

Friday 24th December

7:00pm Mass (with Pageant)
11:30pm Mass

Saturday 25th December

The Nativity of the Lord

8:00am Mass

NOTE: NO SATURDAY EVENING MASS

Sunday 26th December

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:00am Mass

Roster 26 th December	Readers 8:00am (1st) Hilda A (2nd) Tim F (Welcome & POF) Peter M	Communion Minister April M	Music Gp 2
		Counting Group 4	PowerPoint David C

Fourth Sunday of Advent – Year C

First Reading: A reading from the prophet Micah

The Lord says this: You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old. The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God. They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.

Second Reading: A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world: You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me. You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin; then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book, 'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.' Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Mary set out at that time and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'