



Saint Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish

Birkdale · Thorneside · Wellington Point

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



The Baptism of the Lord - Year C - 9th January 2022

This weekend we welcome our new Parish Priest, Fr Regimon Gervasis. I know you will give Fr Reji a warm and loving welcome and keep him in your prayers as he starts this new journey with us here at St. Mary MacKillop Parish.

An extract from the Sisters of St Joseph website: [Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart \(sosj.org.au\)](http://Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart (sosj.org.au))

The baptism of Jesus, celebrated on 9 January, reminds us of two cousins; Jesus and John the Baptist and their mission, their relationship, their lives and their God consciousness revealed in their ministries. The relationship touchingly begins with the meeting of their pregnant mothers, Mary and Elizabeth, who were delightfully surprised by their unborn babies, greeting each other (Lk 1:44). Thirty years later, the cousins meet at the River Jordan. John is preaching a baptism of repentance, 'preparing the way of the Lord' and points to Jesus as the Messiah. Jesus requests baptism of John, who only consents when Jesus says: 'let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness' (Matt 3:19). Both cousins preached about God's Kingdom, a Kingdom that was to come but was already present in the presence of Jesus and in the many good works of ordinary women and men. John used harsh words, challenging his followers to repent, while Jesus spoke of kindness, compassion and forgiveness, revealing through his actions and words, a God who is a loving creator, always ready to heal the broken hearted.

John and Jesus regardless of doubts and persecution, stayed faithful to their prophetic call, John preparing the way for the Messiah and Jesus showing the way to establish God's Kingdom. At baptism and Confirmation, we too receive the prophetic call to engage in establishing God's Kingdom, preparing the way or leading the way within the availability of a variety of calls e.g. raising children, teaching students, taking leadership positions, caring, volunteering, entertaining, protesting for justice and equality.

May the story of the baptism of Jesus inspire us to accept with courage, peace and faithfulness the prophetic call, which may come once or many times throughout our lives until we close our eyes in death.

Sr Clare Ahern rsj

First Reading: Isa 40:1-5, 9-11 - *The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it.*

Psalm Response: Bless the Lord my soul, who heals the broken hearted.

(Alternative Psalm Response if spoken): Oh, bless the Lord my soul!

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7 - *He saved us through the water of rebirth and renewal in the Holy Spirit.*

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! John said: He who is to come is mightier than I; He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. Alleluia!



Gospel: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22 - *When Jesus had been baptised and had been praying, the heavens were opened and the Holy Spirit came upon him.*

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

- Micah 6:8 (NIV)

Next week's Readings

First: Isa 62:1-5

Second: 1 Cor 12:4-11

Gospel: John 2:1-11

Roster	Readers 6:15pm (1st) Roisin B (2nd) Vern D (Welcome & POF) Tanina D	8:00am (1st) Louise W (2nd) Matthew K (Welcome & POF) Lorraine K	Counting Group 3
15th & 16th January	Communion Ministers 6:15pm Paulina P	8:00am Elaine H	Music 6:15pm Gp 1 8:00am Gp 3
			PowerPoint 6:15pm Alan B 8:00am Clinton T

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 Regimon Gervasis

Associate Pastor: Fr Prem Rethnamony

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Emergency Contact: 3207 4566

Safeguarding Officer: Lisa Knight ☎ 3822 2139

STOPLINE Contact: AOB@stopline.com.au

A VOCATION VIEW:

Come on, continue your Baptism by baptising others in the Holy Spirit and fire.

"You are my beloved child," says the Lord!

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

Parish Primary School

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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, Lucia and Medi Camelli, Hazel Foster, Dan Mullan, Stana Matic, Page Brosnan, Dot Abrahams, Amelia Ramsay, Jeanette Moore, Nola Murphy, Christiana Becker, Pauline McNamee, Pat Crimmins, Gina Mather.

May God embrace all who have recently died: Cathy Leane. Johanna Flierman.

Anniversaries & 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, 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, 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.

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

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 Prize winners 1st: Anne A; **2nd:** Betty C; **3rd:** Henry B; **4th:** Denise P; **5th:** Sylvia P; **6th:** Thomas T; **7th:** Annabelle T. **Amount raised \$1,295.00.** Thank you to everyone who donated prizes and to everyone who supported our raffle. The East Timor Christmas retiring collection raised \$596.00. Thank you for your generosity.

Thank You: Sincere thanks to the Mass Ministers and all the volunteers who gave of their time to make our Christmas Masses so meaningful. A special thank you to the children who presented the Gospel Drama at our Christmas Vigil Mass. We are grateful to you and your families for taking the time for practices and to participate in this beautiful Mass. May you all be richly blessed for your efforts.

THE MCKENNA FAMILY would like to thank everyone for their support, prayers and good wishes while Martin has been unwell.

St MMK Social Golf Club will play their next game on Sunday **9th January** at Howeston Golf Course. Tee off 10am. Any enquiries, phone Steve on 0417 195 571.

Columbarium We are now taking reservations for niches or plaques. If you would like to discuss your requirements or have any questions about the process, please contact the Parish Office on 3822 2139 to arrange a suitable time.

HELP NEEDED We're still looking for volunteers to run the Cuppa after Mass on the first Sunday of the month. (We have sufficient for Saturday night.) You would be required to do this perhaps three times in a year, with another person. This role involves: topping up and turning on the urn, moving the trolley from the kitchen, checking there are sufficient cups, spoons, coffee, sugar & milk, and distributing the tea/coffee and biscuits. You may also like to bring along a plate of food. If you can help, please contact Mary on 0404 460 251.

Parish Diary:

Monday 10th January

1:00pm Rosary Group and Private Prayer

Tuesday 11th January

Wednesday 12th January

11:00am Rosary Group and Private Prayer

Thursday 13th January

5:30pm Reconciliation

6:00pm Mass

Friday 14th January

9:30am Mass

Saturday 15th January

6:15pm Mass

Sunday 16th January

8:00am Mass



The Baptism of the Lord – Year C

First Reading: A reading from the prophet Isaiah

'Console my people, console them,' says your God. 'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.' A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.' Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

Second Reading: A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good. When the kindness and love of God our saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.'

Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'