

# 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 Lent - Year C - 27<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Today the whole world is looking for healing and we have the story of Jesus restoring a man's eyesight. The long story of the Man Born Blind is less about the miracle, but more about the man coming to faith despite tremendous opposition.

The miracle leads to growth of faith. The man grows in faith despite the opposition, from his neighbours, from the Pharisees then from his parents. The man responded by disproving their arguments, holding on to his faith in Jesus, saying, "I do believe, Lord." It is an opening of his inner sight.

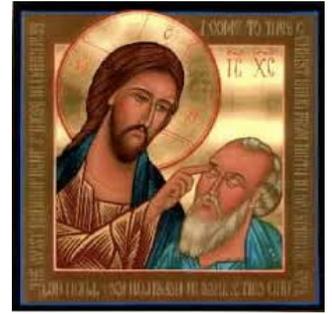
The gospel story teaches us this blindness here is not about the quality of our vision or the condition of our eyes. It is not about the darkness around us but, rather, the darkness within us. How we see others, what we see in the world, the way we see life, is less about the objects of our seeing and more about ourselves.

We do not see God, people, things, or circumstances as they are but as we are. Until our eyes are opened by Christ our seeing is really just a projection of ourselves onto the world. What we see and how we see manifest our inner world. They describe and point to the fears, attachments, and beliefs within us.

If we wish to see God, life, and others as they really are then we must attend to what is going on within us. True seeing begins in the heart not the eyes. We may begin to acknowledge the fears, attachments, and beliefs that live within us and how they have impaired our vision.

The Gospel is about discovery. One man receives the gift of sight. As the story unfolds light dawns, and with each confrontation and each conversation, he gains more understanding of just who gave him that gift. At the end, for the first time, he really sees. The gift of sight is the ability to see anew who we really are and what we are meant to do. God's loving gaze will transform our sight into insight and inner sight. We are therefore challenged to be children of the light, for the effects of the light are seen in a life based on goodness, on righteousness and in truth. This is possible only when we are able to see the reality as God sees.

When I can see the face of God in my brothers and sisters then I can really say, that I can see.



### Lord's Blessings, Fr Regi

#### MASS TIMES MARCH 2022

##### MONDAY

9.00 am St Luke's, CAPALABA

##### WEDNESDAY

5.00 pm St Anthony's, ALEXANDRA HILLS

##### THURSDAY

9.00 am St Anthony, ALEXANDRA HILLS

6.00 pm St Mary MacKillop, BIRKDALE

##### FRIDAY

9.00 am St Luke's, CAPALABA

9.30 am St Mary MacKillop, BIRKDALE

##### SATURDAY

4.30 pm St Anthony's, ALEXANDRA HILLS

6.00 pm St Luke's, CAPALABA

6.15 pm St Mary MacKillop, BIRKDALE

##### SUNDAY

7.00 am St Luke's, CAPALABA

8.00 am St Mary MacKillop, BIRKDALE

9.00 am St Anthony's, ALEXANDRA HILLS

### This Week's Readings:

**First Reading:** 1 Sam 16:1, 6-7, 10-13 – In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.

**Psalms Response:** Taste and see the goodness of the Lord; the goodness of the Lord.

**(Alternative Psalm Response if spoken):** The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

**Second Reading:** Eph 5:8-14 – Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

### Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

**Gospel:** John 9:1-41 – The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.



### Next week's Readings

(Year A Readings) **First: Ezek 37:12-14**

**Second: Rom 8:8-11**

**Gospel: John 11:1-45**

<b>Roster</b>	<b>Readers</b> 6:15pm (1st) Suzanne G (2nd) John E (Welcome & POF) Therese E	8:00am (1st) Amal R (2nd) Melissa D (Welcome & POF) Elaine H	<b>Counting</b> Group 1
2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	<b>Communion Ministers</b> 6:15pm Mary D	8:00am Lena B	<b>Music</b> 6:15pm Gp 1 <b>PowerPoint</b> 6:15pm Alan B
			8:00am Gp 3 8:00am Chris M

**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** gervasisr@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:** AOB@stoline.com.au

### A VOCATION VIEW:

Jesus came to forgive. Since people continue to sin, we need people who will continue to forgive in Jesus' way.

How about YOU?

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

☎ 3822 5500 Fax 3822 5690

pbirkdale@bne.catholic.edu.au

www.marymackillop.qld.edu.au

**Please be mindful of our sick & all who care for them:** Patricia Smith, 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, 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 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:** Martin Devine, Patricia Briscoe, Ian MacLellan, Maurie Quantock, Clare Salisbury.

**Anniversaries & Remembrances March** Sasha Thomsen, Francis Thomsen, Annie Geale, Bob Paino, Jo Donnellan, Kathleen Howard, Dorothy Copas, Tullio Tonini, John Scholtes, Molly Hudson, Gerard Copas, Angelo Sparti, John Beers, Augustina Searson, Pacencia Marcelo, Eileen Margaret Gilhooley, Martha & Bill Kluck, Paul Gauci, Jodie-Anne White, Adrian Hadley, Georgina Fleming, Thomas Miles, Reynaldo Cane, Adela McCullagh, Lionel Logan, Emily Eeles, Salvatore (Sam) Greco, Val Hume, Patrick Flynn, Assunta Lippi, Forina Bunin, Maria Bolton, David Cooper, Del Forsyth, Annie Quantock, Laszlo Lengyel, Ambrose Gorogo, Roy Kok, Roslyn Cairns, Ahlia Raferty, Rosa Tucket, John Kelly, Mark Ramage, Cecchin Giovanni, Jack Maclean, Frank Sherry, Daniel Sherry, Johanna Ruygrok, Tom Topatig, Santa Aquili, Doris Watson, Mary Linthwaite, Paul Moloney, John Turner, David Hume, Mervyn Cosgrove, Christine Leane, Malcolm Simpson, Luigi Cal, Martin Salvatierra.

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

**EASTER CELEBRATION TIMES**

**Holy Thursday 14th April 6:00pm Mass**  
**Good Friday 15th April 3:00pm – The Passion**  
**Holy Saturday 16th April 7:00pm Easter Vigil**  
**Easter Sunday 17th April 8:00am Easter Sunday**



**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.

**Sunday Cuppa volunteers needed.** If you want the monthly (Sunday) "cuppa" to continue, would you be able to assist by either bringing a plate of food OR helping in the kitchen to get the tea & coffee ready. Please contact the Parish office on 3822 2139.

**Wednesday Rosary Group** will be following the REMEMBER Lenten Program for Lent. Meetings are held at the Church each Wednesday at 11:00am. All are welcome to join the group. If you would like any further information, please contact John or Margaret on 3207 3479 or 0432 926 058.

**2nd Rite of Reconciliation** will be celebrated at St Mary MacKillop Church on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 6.00pm (no Mass). This will meet our obligation as Catholics to celebrate this Sacrament at least once a year before Easter.

**PALM SUNDAY** we need palm branches for Palm Sunday on 10<sup>th</sup> April. Please bring branches to the Parish Office from 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> April. Thank you.

**Project Compassion 2022** Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow for All Future Generations. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available in the Church, by visiting [lent.caritas.org.au](http://lent.caritas.org.au), or by calling 1800 024 413.

**Parish Diary:**

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March**  
 1:00pm Rosary Group and Private Prayer  
 2:00pm Activities Group  
**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March**  
 7:00pm SVdP Meeting  
**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March**  
 7:30am HEARTfit  
 11:00am Rosary Group with Lenten Programme  
**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March**  
**6:00pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Rite of Reconciliation (No Mass)**  
**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April**  
 9:00am Rosary  
**9:30am Mass** followed by Stations of the Cross  
**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**  
**6:15pm Mass**  
**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April**  
**8:00am Mass**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent – Year C (Year A reading)**

**Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, for him to have been born blind?' 'Neither he nor his parents sinned,' Jesus answered, 'he was born blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him. 'As long as the day lasts I must carry out the work of the one who sent me; the night will soon be here when no one can work. As long as I am in the world I am the light of the world.' Having said this, he spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored. His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' So they said to him, 'Then how do your eyes come to be open?' 'The man called Jesus' he answered 'made a paste, daubed my eyes with it and said to me, "Go and wash at Siloam"; so I went, and when I washed I could see.' They asked, 'Where is he?' 'I don't know' he answered. They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man. However, the Jews would not believe that the man had been blind and had gained his sight, without first sending for his parents and asking them, 'Is this man really your son who you say was born blind? If so, how is it that he is now able to see?' His parents answered, 'We know he is our son and we know he was born blind, but we don't know how it is that he can see now, or who opened his eyes. He is old enough: let him speak for himself.' His parents spoke like this out of fear of the Jews, who had already agreed to expel from the synagogue anyone who should acknowledge Jesus as the Christ. This was why his parents said, 'He is old enough; ask him.' So the Jews again sent for the man and said to him, 'Give glory to God! For our part, we know that this man is a sinner.' The man answered, 'I don't know if he is a sinner; I only know that I was blind and now I can see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He replied, 'I have told you once and you wouldn't listen. Why do you want to hear it all again? Do you want to become his disciples too?' At this they hurled abuse at him: 'You can be his disciple,' they said 'we are disciples of Moses: we know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this man, we don't know where he comes from.' The man replied, 'Now here is an astonishing thing! He has opened my eyes, and you don't know where he comes from! We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but God does listen to men who are devout and do his will. Ever since the world began it is unheard of for anyone to open the eyes of a man who was born blind; if this man were not from God, he couldn't do a thing.' 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away. Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him. Jesus said: 'It is for judgement that I have come into this world, so that those without sight may see and those with sight turn blind.' Hearing this, some Pharisees who were present said to him, 'We are not blind, surely?' Jesus replied: 'Blind? If you were, you would not be guilty, but since you say, "We see", your guilt remains.'