

Continued from front page

But the issues surrounding the Voice are not primarily political; they are at their heart moral and ethical, which makes this essentially a conscience vote. For Christians, it is also a summons to see the issues through the lens of the Gospel and ultimately with the eye of Jesus who is not above or apart from the Referendum process. Therefore, all Australians need to educate themselves on the issues, asking not so much what we might lose but what the nation might gain. One part of this would be a careful and openminded reading of the Uluru Statement from the Heart. The status quo is not an option, because the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australia is growing wider rather than closing. Therefore, I urge everyone in the Archdiocese to prepare to vote in a way that looks to the Gospel and, whatever the result of the Referendum, to commit to redressing the chronic disadvantage suffered by the Indigenous peoples and promoting reconciliation for the good not just of some but of the whole nation.


+Mark Coleridge
Archbishop of Brisbane

catholic.au/s/article/safeguardingsunday2023

Supporting Safe Communities

**SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY 2023
10 SEPTEMBER**

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. We recommit to cultural change that will help the Church be a place that builds and supports safe communities for all people. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at:

www.catholic.au/s/article/safeguardingsunday2023

Advertise your business in the Parish Newsletter

12 months coverage on printed newsletter, emailed to parishioners and on the parish website.

Contact the Parish Office for more information. Ph: 3822 2139

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.

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 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.

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 Kumar
(Associate Parish Priest)
Emergency Contact: 3822 2139,
Option 3

Parish Office

12 Hardy Rd Birkdale, Qld 4159,
Phone: 3822 2139
Email: birkmmack@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)
William Burton
(Chair, Parish Finance Council)
Chris Mahoney
(Chair, Parish Pastoral Council)
Members: Therese Evans, Cathy
McGrath, Lorraine Kumar, John Spillane

Education

St Mary MacKillop Primary School
Principal: John Spillane
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 12th September 2023.

STOpline

To report 'reportable conduct' under the Archdiocesan Whistleblower Policy
email to: aob@stopline.com.au
Phone: 1300 30 45 50

10th September 2023

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Parishioners and visitors,

The Referendum on the Voice brings Australia to a threshold moment, since it looks not only to our past but to our future, not only to what we have been but to what we can become. There is no doubt that Australia has achieved great things since European settlement, and that is a source of national pride. But Australians are increasingly coming to appreciate the devastation that European settlement has brought to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Australia's first Catholic bishop, the English Benedictine John Bede Polding, spoke plainly of their treatment. In 1842 he wrote, "The life of an (Aboriginal) human being is valued no more than the life of a kangaroo, and far less than that of a bullock". Later he wrote, "The Aborigine will demand, 'What right have you to come here? We have not asked you to come, and you take away our lands, you drive away our means of subsistence'." Polding went on to denounce "occupation by force, accompanied by murders, ill-treatment, ravishment of their women...the white man coming for his own advantage, without any regard to their rights". He concluded, "I am making myself [an Aborigine], putting myself in that position, taking away all that I know except that this is my country, that my father lived by pursuing the emu and the kangaroo, that I am driven away from my hunting grounds, that my children and tribe are subjected to the grossest barbarities." There emerged in time a policy of assimilating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples into mainstream Australian culture. However well-intentioned it may have seemed, the policy led to the dissolution of Indigenous culture. We are now familiar with the concept of terra nullius (that before European settlement the land belonged to no-one), the tragedy of the Stolen Generation and the fact that the prior habitation of the First Nations peoples was not recognised in the Australian Constitution.

Australians are now being asked to consider a constitutionally enshrined Voice to Parliament and to executive government, which was asked for in the Uluru Statement from the Heart. The hope is that this will not only offer constitutional recognition but also assist towards a more just and equitable Australia, helping to tackle not just the symptoms but the causes of chronic disadvantage. In response, we need first to see the truth of the suffering of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the disadvantage many experience today as a result. Justice demands that we seek to rectify this disadvantage and its consequences. We also need to listen to the Indigenous peoples, in order to learn from them and learn to love them, not see them as "the other". Pope Francis has said of the Indigenous peoples of the Amazon, and how best to engage with them on issues particular to them: "They are our principal dialogue partners, those from whom we have the most to learn. Their words, their hopes and their fears should be the most authoritative voice at the table. Otherwise, the result would be, once again, 'a plan drawn up by the few for the few'." The same could be said of the Indigenous peoples of Australia. In 1986 at Alice Springs, Pope St John Paul II said to the Aboriginal people: "You are part of Australia and Australia is part of you. And the Church herself in Australia will not be fully the Church that Jesus wants her to be until you have made your contribution to her life and until that contribution has been joyfully received". Pope Francis and Pope John Paul ask us to listen to the Indigenous peoples and to receive joyfully what they have to offer the whole nation and the world. Regrettably, the debate on the Voice has been politicised to the point where it is being enacted, as Andrew Hamilton SJ has noted, "as a battle between the Yes and the No side in which the task is not to unite the nation but to smash the opposition".*Continued on back page*

MASS TIMES		11th - 17th September
MONDAY	9.00 AM	ST LUKE'S CHURCH, CAPALABA
TUESDAY	6:00PM	ST MARY MACKILLOP CHURCH, BIRKDALE
WEDNESDAY	5.00 PM	ST ANTHONY'S CHURCH, ALEXANDRA HILLS
THURSDAY	9.00 AM	ST ANTHONY'S CHURCH, ALEXANDRA HILLS
FRIDAY	9.30 AM	ST MARY MACKILLOP CHURCH, BIRKDALE (2nd Friday of each month is Anointing 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

<i>The Sacrament of Reconciliation</i>	<i>Eucharistic Adoration</i>	<i>Anointing Mass</i>
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>	Second Friday of each month at 9.30am. The next Anointing Mass will be on Friday 8th September.

<i>We remember and pray</i>	<i>We pray for the sick</i>
For recently died: Rebecca Harvey, Judy Mullan, Beth Riegler, Shona Kwock-Sun, Laura Cal, Derek Phillips, Menui Perera. Anniversaries for Remembrances September: Gino Bunin, Storgato Carmelo, Thelma Ferris, Grace Longwill, Agnes Sherry, Gianni Tocchetti, Emilia Santarosa, Joshua Baulch, Bertie Perera (father of Lorraine Kumar), Celsa Obligado, Arthur Pitts, Herbert Chiverall, Herbert Chiverall Snr, Patrick Maxwell, Todd Hayes, David Colman, Ann Walsh, James Knight, Tom Lanigan, Theresa Fitzgerald, Iris Morley, Michael McLaughlin, Gordon & Ruby Rixon, Leo Smith, Porferia Balito, Brian Burnheim, Neville O'Sullivan, Joshua Baulch, Val Fagan, Margaret Frost, Michael Hogan, Ursula Briggs, John Baldacchino, Dolly Kenny, Tony Waller, Patrick Crotty, Kath & Bill Buckpitt, Edith Splatt, Terry Britt, Brian Martin, Vince Mawn, Clarence Wilcox, Avis Moores, Joe & Kit Whittaker, Frances Reason, Leonardo Leotta, Carmel Hickey, Teresa Myrda, Shirley Swann, Ron Reily, Katherine Vitali, Mary Murphy, Thomas McNamee, Anastacia Wieland, Fabio Ferri, Allan Salisbury, Claire Coulson, Angelo Santarossa, Nessa McGleenon, Tom Curran, Linda Connah, Catharina Mollee, James Hume.	Gwen Dillon, Raymond Davis, Michelle Russell, Helen Meade , Ned Robinson, Hilda Adam, Geoff Lovett, Ava Voorn, Finn Voorn, Mike Quilty, Heather Voigt, Maureen Phillips, Terry Coles, Jo Murphy, Michael McGrath, Rosita Ganac, Patricia Smith, Lynne Gage, John Jorna, Agatha Ravaneschi, Liana Lo Presti, Amanda Ward, Ed Moloney, Colleen Van den Bosch, , Clara Elms, Henk Hoonhout, Paul McKean, Geoffrey Whall, Kevin Harrop, Charles Lilley, Ann Brown, Sally Legarda, Gemma Paxman, James Thomas, Cindy Cummins, John Bacon, Jodie Bromiley, Trish Swan, Ian Splatt, Steven West, Ava Loda, Joan Thorpe, Patricia Haines, Belinda Wheeler, Cely Salisbury, Bade Family, Brian Crimmins, Brian Johnston, Lucia Camelli, Hazel Foster, Dan Mullan, Stana Matic, Page Brosnan, Amelia Ramsay, Jeanette Moore, Nola Murphy, Christiana Becker, Pauline McNamee, Gina Mather.

<i>Roster 16th & 17th September</i>			Scripture Readings
Readers	6:15pm	8:00am	<u>This Sunday, 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time</u> First Reading: Ezek 33:7-9 Psalm: Ps 98:1-2, 6-9 Second Reading: Rom 13:8-10 Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20 <u>Next Sunday, 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time</u> First Reading: Sir 27:30-28:7 Psalm: Ps 102:1-4, 9-12 Second Reading: Rom 14:7-9 Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35
First Reading	Tanina D	Mel D	
Second Reading	Roisin B	Louise W	
Welcome & POF	Vern D	Matthew K	
Communion Ministers	Betty A, John E, Therese E	Elaine H, Volunteer Christine D	
Music	Group 3	Group 2	
PowerPoint	Alan B	Clinton T	
Counting	-----	Group 3	

Parish Diary

Monday 11th September
1:00pm Rosary Group
2:00pm Activities Group
Tuesday 12th September
7:00pm St Vincent de Paul meeting
Wednesday 13th September
11:00am Rosary Group
Friday 15th September
9:00am Rosary
10:00am Divine Mercy Prayers

Parish Office

The Parish office will be closed on Thursday 14th September for Staff Training Day. If you have an urgent matter, please phone the Parish Office on 3822 2139 and select Option 3.

Eucharistic Adoration

Adoration from 10:00am - 11:00am (following the 9:30am Mass) on Friday 4th August *and the first Friday of every month.*

RCIA Journey

Our Parish will begin the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) programme very soon. To enrol and learn more about Catholic Faith and join the faith please contact the Parish office: 3822 2139 Email: birkmmack@bne.catholic.net.au

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.

Mass Intentions


Envelopes are available from the Parish Office and at the entrance of the Church. Please PRINT the NAME and date.

Rosary

The month of October is dedicated as the Holy Rosary. The Rosary will be prayed before each Parish Mass during the month of October, commencing 30 minutes prior to the start of Mass.



Multicultural Mass 2023



This year's Multicultural Mass will be held on Sunday 24th September, presided by Archbishop Mark Coleridge and concelebrated by priests ministering to cultural communities throughout the Archdiocese.

The Mass is held annually in recognition of World Day of Migrant and Refugees and will this year highlight the 2023 theme "Free to choose whether to migrate or to stay".

When: 2:30pm, Sunday 24th September 2023

Where: Cathedral of St Stephen (249 Elizabeth St, Brisbane City)

RSVP: app.tickets.org.au/eb/MCM23

Mass will be followed by cultural performances and refreshments in the cathedral grounds.

Parishioners from any and all cultural backgrounds are encouraged to attend to celebrate the richness of Brisbane's diverse Archdiocese.

Spiritual Gifts Workshop

Saturday 23rd September and Saturday 30th September 9am - 11.45am

St Rita's Catholic Church, 37 Benfer Rd, Victoria Point
The workshop includes worship, listening to the Holy Spirit and presentations from Catholic teaching on each of the gifts.

To register, please contact Angela on 0407 674 373. Morning tea provided.

Are you New to the Parish?

If you are new to the Parish, please fill this form and drop it in the collection box or give us your details by phone, on 3822 2139 or email, birkmmack@bne.catholic.net.au

The Parish Office will then be in touch with you to send you our weekly newsletter.

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____



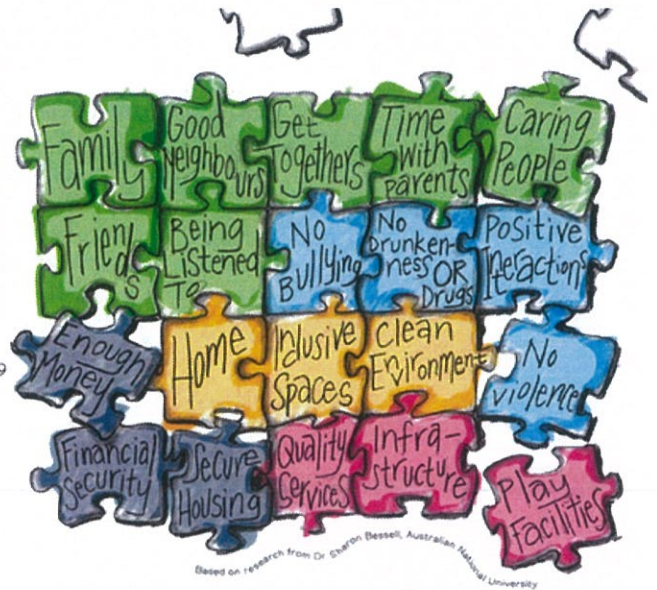
Safeguarding Commitment

The Archdiocese has **zero tolerance** for all forms of abuse and is committed to safeguarding everyone involved in its activities, ministries and services. The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is paramount.

Most Rev Mark Coleridge
Archbishop of Brisbane

WHERE WE START MATTERS

A community is like a puzzle.
You need to have all the bits
to make it work. - M, aged 9



NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK

3-9 September 2023

Where can you start? www.napcan.org.au



NAPCAN PREVENT CHILD ABUSE
SUPPORTED BY GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA, DEPENDENT TERRITORIES

**CHILD
ABUSE &
NEGLECT
IS A
COMMUNITY
ISSUE**

**CHILD
ABUSE &
NEGLECT IS
PREVENTABLE**

**CHILD
ABUSE &
NEGLECT IS
SOLVABLE**

**EVERY CHILD
IN EVERY COMMUNITY
NEEDS A FAIR GO**

National Child Protection Week

For over 30 years, NAPCAN has been running the annual National Child Protection Week campaign. Each campaign builds on the strengths of previous years and has evolved to provide support to communities to act on the core message, "protecting children is everyone's business".

In 2023, the message that 'Every child in every community needs a fair go' will be complemented with the theme 'Where we start matters'.

The aim of Child Protection Week is to bring together partners to focus on addressing the significant harms being experienced by children in Australia. By working collectively to change the trajectory of these children and families, we can reduce the number of children who may come in contact with the child protection system. The time to act is now.

Safeguarding Sunday

The Catholic Church in Australia will mark Safeguarding Sunday on 10th September.

The day seeks to acknowledge the immense damage caused by the abuse, exploitation and neglect of children and vulnerable adults within Catholic contexts. It makes a commitment to safeguarding practices and protocols that create and maintain safe environments for all. It also invites people to pray for those harmed by abuse directly and indirectly.

The Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference has prepared a series of resources with a theme "Safe and Supported" which have been distributed to Diocese and parishes around Australia.

