



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve Sunday 24th December -

St Anthony's. Alexandra Hills: 4:30pm Christmas Carols
5:00pm (Children's Pageant) and Mass
St Mary MacKillop Birkdale: 6:30pm Christmas Carols
7:00pm (Children's Pageant) and Mass

Christmas Day Monday 25th December

St Luke's. Capalaba: 7:00am Mass
St Mary MacKillop Birkdale: 8:00am Mass
St Anthony's. Alexandra Hills: 9:00am Mass

Gaza Crisis Appeal

Caritas Australia is working closely with our partners on the ground to address immediate needs, including access to food and water, emergency shelter, and essential hygiene items. Emergency shelter has been provided for over 1,200 people, and cash support has reached over 9,300 families. With your compassionate generosity, our partners can contribute to sustaining emergency response efforts and offering relief to those affected by the recent hostilities. Donate now..... [Gaza Conflict Appeal](#) | [Caritas Australia](#)



THE SIGN: Advent Program 2023 on sale now!

Discover the profound spiritual journey of Advent and Christmas with **The Sign: Daily Advent and Christmas Reflections 2023**—a captivating 80-page book containing spiritually rich, yet accessible, daily reflections from the beginning of Advent (3 December 2023) through to the Baptism of the Lord (8 January 2024). **Books Available in the Church—\$5.00**



FREE ADVENT & CHRISTMAS RESOURCES FOR KIDS
Evangelisation Brisbane's Children and Families team has created a collection of resources to help children engage with the upcoming liturgical seasons of Advent and Christmas, including: - Advent candle holder and baby Jesus Christmas tree ornament craft activities - Little Nativity pray and play pack - Weekly Advent Minute video series - Christmas carol lyrics and action videos - Nativity story animated video - A printable Advent Calendar with daily activity ideas. All of these resources can be accessed for free at tinyurl.com/adventchristmasresources2023

Advent Concert Series
St Stephen's Cathedral
December 2023

5pm Saturday 2nd
Advent Vespers
Cathedral Schola #

5pm Sunday 3rd
Dominic Perissinotto
(pipe organ) *

5pm Sunday 10th
Christopher Trikilis
(pipe organ) *

5pm Sunday 17th
(in the Chapel)
Susan Collins (violin) *

3pm Saturday 23rd
Christmas Carol Service #

Free Admission
* Ticketed Admission

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 5th December 2023.

STOpline

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

3rd December 2023

First Sunday of Advent



Dear Parishioners and visitors,

We begin the Advent with the call to Stay Awake. The season of advent invites us to watch for the coming of the Lord! The advent wreath and candles reminds us about our preparation and waiting for Christ.

We can be awake and watchful in different ways. The first is to watch for those moments when the Lord is calling on us to reach out to others. Sometimes this might be obvious like a proclamation of our faith when we stand up for what is right, regardless of what the crowd around us is saying or doing. We need to watch for those times we can be the hands and feet and voice of Jesus.

There is a second way that we need to watch. We need to watch for those seemingly minor changes or additions to our lives that might change the very direction of our lives. It may be finding partners or friends, birth or death in family, moving to a new and different life situation. When we are fully awake, what happens can be understood as a direction more towards God, and take a wonderful turn for the better.


The third way we need to watch might appear a bit scary, but it is realistic. It is the time that the Lord is calling us to leave this world and be fully united to Him. We always need to be ready to come before the Lord, no matter how young or old we are. Let us join our mother Church to prepare ourselves for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Let us move to the Light of Christ, let us move with the light of Christ.
.....Lord's Blessing, Fr Regi


4th - 10th December 2023		
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 December.

<i>We remember and pray</i>	<i>We pray for the sick</i>
For recently died: Leo Topatigh, Gary Lopez, Gary Poke. Anniversaries for 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, Departed members of Kakucska Family.	Andrew Hodgson, Cody-Lea Knight, Gwen Dillon, Raymond Davis, Michelle Russell, Helen Meade , Ned Robinson, Hilda Adam, Ava Voorn, Finn Voorn, Mike Quilty, Heather Voigt, Maureen Phillips, Terry Coles, Jo Murphy, Michael McGrath, Rosita Ganac, 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 9th & 10th December</i>			Scripture Readings
Readers	6:15pm	8:00am	<u>This Sunday, First Sunday of Advent</u> First Reading: Isa 63:16-17; 64:1, 3-8 Psalm: Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 Second Reading: 1 Cor 3:3-9 Gospel: Mark 13:33-37 <u>Next Sunday, Second Sunday of Advent</u> First Reading: Isa 40:1-5, 9-11 Psalm: Ps 84:9-14 Second Reading: 2 Pet 3:8-14 Gospel: Mark 1:1-8
First Reading	Tom M	Eddie M	
Second Reading	Brigid B	Therese T	
Welcome & POF	Suzy P	Priya M	
Communion Ministers	Anne Maree C, Janet B, Vern B	David M, April M, Kayla S	
Music	Group 3	Volunteer / CD	
PowerPoint	Emma M	Chris M	
Counting	-----	Group 2	

<i>Parish Diary</i>
Monday 4th December 1:00pm Rosary Group 2:00pm Activities Group Tuesday 5th December 7:00pm St Vincent de Paul meeting Wednesday 6th December 11:00am Rosary Group Friday 8th December 9:00am Rosary 10:00am Divine Mercy Prayers 10:00am Morning tea (follows Anointing Mass)
<i>Mass of Anointing</i>
Anointing Mass will be celebrated on the second Friday of each month at 9.30am. The next Anointing Mass will be on Friday 8th December . 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.
We are inviting children to help tell the Christmas story at Christmas Eve Mass again this year. There are a variety of speaking and non speaking roles suitable for various ages. Costumes are available. Children must be available before 7pm Mass on Christmas Eve , as well as a number of rehearsals. These will be held at the church from 3:30 – 4:30 pm on: Tuesday, 12 December Thursday, 14 December Tuesday, 19 December Thursday, 21 December
 For more information, please contact Lisa Knight in the Parish Office or Tania Logan on 0407436643 or britania@optusnet.com.au




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: _____



2nd Rite of Reconciliation

will be celebrated on Thursday 14th December at 6:30pm at St Anthony's Church, 1 St Anthony Drv, ALEXANDRA HILLS.

There will be several priests to help us celebrate this very beautiful Sacrament. Please consider taking the opportunity to receive the forgiveness and grace Christ offers us this Advent.

Parish Office

The Parish office will close at 10:30am on Friday 8th December.


If you have an urgent matter, please phone the Parish Office on 3822 2139 and select Option 3.

9TH & 10TH DECEMBER

Christmas Appeal: The St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal will be held on the weekend of 9th & 10th December. Funds raised provides the community with a chance to help change lives by adding a little comfort, dignity, hope and warmth to the lives of those who are struggling. All money donated stays within the Birkdale Conference. Donation envelopes will be available in the Church.


Christmas Tree: Donations of food and gifts for St Vincent de Paul will be also be gratefully received on 2nd, 3rd, 9th and 10th December. If donating presents, you can take a gift card detailing the type of gift to buy from the SMALL Christmas tree on the SVdP stand and purchase a suitable gift. Donations after 10th December can be brought to the Parish Office.

Your kindness and generosity is appreciated.



Happy Birthday

We thank God for the gift of life. We wish all the blessings to those who are celebrating their birth-days in the month of December.



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