



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve - Sunday 24th December

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

Christmas Day Monday 25th December

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

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



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

150

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 19th December 2023.

STOpline

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

10th December 2023

Second Sunday of Advent



Dear Parishioners and visitors,

Jesus tells us that John the Baptist was more than a prophet (Luke 7:26). John was the voice of the Consoler who is coming (John 1:23; Isaiah 40:1-3). He completed the cycle of prophets begun by Elijah (Matthew 11:13-14). What the prophets had carefully searched for and angels longed to see, now came to completion as John made the way ready for the coming of the Messiah, God's Anointed Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. With John the Baptist, the Holy Spirit begins the restoration to the human race of the "divine likeness", prefiguring what would be achieved with and in the Lord Jesus.

John's baptism was for repentance - turning away from sin and taking on a new way of life according to God's word. Our baptism in Jesus Christ by water and the Spirit results in a new birth and entry into God's kingdom as his beloved sons and daughters (John 3:5). The Lord Jesus comes to baptize each one of us in his Holy Spirit so that we may walk in his truth and holiness and radiate the joy of the Gospel to all we meet. God's word has power to change and transform our lives so that we may be lights that point others to Jesus Christ. Like John the Baptist, we too are called to give testimony to the light and truth of Christ. Do you point others to Jesus Christ in the way you live, speak, and treat others?

Prayer: Lord, let your light burn brightly in my heart that I may know the joy and freedom of your kingdom. Fill me with your Holy Spirit and empower me to witness the truth of your Gospel and to point others to Jesus Christ.

source: mobilegabriel.com

11th - 17th 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,</i> <i>(10.00 am to 11.00 am) at</i> <i>St Mary Mackillop Church,</i> <i>BIRKDALE</i>	Second Friday of each month at 9.30am. The next Anointing Mass will be on Friday 12th January.


<i>We remember and pray</i>	<i>We pray for the sick</i>
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<p>For recently died: Leo Topatigh, Gary Lopez, Gary Poke.</p> <p>Anniversaries for Remembrances December: Joanna Versluis, 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.</p>	<p>Bill Welsh, 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.</p>
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<i>Roster 16th & 17th December</i>			Scripture Readings
Readers	6:15pm	8:00am	<u>This Sunday, 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 <u>Next Sunday, Third Sunday of Advent</u> First Reading: Isa 61:1-2, 10-11 Psalm: Luke 1:46-50, 53-54 Second Reading: 1 Thess 5:16-24 Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28
First Reading	Tanina D	Margaret M	
Second Reading	Roisin B	Louise W	
Welcome & POF	Vern D	Loretta M	
Communion Ministers	Betty A, John E, Therese E	Elaine H, Lena B Volunteer	
Music	Group 3	Group 2	
PowerPoint	Alan B	Clinton T	
Counting	-----	Group 3	

<i>Parish Diary</i>	
Monday 11th December 1:00pm Rosary Group 2:00pm Activities Group Tuesday 12th December 3:30pm Christmas Pageant Rehearsal Wednesday 13th December 11:00am Rosary Group Thursday 14th December 3:30pm Christmas Pageant Rehearsal 6:30pm 2nd Rite Reconciliation at St Anthony's, Alexandra Hills Friday 15th December 9:00am Rosary 10:00am Divine Mercy Prayers	
<i>Divine Mercy Prayers</i>	
From 10:00am (following the 9:30am Mass) every Friday <u>except</u> the first Friday of the month, at St Mary MacKillop Church, BIRKDALE	

<p>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:</p> <p>Tuesday, 12 December Thursday, 14 December Tuesday, 19 December Thursday, 21 December</p> <p>For more information, please contact Lisa Knight in the Parish Office or Tania Logan on 0407436643 or britania@optusnet.com.au</p>	
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	<p>Are you New to the Parish?</p> <p>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</p> <p>The Parish Office will then be in touch with you to send you our weekly newsletter.</p> <p>NAME: _____</p> <p>PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____</p>
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 <p><u>2nd Rite of Reconciliation</u></p> <p><i>will be celebrated on Thursday 14th December at 6:30pm at St Anthony's Church, 1 St Anthony Drv, ALEXANDRA HILLS.</i></p> <p><i>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.</i></p>	<p>9TH & 10TH DECEMBER</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p><i>Your kindness and generosity is appreciated.</i></p>
	
<p><i>Congratulations!!!</i></p>	
	
<p>We extend our congratulations to Benjamin Bayley, Jayda Rix, Poppy and Molly Hynes, who were baptised in our parish in the month of December.</p> <p>We welcome them to the parish family. Let us appreciate their parents for sharing the flame of faith with their children.</p>	