

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



Our fourth Advent candle is called the Angels' Candle or the Candle of Love. Mary and Joseph were both visited by Angels to announce Jesus' coming and again to the shepherds upon Jesus' arrival. It was because of God's love for us, that He sent His only Son to save us. Through the love of God then, let us prepare our hearts as the Lord's coming draws near.

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, 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 9th January 2024.

STOpline

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

24th December 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent

25th December 2023

Christmas 2023



Dear Parishioners and visitors,

“A child is born for us; a son is given to us” (Is 9:5). What Isaiah prophesied, as he gazed into the future, consoling nations amid its trials and its darkness, is now proclaimed to the shepherds as a present reality by the Angel, from whom a cloud of light streams forth: “To you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord” (Lk 2:11).

The Lord is here. God is truly “Emmanuel”. No longer God is distant from creation and from our own consciousness. God has entered the messy world. God is close to us and now reminds us of the message that the Angel announced to the shepherds. It is a message that cannot leave us indifferent. It changes everything. It also affects us. The shepherds show us the right way to respond to the message that we too have received. Hurry, let us meet the saviour, let us be filled with Peace and Joy!

I wish you all a Blessed *CHRISTMAS* and
a Happy *NEW YEAR*!

Lord's blessings, *Fr Regi*

18th - 24th December 2023		
MONDAY		SEE CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES ON THE LAST PAGE OF THE NEWSLETTER
TUESDAY		NO MASS
WEDNESDAY		NO MASS
THURSDAY		NO MASS
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 12th January.

<i>We remember and pray</i>	<i>We pray for the sick</i>
<p>For recently died:Stephen West (husband of Lesley West - RIP 2019), Greg Vout, 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>	Dawn Montgomery, 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.

<i>Roster 30th and 31st December</i>			Scripture Readings
Readers	6:15pm	8:00am	This Sunday, Fourth Sunday of Advent First Reading: 2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12,14-16 Psalm: 88:2-5, 27, 29 Second Reading: Rom 16:25-27 Gospel: Luke 1:26-38 <u>Next Sunday, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</u> First Reading: Gen 15:1-6,21:1-3 Psalm: 104: 1-6, 8-9 Second Reading: Heb11:8, 11-12, 17-19 Gospel: Luke 2:22-40
First Reading	Mary S	Volunteer	
Second Reading	Matty M	Volunteer	
Welcome & POF	Tanina D	Rob S	
Communion Ministers	Lesley L, Paulina P, Volunteer	Kayla S, Matty M Volunteer	
Music	Volunteer / CD	Volunteer / CD	
PowerPoint	Paul M / Lisa K	Chris M	
Counting	-----	Group 5	

<i>Parish Diary</i>
 <p>The Parish Office will be closed from Friday 22nd December and will reopen on Monday 8th January 2024</p> <p><u>Wednesday 20th December</u> 11:00am Rosary Group</p> <p><u>Friday 22nd December</u> 9:00am Rosary 10:00am Divine Mercy Prayers</p>


<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



Fr Regi, Fr Prem, Lisa and the Parish Pastoral Council members would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year and to thank all volunteers who have been involved in our many and varied ministry groups at St Mary MacKillop for their commitment and dedication over the year. Many hands make light work, and we look forward to your continued support in 2024

May you have a happy and holy Christmas and many blessings for the coming year.

<i>Christmas Roster 24th & 25th December</i>		
Readers	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day
First Reading	Suzy P	Margaret M
Second Reading	Suzanne G	Tim F
Welcome & POF	Tanina D	Louise W
Communion Ministers	Elaine R, Kayla S, Vern D	Matty M, Lena B, Volunteer
Sacristan	Paul R	April M
Music	Group 1	Group 2
PowerPoint	Lisa K	Clinton T
Counting	-----	Group 5



We extend our congratulations to Benjamin Bayley, Jayda Rix, Poppy and Molly Hynes, who were baptised in our parish in the month of December.


We welcome them to the parish family. Let us appreciate their parents for sharing the flame of faith with their children.

We wish our St Mary MacKillop Outside School Hours Care Team a peaceful and holy Christmas and thank them for their financial support to our parish.



St Mary MacKillop OSHC
 (Before - After School/Vacation Care),
 10 Hardy Rd, Birkdale QLD 4159
 Phone: 0477 550 445.
 Email: birkdale-oshc@catholicearlyedcare.qld.edu.au
 catholicearlyedcare.qld.edu.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: _____