

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP OUR PARISH?

Our parish is in need of more people in all our Parish Ministries. If you are looking for a worthwhile mission for 2024, please consider volunteering in one of our many and varied ministries.

You will receive training and printed guidelines.

Please contact the Parish Office to complete the required documentation.

*Our parish has implemented the Archdiocesan Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults policy. We are committed to high standards of recruitment, screening and selection of all of our employees and volunteers and undertake intentional strategies to maintain a safe and healthy ministry environment for all.*



### 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.

### POPE FRANCIS MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY



For the gift of diversity in the Church  
During the month of January, Pope Francis has asked the faithful to pray for the gift of diversity in the Church. He emphasised recognising "the gift of different charisms within the

### 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  
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

### 7th January 2024

### The Epiphany of the Lord

**Dear Parishioners and visitors,**

The Wise still Seek Him.  
The Solemnity of the Epiphany is literally the manifestation or showing of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the nations. Jesus is revealed as God. Jesus comes as a baby born of Mary. It took a revelation for others to begin to believe that this was truly God. That beginning to believe is Epiphany.

As we encounter epiphany almost every day, we are also presented with contrasts. We are presented with the wise men who were searching. They were looking for truth in the world. They saw a star rising, and believed that some god somewhere was trying to announce something through that star. So, they continued the journey of their lives by following the star. They grew in faith as they travelled.

When they first arrived in Jerusalem, they looked for a political figure, the King of the Jews. That is why they went to Herod. But when they arrived at the house where Mary, Joseph, and Jesus were staying, they fell down in worship and offered their gifts of gold, fit for a king; frankincense, given to a god or a deity; and myrrh, used in burial rights, for the one who is going to die.

In contrast to the magi is King Herod and the scholars in the Temple who devoted their lives to the Sacred Word and traditions of the Jewish people were not so wise. They knew that the Messiah was coming. This was foretold in Scripture. They even knew that he was coming to Bethlehem. But the political mood was such that it just was not a good time for a Messiah. They were motivated by the events of the world instead of the search for God. As a result, they missed entering into the presence of the Messiah.

Every experience of God demands a change in the status quo of our lives. If on Christmas we feel drawn closer to the Lord, then we have to refine our lives so we can enjoy his presence. If we are not willing to come closer to Christ, then Christmas is just a week full of empty sentiment.

Jesus is calling all of us to come before his presence. This presence is not just in Bethlehem, but in the many places of our everyday lives. His is present in the members of our family who are depressed or going through difficult times in their lives. He is present in all who are struggling to get by in difficult times. He is present in each of us as we stop to listen to our consciences rather than just go with our emotions. He is present in the nature in every breath we take.

If we really want the experience of meeting the Lord, we will continue the search, the journey towards a new experience of God's presence. Let God, Light of the Nations, fill our lives with new light and strength, in this new year.

Lord's blessings, Fr Regi








1st—7th January 2024		
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>
<b>MONDAY</b> 8.30 am: St Luke’s Church, Capalaba <b>TUESDAY</b> 5.30pm: St Mary MacKillop Church, Birkdale <b>SATURDAY</b> 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>
<b>For recently died:</b> Stephen West (husband of Lesley West - RIP 2019), Greg Vout, Leo Topatigh, Gary Lopez. <b>Anniversaries for Remembrances January:</b> Ray Tiernan, Lionel Browning, Nancy Greco, Alberto Bandiera, Joan Bevan, Pastor Calunod Obligado, Tom Curran, Philip Pitts, Alaister Pitts, Nicola Pasqualini, Serena Ragagnin, William Peterson, Brian Cannon, Stefanie Boyd, Melinda Simo-Swer, Tina Toomey, Katerina Grudina, Maree Kearney, Margaret Campbell, Ellen Martin, Else Peters, David Stark, William Maclean, Harry Copas, John Harrison, Br Pat Doolin, Barry Logan, Bette Risson, Garth Brown, Nancy Greco, Frank Shearif, Lionel Browning, John Pearce, Aleida Wishey, Mario Vitali, Charles Brown, Josepha Malaniuk, Liam Maher, John Boon, Doris McInroth, Baby Samuel, Fre Caterina, Margaret Duncan, Ray Stephenson, Theresa & Laurence Gormley, Irene Harrison, Peter Knights, John Bergin, Gianna Santarossa., Winnie D’Souza, Frances Nell, Billie Riley, Jenni McPhee, John Gormley, Thomas McNamee, Helen McNamee.	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 13th &amp; 14th January</i>			Scripture Readings
Readers	6:15pm	8:00am	<b><u>This Sunday, The Epiphany of the Lord</u></b> First Reading: Is 60:1-6 Psalm: 71:1-2, 7-8 Second Reading: Eph 3:2-3, 5-6 Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12  <b><u>Next Sunday, 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</u></b> First Reading: 1 Sam 3:5-10, 19 Psalm: 39:2,4, 7-10 Second Reading: 1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20 Gospel: John 1:35-42
First Reading	Brigid B	Louise W	
Second Reading	Suzy P	Priya M	
Welcome & POF	Tom M	Eddie M	
Communion Ministers	Anne Maree C, Janet B, Vern B	David M, April M, Kayla S	
Music	Group 3	Group 4	
PowerPoint	Emma M	Chris M	
Counting	-----	Group 2	

<i>Parish Diary</i>
<b>Monday 8th January</b> 1:00pm Rosary Group 2:00pm Activities Group 7:00pm Baptism Preparation Session <b>Tuesday 9th January</b> 7:00pm St Vincent de Paul meeting <b>Wednesday 10th January</b> 11:00am Rosary Group <b>Friday 12th January</b> 9:00am Rosary 10:00am Morning tea (following Anointing Mass) 10:00am Divine Mercy Prayer
<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 <b>Friday 12th January.</b> All are welcome to give support to the sick, elderly and house-bound of the parish.  Please bring a plate of food to share for morning tea following the Mass.
<b>HELP NEEDED</b> <b>with Cuppa after Mass.</b> If you are able to assist two other volunteers after Sunday Mass (or supply a plate of food) just <u>four times during the year</u> , please contact the Parish Office . 
<b>Mass Intentions:</b> <i>Envelopes are available from the Parish Office and at the entrance of the Church. Please PRINT the NAME and DATE.</i> <div> <i>Mass Intentions</i> </div>

<i>THE EPIPHANY BLESSING TRADITIONS</i>
<b>Marking Homes with Blessed chalk for the New Year.</b>  The ancient custom of marking the door of the home with blessed chalk is a way of incorporating the liturgical feast of the epiphany as a domestic ritual into the prayer life of the family. The people mark the lintel of their front door as follows: <div> <b>20 C+M+B 24</b> </div> The letters C, M and B stand for the traditional names for the Three Wise Men who come seeking Jesus: Casper, Melchior, and Balthasar. The letters also represent the words <i>Christus Mansionem Benedicat</i> (May Christ Bless this Abode).
The Archdiocese of Brisbane has advised that scammers are once again targeting Parishioners in some of our Parishes. The emails are supposedly from the Parish Priest requesting the purchase of gift cards. Please be advised that the Parish will never contact you in this manner and will never request gift cards. Do <b>NOT</b> open the emails or click on any links. Move the email to your JUNK folder and block the sender if you are able. 
<i>Happy Birthday</i>
<i>We thank God for the gift of life.</i>  <i>We wish all the blessings to those who are celebrating their birthdays in the month of January.</i> 
<div>CUT HERE</div>



### 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: \_\_\_\_\_