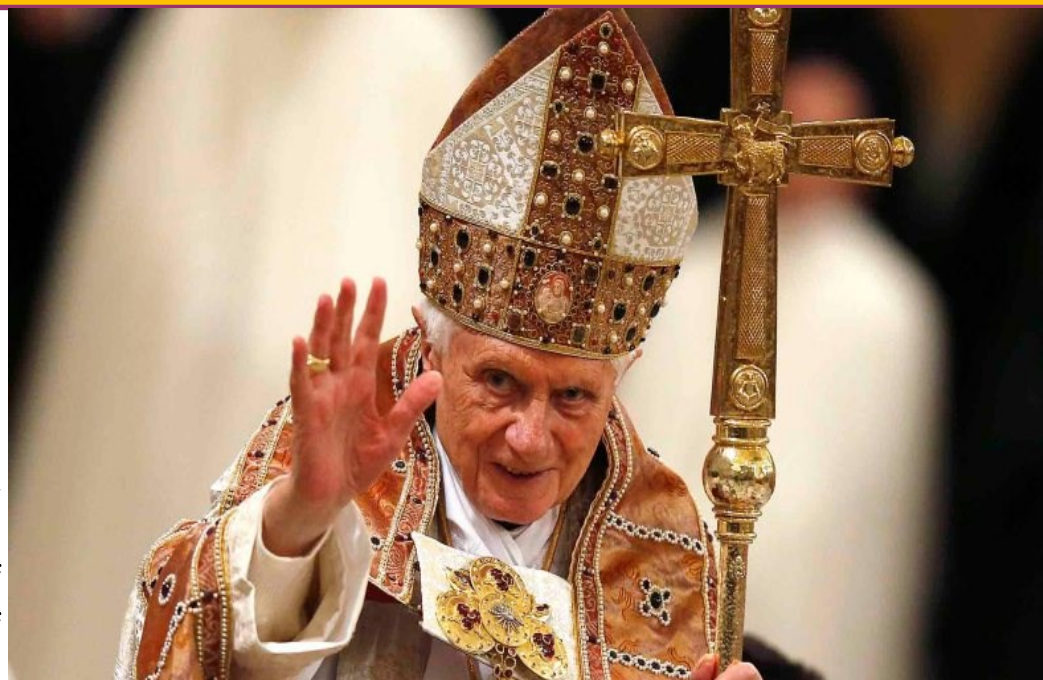


POPE BENEDICT XVI

At the end of a long life, Benedict XVI, like Elizabeth II, seemed almost the relic of a bygone age – a link with the Second World War, the embodiment of values and styles morphing or passing even in their lifetime, the end of an era, leaving us thinking that we shall never see their like again.

Joseph Ratzinger was also a link back to the Second Vatican Council, the interpretation of which was at the heart of much of his academic and episcopal life.



Called to Rome by Pope John Paul II after a brief time as Archbishop of Munich, he became, as Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, a crucial voice in that long and remarkable pontificate. He met with the Pope each Friday, and it was in those conversations that the major themes of the Wojtyla papacy were forged. Ratzinger was a crucial shaping influence in most of the great Encyclical Letters bearing John Paul II's signature. He was also a hugely authoritative figure in the Curia who could make even the grandest of the Curialists tremble, in part because they knew he was so trusted by the Pope. Yet at the same time, like Wojtyla himself, Ratzinger was a Curial outsider with no interest in the intrigues of the papal court. That too gave him a peculiar freedom.

His election as Pope was a decision to continue the trajectories of the Wojtyla papacy; but Ratzinger seemed less at his ease as the sun than he had been as the moon. Perhaps he was too old when elected; perhaps his temperament was never suited to a life so lived in a blaze of publicity. Yet humbly he accepted, just as humbly he would resign some years later.

Unlike John Paul II, he seemed at times too timid for the spotlight; his gestures were never quite right. But, more seriously for a Pope, he struggled at the point of governance, and the pressure of this over time must have been a major reason for his resignation. At a time of some crisis in the Vatican, he retired to his study to write the volumes on Jesus of Nazareth; and he would probably have been happy to retire permanently to his study.

It will surely be as a teaching Pope that Benedict XVI will be remembered in history. It has been said that he was the most able theologian to ascend the papal throne since Gregory the Great: perhaps. Certainly he was one of the most gifted theologians of the twentieth century, steeped in the Scriptures and the Fathers in a way that made his style clear, evocative and engaging, which was not always the case with German theologians. He understood the profound civilising power of the Gospel and was himself a most civilised, even cultured man, a thorough-going Bavarian gentleman. He was a European intellectual of a particular generation, though there is a timelessness about his work that will guarantee its durability.

For all its profusion, Ratzinger's theology has a dazzling simplicity at its heart: a vision of Jesus Christ crucified and risen as the only answer to humanity's deepest questions and the only saviour of the world. This is why he was, for all their differences, very much attuned to Pope John Paul II, and why it was no surprise to learn that his last words were, "Jesus, I love you". (By Archbishop Mark Coleridge)



"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.

STOPLine: 1300 304 550 | Email: AOB@stopline.com.au



St Anthony & St Luke's Catholic Parish Alexandra Hills and Capalaba

"Guided by the Holy Spirit, St Anthony and St Luke's Catholic Parish is a diverse community, called to be an inclusive Eucharistic People who will live out our Baptismal call as disciples of Jesus Christ."

1 St Anthony Drive, Alexandra Hills, Qld 4161 Phone: 3820 0100 Email: alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au

Web: www.stanthonyandstluke.org.au

Facebook: [St Anthony and St Luke's Parish](https://www.facebook.com/StAnthonyandStLukesParish)

Parish Churches

St Anthony's Church
1 St Anthony Drive,
Alexandra Hills Q 4161
&
St Luke's Church
45 Degen Road, Capalaba Q 4157

Parish Office

Office Hours

Mon, Wed & Fri: 9am to 2pm

Parish Personnel

Fr Regimon Gervasis MCBS
Parish Administrator
gervasisr@bne.catholic.net.au

Fr. Prem Kumar
Associate Pastor

Emily Vincent
Parish Secretary
alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au

Kathy Metzen
Workplace Health & Safety

Inez Barry
Safeguarding Officer
lsr.alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au

Education

St Anthony's Catholic Primary School
Phone: 3820 1200
Email: palexhills@bne.catholic.edu.au
St Anthony's Kindergarten
Phone: 3824 5061
Address: St Anthony's Drive, Alexandra Hills

St Luke's Catholic Primary School
Phone: 3245 9595
Email: pcapalaba@bne.catholic.edu.au
St Luke's Catholic Child Care Centre
Phone: 3245 3300
Address: 45 Degen Road, Capalaba

8th January 2023

The Epiphany of the Lord

Dear Parishioners and visitors,

The celebration of the Solemnity of Epiphany is the realization that Christ is the Son of God! Adoration of the Magi consolidates the event of incarnation of Jesus as Son of God.



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

The wise men or magi, the actual number of them we do not know, though tradition holds to three, by mention of three gifts they offer to the Lord.

The magi come from afar, guided by dreams and a star, from pagan lands, but obviously aware of the coming of a Messiah. In any case, they were sincere seekers, who in their search draw closer to the center of Jewish life. God reveals himself to those who sincerely seek him.

The gift-bearing wise men offered 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.

The challenge of epiphany is the experience which reveals to us that God exists and God seeks us actively to draw us into divinity. The Magi searched for God and when they found him, they gave whatever they had. After meeting God, they went back choosing a different way.

The feast of epiphany strengthens our hope to have the experience of meeting God in our lives, even when we have challenges and imperfections in and around us. Once we have this experience of epiphany, we can't but surrender everything to God.

The new way of life is the final result of Epiphany. It is a challenge to change the way of life, take a new path in life, if it is not in communion with God.

Let God, the Light of the Nations, fill our lives with his light and lead us to him.

Lord's Blessings, Fr Regi


MASS TIMES 9—15 JANUARY		
MONDAY	9.00 AM	ST LUKE'S CHURCH, CAPALABA
TUESDAY	6.00 PM	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
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

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

MONDAY 8.30am: 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 (call : 3820 0100)*



Scripture Readings

EPIPHANY


First Reading: Is 60: 1-6

Psalms: Ps 71: 1-2, 7-8, 10-13

Second Reading: Eph 3: 2-3, 5-6

Gospel: Mt 2: 1-12

We thank God for the gift of life. We wish all the blessings to those who are celebrating their Birthdays in the month of January!



Eucharistic Adoration



First Friday of the Month (10.00am to 11.00am), at St Mary MacKillop Church, BIRKDALE

Parish Prayer Groups

Monday 1:00pm Rosary at St Mary MacKillop

Tuesday 11:30am Rosary at St Luke's

Wednesday 11:00am Rosary at St. Mary MacKillop

3:30pm Prayer of Two Hearts at St Anthony's

4:00pm Rosary at St Anthony's


Friday 9:00am Rosary at St Mary MacKillop

We pray for all those who are sick.

We remember and pray for all the departed beloved ones especially the recently deceased and for all whose anniversaries occur during this time.

We are updating the name-list for prayers. Please email (alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au) or fill the prayer request form, If you would like to add a name to the list.

Baptism



Parents wishing to have their children Baptised please contact the Parish Office to pencil in a date and Church in which you would like to have your child baptised. This date is confirmed once the parent/s have attended a Preparation Workshop on the third Tuesday of each month at 7.00 pm in St Anthony's Church. Baptisms are celebrated in either St Luke's or St Anthony's church on Sundays at 10.30 am. For more information, please call the parish office PH 3820 0100 or Email: alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au

Altar Server



Altar Servers play a very important role by assisting with the celebration of Mass. Some of the tasks are carrying candles and thurible, holding the book, and performing other duties at Mass and other liturgical rites. Servers assist the priest during processions, rituals, gestures, at the chair and at the altar. Those who have received the Holy Communion can be an altar server. We invite those who would like to join this wonderful team. For more details please contact the Parish office. Call: 3820 0100 or email: alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au

Advertise your business in the Parish Newsletter

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

Parish Hall Hire

Did you know you can privately hire the St. Anthony's Church Hall for special functions and events? For more information please contact Emily on (07) 3820 0100 or email alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners



The Archdiocese of Brisbane acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the country upon which the Archdiocese lies and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. The Archdiocese pays respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Support Your Parish

Thank you so much to all who support our Parish financially. Our bank account details are as follows:

BSB: 064 786

Account No: 1000 17592

Account Name: Alexandra Hills Capalaba Parish

Kindly reference your deposit with your surname. To join a direct debit and Planned giving programme please contact the Parish office.



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 3820 0100 or email: alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au The Parish Office will then be in touch with you to send you our weekly newsletter. We look forward to welcome you to our New Parishioners Welcome Night.

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____