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But the issues surrounding the Voice are not primarily political; they are at their heart moral and ethical, which makes this essentially a conscience vote. For Christians, it is also a summons to see the issues through the lens of the Gospel and ultimately with the eye of Jesus who is not above or apart from the Referendum process. Therefore, all Australians need to educate themselves on the issues, asking not so much what we might lose but what the nation might gain. One part of this would be a careful and openminded reading of the Uluru Statement from the Heart. The status quo is not an option, because the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australia is growing wider rather than closing. Therefore, I urge everyone in the Archdiocese to prepare to vote in a way that looks to the Gospel and, whatever the result of the Referendum, to commit to redressing the chronic disadvantage suffered by the Indigenous peoples and promoting reconciliation for the good not just of some but of the whole nation.

  
+Mark Coleridge  
Archbishop of Brisbane



**Rite of Christian Initiation  
for Adults**

### RCIA

Our Parish will begin the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) programme very soon. To enrol, to learn more about Catholic Faith and to join the faith, please contact the Parish office: Phone: **3820 0100**, Email: [alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au)



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[catholic.au/s/article/safeguardingsunday2023](http://catholic.au/s/article/safeguardingsunday2023)

## Supporting Safe Communities

**SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY 2023**  
10 SEPTEMBER



This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. We recommit to cultural change that will help the Church be a place that builds and supports safe communities for all people. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: [www.catholic.au/s/article/safeguardingsunday2023](http://www.catholic.au/s/article/safeguardingsunday2023)

### 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: 3820 0100 or

email [alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au)



## Are you New to the Parish?

If you are new to the Parish, please fill this form and drop it in the collection Plate or give us your details by phone on 3820 0100 or email: [alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au) The Parish Office will then be in touch with you and also send you our weekly newsletter.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_



# 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."*

St Anthony Drive, Alexandra Hills, Qld 4161 Phone: 3820 0100 Email: [alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au)

Web: [www.stanthonyandstluke.org.au](http://www.stanthonyandstluke.org.au)

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

### Parish Churches

**St Anthony's Church**  
St Anthony Drive,  
Alexandra Hills Q 4161

&

**St Luke's Church**  
45 Degen Road, Capalaba Q 4157

### Parish Office

#### Office Hours

Contact through Email or Phone

(07) 3820 0100

[alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au)

#### Parish Personnel

**Fr Regimon Gervasis MCBS**

Parish Administrator

[gervasisr@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:gervasisr@bne.catholic.net.au)

**Fr. Prem Kumar**

Associate Pastor

**Kathy Metzen**

Workplace Health & Safety

**Inez Barry**

Safeguarding Officer

[lsr.alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:lsr.alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au)

### Education

**St Anthony's Catholic Primary School**

Phone: 3820 1200

Email: [palexhills@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto: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](mailto:pcapalaba@bne.catholic.edu.au)

**St Luke's Catholic Child Care Centre**

Phone: 3245 3300

Address: 45 Degen Road, Capalaba

### 10 September 2023

### 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Dear Parishioners and visitors,**

The Referendum on the Voice brings Australia to a threshold moment, since it looks not only to our past but to our future, not only to what we have been but to what we can become. There is no doubt that Australia has achieved great things since European settlement, and that is a source of national pride. But Australians are increasingly coming to appreciate the devastation that European settlement has brought to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Australia's first Catholic bishop, the English Benedictine John Bede Polding, spoke plainly of their treatment. In 1842 he wrote, "The life of an (Aboriginal) human being is valued no more than the life of a kangaroo, and far less than that of a bullock". Later he wrote, "The Aborigine will demand, 'What right have you to come here? We have not asked you to come, and you take away our lands, you drive away our means of subsistence'." Polding went on to denounce "occupation by force, accompanied by murders, ill-treatment, ravishment of their women...the white man coming for his own advantage, without any regard to their rights". He concluded, "I am making myself [an Aborigine], putting myself in that position, taking away all that I know except that this is my country, that my father lived by pursuing the emu and the kangaroo, that I am driven away from my hunting grounds, that my children and tribe are subjected to the grossest barbarities." There emerged in time a policy of assimilating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples into mainstream Australian culture. However well-intentioned it may have seemed, the policy led to the dissolution of Indigenous culture. We are now familiar with the concept of terra nullius (that before European settlement the land belonged to no-one), the tragedy of the Stolen Generation and the fact that the prior habitation of the First Nations peoples was not recognised in the Australian Constitution.

Australians are now being asked to consider a constitutionally enshrined Voice to Parliament and to executive government, which was asked for in the Uluru Statement from the Heart. The hope is that this will not only offer constitutional recognition but also assist towards a more just and equitable Australia, helping to tackle not just the symptoms but the causes of chronic disadvantage. In response, we need first to see the truth of the suffering of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the disadvantage many experience today as a result. Justice demands that we seek to rectify this disadvantage and its consequences. We also need to listen to the Indigenous peoples, in order to learn from them and learn to love them, not see them as "the other". Pope Francis has said of the Indigenous peoples of the Amazon, and how best to engage with them on issues particular to them: "They are our principal dialogue partners, those from whom we have the most to learn. Their words, their hopes and their fears should be the most authoritative voice at the table. Otherwise, the result would be, once again, 'a plan drawn up by the few for the few'." The same could be said of the Indigenous peoples of Australia. In 1986 at Alice Springs, Pope St John Paul II said to the Aboriginal people: "You are part of Australia and Australia is part of you. And the Church herself in Australia will not be fully the Church that Jesus wants her to be until you have made your contribution to her life and until that contribution has been joyfully received". Pope Francis and Pope John Paul ask us to listen to the Indigenous peoples and to receive joyfully what they have to offer the whole nation and the world. Regrettably, the debate on the Voice has been politicised to the point where it is being enacted, as Andrew Hamilton SJ has noted, "as a battle between the Yes and the No side in which the task is not to unite the nation but to smash the opposition".

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MASS TIMES 11 - 17 SEPTEMBER 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
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*

**Eucharistic Adoration**  
 First Friday of the month (10.00am to 11.00am),  
 at St Mary Mackillop Church BIRKDALE

**Scripture Readings**  
**23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 First Reading: Ezek 33:7-9  
 Ps 62:2-6, 8-9  
 Second Reading: Rom 13:8-10  
 Gospel: Mt 18:15-20

**We pray for all those who are sick:**  
*especially, Julie Vincent, Matthew Scott and Bernadette Gick.*

**We remember and pray for all the departed beloved ones especially,** Michael Nolan, Len Murphy, Shona Kwock-Sun, Trish Rooney, Minuli Perera, Helen Anderson, Christopher Lees and Maria Harris  
*. To add the name of your beloved departed to the list, Please Email: alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au*

**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.

**STOPLine Service**  
 "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**

**Anointing Mass**  
 We will have the special Anointing Mass on the  
**Second Friday of every Month.**  
 Next celebration will be at 9.30 am,  
 on Friday, 13th October 2023,  
 at St Mary Mackillop Church, Birkdale.

**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.

**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.  
 Friday 10:00 am Divine Mercy at St Mary MacKillop.

**CONFIRMATION 2023**  
 Congratulations to the Children who received the Sacrament of Confirmation in our Parish on THURSDAY, 7th September 2023. May the Holy Spirit kindle in them the fire of God's love as they are getting ready to receive the gifts of the Spirit in a very special way.  
 Sincere thanks to all the members of the Sacramental Team and the volunteers who helped with the workshops and the musicians.

**WORKING BEE**  
**St Anthony's Church**  
**Saturday 16th September from 7am.**  
 We are very grateful to the parishioners who continue to help with cleaning and maintenance of our church building, lawns and gardens. It is now time to top up and replant gardens, clean the louvres, and spring clean some of the areas that can't be cleaned on a regular basis. Please add your name and number to the list at the front of the church if you can help on the day and you will be contacted before 16th.

The month of October is dedicated as the Holy Rosary. The Rosary will be prayed before each Parish Mass during the month of October, commencing 30 minutes prior to the start of

**Spiritual Gifts Workshop**  
 Saturday 23rd September  
 Saturday 30th September  
 9am - 11.45am  
 St Rita's Catholic Church  
 37 Benfer Rd, Victoria Point  
 The workshop includes worship, listening to the Holy Spirit and presentations from Catholic teaching on each of the gifts.  
 To register, please contact Angela on 0407 674 373. Morning tea provided.

**Parish Hall Rental**  
 Did you know you can privately hire the St. Anthony's Church Hall for special functions and events? For more information please contact the Parish office: Email: alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au

**Volunteers Needed**  
 Our Parish is looking for more volunteers to assist as:- Sacristans, Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Power point Operators, Greeters, Tea/Coffee—hospitality, Counters, and Children's Liturgy, etc. If you are interested in participating, please meet the Priest or Sacristans after the Mass or Contact the Parish Office: 3820 0100

**FOR SALE** at the piety stall  
 Homemade jam and marmalades.  
 Help the Ladies Group provide 150 male toiletry packs to Centacare each year, for clients being assisted to resettle into the community. Each pack will contain shampoo and conditioner, comb, razor, deodorant, soap, toothpaste and toothbrush. Your purchase of jams will help us to buy toiletries, or, you may wish to donate any of the above items. There is a collection box near the piety stall.  
**Motel toiletries** can also be left in the collection box. These will be distributed at the St Vincent de Paul drop-in centre Spring Hill.  
**Ladies Toiletries** can also be left, for inclusion in Care Packs gifted through our local St Vincent de Paul conference.  
*The Ladies Group thank you for your ongoing support.*

**Pope's Prayer Intention**  
**September 2023**  
**For people living on the margins**  
 We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser