

**Year A
2nd Sunday of Advent
7th December 2025
Liturgical Colour: Purple**



**THE CATHOLIC PARISHES
OF GROVELY-SAMFORD AND MITCHELTON
PARISH TEAM**

**The Catholic Parishes of
GROVELY-SAMFORD and MITCHELTON**
Western Hills Communities from Gaythorne to Mt Glorious

Clergy:

Fr. Nigel Sequeira PP
Phone: 3355 3690

Rev. Peter McDade, Deacon

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Safeguarding Local Representatives:
St William's - Amelia Crawfoot
Our Lady of Dolours - Mary Murphy
Sacred Heart Church - Jeanette Chew

PARISH OFFICE

67 Dawson Parade, Keperra 4054
Ph 3355 3690
Email: grovely@bne.catholic.net.au
Website: www.gsmparishes.com.au
Hours: Monday - Friday 9-00am-1.00pm

CHURCHES

St William's Grovely/ Presbytery
67 Dawson Parade, Keperra
Ph 3355 3690

Sacred Heart Church
2-8 Camp Mountain Rd, Samford Village
Ph 3355 3690

Our Lady of Dolours/ Presbytery
11 Suez Street, Mitchelton 4053
Ph 3355 3690

SCHOOLS

St William's School
67 Dawson Parade, Keperra 4054
Ph 3355 5122 Fax 3354 3330

St Andrew's School
Cnr Hogarth & Upper Kedron Roads
Ferny Grove 4055
Ph 33516886 Fax 3851 1054

Our Lady of Dolours School
2 Willcocks Street, Mitchelton 4053
Ph 3355 7763 Fax 3855 2641

Mt. Maria College
54 Prospect Rd, Mitchelton 4053
Ph 3550 3400

Triple Y Grovely
Ph 0466 964 664

PLEASE TAKE YOUR NEWSLETTER WITH YOU, DON'T PUT IT BACK!



Happy New Year!

It feels like a strange greeting in early December, yet in the life of the Church, Advent marks the beginning of our new liturgical year as we prepare for Christmas. While everything around us rushes toward the end of the calendar year - limping exhaustedly toward Christmas—Advent is our opportunity for a new start.

I remember an American friend some years ago who would always hilariously repeat his college football coach's catchphrase - a Latin phrase that he reenacted in the most ridiculous Southern drawl: Nunc coepi - Now I begin. The coach would use it whenever they suffered a defeat or made mistakes, to signify that we simply start again and keep going.

I should have realised the phrase had a strong spiritual dimension when that friend later became a Dominican priest, now based in Washington, DC.

But it wasn't until recently that I found out the phrase was popularised by Venerable Bruno Lanteri in his spiritual teaching as a concept of Christian hope - courage and a fresh start at any point in life. One of his famous quotes was: "If I should fall even a thousand times a day, a thousand times, with peaceful repentance, I will say immediately, Nunc Coepi - Now I begin."

With Matthew's Gospel giving us the haunting words today - "You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him" - do we need a better prompt to begin now to be ready?

Next year is now.

Wipe the slate clean. Go to confession.

Nunc Coepi!

**Paul O'Donovan
Our Lady of Dolours**

We, the parishioners of the Catholic Parishes of Grovely-Samford and Mitchelton, acknowledge the Turrbal People who are the Traditional Custodians of this land. We pay respect to the Elders past, present, and emerging, and extend that respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People present.

LITURGY TIMES

8th December—14th December

Grovely

St William's

Monday: 9:00am Mass
Cancelled

Wednesday: 7:30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday: 9:00am Mass **Cancelled**
St Damasus I

10:00am Anointing Mass

7:00pm Reconciliation Service

Next Weekend Masses:

Saturday: 5:00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday: 7:00am Mass

9:00am Mass

5:00pm Mass

Mitchelton

Our Lady of Dolours

Tuesday: 8:30am Mass
St Juan Diego
Cuauhtlatatzin

Wednesday: 8:30am Mass
Our Lady of Loreto

Friday: 8:30am Mass
Our Lady of Guadalupe

Next Weekend Masses:

Saturday: 9:30am Reconciliation

4:00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday: 10:00am Mass

Samford

Sacred Heart

Thursday: 6:00pm Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion

Next Weekend:

Sunday: 8:00am Mass

Saturday Morning Mass

The Church has honoured Mary, The Mother of God on Saturdays for centuries, dating back to the early Middle Ages.

The next North West Deanery Mass is on **13th December**, Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish, Stafford at 7.00am

This Week's Readings: 2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10
Romans 15:4-9
Matthew 3:1-12

Next Week's Readings: 3rd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-6, 10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

GROVELY

Faith Circle

Faith Circle meets every Monday at 9.30am in the Daley Centre. We meet to share friendship over a cup of coffee and discussion of Sunday's Gospel.

Mothers Prayers

Welcome back to Mothers Prayers group. Come join us in the **Library from 9.30am to 10.30am each Wednesday morning**. With a mother's love, we hope to see you soon.

MITCHELTON

Reconciliation

Reconciliation will recommence this **Saturday, 6th December, from 9.30-10.30am** at Our Lady of Dolours.

Family Rosary

This week: Nenette Cabrera

Next week: Ronald Cabrera



Baptisms

We joyfully announce the Baptisms of Darcy Coleman, Remy Coleman, Eloise Connery, and Evelyn Koda, and warmly welcome them into our faith community!



Christian Meditation Group

All are welcome to join us every Tuesday, 7.00pm in St William's Church. Enquires to Bob on 0428 813 483

Anointing and Communion Service Tuesday, 9th December, 10.30am

Bellview Nursing Home, Ferny Hills
Residents and family are most welcome.



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday 7.30-8.30pm
St William's

SAMFORD

Samford Rosary Circle

The Samford Rosary Circle meets weekly

When: Wednesday at 10.00am

Where: Sacred Heart Church
Come and pray with us.



Anointing and Communion Service Tuesday, 9th December, 4.30pm

Samford Grove Retirement Village
Residents and family are most welcome.

COMBINED COMMUNITIES

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve Mass Wednesday 24th December

St William's 5:00pm Children's Mass (Starting with Nativity Play)

Our Lady of Dolours 6:00pm Mass (Carols from 5:30pm)

Sacred Heart Samford 6:30pm Mass (Carols from 6:15pm)

St William's 7:30pm Mass (Carols from 7:15pm)

St William's 10:00pm Mass (Carols from 9:45pm)

Christmas Day Thursday 25th December

St William's 7:00am Mass

Our Lady of Dolours 8:00am Mass

Sacred Heart Samford 8:00am Mass

St William's 9:00am Mass

New Year's Eve

Wednesday 31st December

Our Lady of Dolours 8:00am Mass

Our Lady of Dolours 11:00pm

Adoration and Taizé Prayer Service Mass

New Year's Day

Thursday 1st January

Our Lady of Dolours 12:00am Midnight Mass

Our Lady of Dolours 8:30am

COMBINED COMMUNITIES' NEWS



Faithful Departed

Recently Departed: Ryan Kerwin



We pray for the Sick

We pray for: Jane Fraser, Kathy Malcolm, Bob Malcolm, Gloria Roughan, Richard Lee, Mark Ballam, Lachlan Fitzsimmon, and Maureen Campbell

Please note All requests to have a Mass offered for someone, or newsletter requests for the name of recently deceased family members, prayers for the sick and anniversaries, need to be given to the Parish Office in writing. Forms and Mass request envelopes are available from the sacristy at all three churches, or from the Parish Office. Completed forms/envelopes can be given to the priest or handed in at the office.

Christmas Eve Children's Mass

If you would like to be involved in the singing for the Mass and/or the Nativity Play for this service we invite you to come along and sign up after Mass, **Sunday, 21st December, 9am, St William's**

For more information, email Sarah at sarahonline80@gmail.com



Reminder: Christmas Hampers are due back **THIS weekend, 6th & 7th December**

For Grovely & Samford Church Communities: Please deliver your Hamper to the Daley Centre during the times listed in the information sheet provided in your hamper envelopes.

Thank you for your generous support of this year's Appeal. For further queries, please contact the Hamper Team on the contact details listed below.

The Hamper Team: Brendan & Maree Carlin, Shirley Jones, Marianne Lucas, Mary Murphy

Contacts:

Grovely: **Brendan**
0431 919 400; bmcarlin@tpg.com.au

Samford: **Marianne**
0414 891 019;
mlucas@bne.catholic.edu.au



FAITH MATTERS - GSM



www.faith-matters-gsm.com.au

On this second Sunday of Advent years ago I was at Mass in a different parish. As the Gospel was about to be read, a look-alike 'John the Baptist' appeared from the front door and walked up the centre aisle, complete with wild hair, rough hairy clothing, and rudimentary sandals on his feet. It was quite a moment. A shock. It certainly made the Gospel reading **real**.

John was the one crying out in the desert, "Change your ways". "Prepare the way of the Lord". John leads the people of those days—and us—to repentance. He urges CHANGE; our turning again towards God was his mission.

Changing ourselves to be more Christ-like is a lifetime challenge. In Advent and more so in Lent, the Church gives us the chance to look at our lives and see how we're going in the journey towards God. The change is always done with faith and hope and prayer. Hope is the end product of faith and prayer. And Advent is a hopeful time. We can't make changes on our own—not when we're thinking of changing our ways to include God in everything. Faith and prayer and hope are necessary, and joy is part of it all too.

I wonder if I asked Our Lord, "What is it you'd like me to change!", the answer might possibly be, "Let's spend some time together. Can you include me in your daily activities? Perhaps more quiet time in prayer or contemplation?" Or it might be, "What about that cousin of yours who you never see eye to eye with? You might try to look behind that attitude of his and understand where he's coming from to open both your hearts to each other." Who knows what Our Lord might reply, but asking would give the Lord the change to say.

We need God's input—grace—through prayer in this time of change. John preached **reform** but, through prayer and keeping Him close, God is able to **transform** us. Let's see how we go, Maranatha. Come, Lord Jesus!

PARISH VOLUNTEER ROLES 2026

Our volunteers are the cornerstone of our parish community, and we are grateful for their dedication and service. If it is on your heart to be more involved in your parish, please see the opportunities below to serve as the living hands of Christ Jesus.

- Communion Minister for the Sick. Please contact Allen Harvey on 0418 781 164
- Sacristan. Please contact the Parish office on 3324 3333
- Sacramental Program volunteer. Please contact the Parish office on 3324 3333
- Children's Liturgy volunteer. Please contact the Parish Office on 3324 3333

Please note no experience is required as you will be provided with training.

All volunteers must complete safeguarding training, which will be provided.

Please call the above contacts or use our parish website to join us as you put your faith in action.

<https://gsmparishes.com.au/volunteering/>



KEPERRA
Sunday
14 DEC 2-6pm
Heiner Park
Blaker Rd, Keperra

You're Invited

**CHRISTMAS
FAMILY FUN DAY**

**FREE + ALL
WELCOME!**

<https://triplevgrovely.au>

★ SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN IN KEPERRA ★

Light Trail Leading to the Manger

Have the children made their Advent lantern? Have you made your Advent lantern?

Bring them along to St William's and add them to the Light Trail to encourage us all to follow in the light to the joyous Feast of Christmas. There are still some Advent Activity Packs available. Please take one and journey in the light with prayer and fun adventures.



COMBINED COMMUNITIES' NEWS

GSM Parishes 8th December—14th December

Monday	9:30am	Gathering Space	SVDP - Mitchelton
	9:30am	Daley Centre	Fath Circle
	7:00pm	Daley Centre	RCIA
	7:30pm	St William's Church	St William's Choir Practice
Tuesday	10:30am	Bellview Nursing Home	Anointing/Communion Service
	12:30pm	Gathering Space	Treble M
	4:30pm	Samford Grove	Anointing/Communion Service
	7:00pm	St William's Church	Christian Meditation
Wednesday	9:30am	Mothers Prayers	Library
	10:00am	Sacred Heart Church	Samford Rosary Circle

Reconciliation Service

As part of our Advent preparation we invite you to come together and be a part of our Reconciliation Liturgy.

Where: St. William's Church
Date: Thursday 11th December
Time: 7:00pm

There will be multiple priests available for Reconciliation.

All are welcome.



A Vocation View

In following Christ, rough roads will be made smooth. Prepare a way for the Lord, that all mankind shall see the salvation of God. (Isaiah 40:3-5)

Mass of Anointing

Thursday, 11th December
10:00 am, St William's Church
Followed by a morning tea
Please bring a plate to share
Parishioners of Mitchelton,
Samford, and Grovely

all welcome

The Sacrament of Anointing will be celebrated during Mass.

Some ask, "How sick have you to be to qualify?". This is a Sacrament of healing for all who yearn for fullness of health, whether that be in body, mind, or spirit.

Please note this Mass will take place during the school holidays so there will be plenty of parking available.

Timor Leste Thank you!

As we come to the end of the year, we give thanks for the many ways our parish continues to live Christ's call to mission including through the Sister Parish Relationship with Timor Leste. This year, donations from our Parish school appeals helped establish a new computer lab within the St John De Brito Primary School library, including benches for 22 laptops, power outlets, and a router to run the Timor Internet in a Box system. This now gives students their first meaningful experience with digital learning — all without requiring internet access. IT support for the Timor Internet in a Box project was provided by parishioners of Bethel United Methodist Church in Virginia, USA, making it a truly ecumenical and global effort.

In September, GSM parishioners Paul, Clare, and Luke travelled to Timor-Leste on a self funded visit. Paul used his carpentry skills to build the benches for the laptops in the new Library that has been funded by Innocents Relief. In addition, proceeds from our Parish Lenten Appeal funded new louvres for classroom windows and urgent repairs to help create a more comfortable learning environment for students and teachers.

The teachers at St John De Brito School wanted to share this message with their friends in Australia:

"First and foremost, we would like to extend our respectful greetings to all of you. We also wish to express our deepest gratitude for everything you have done to support our school. Your support and contributions have been a tremendous source of motivation for all of us to continue striving in our learning and school development."

This support is not only material in nature but also opens the door to hope. Your kindness and solidarity have brought about a significant transformation—from a place of hardship to a brighter path forward.

May God continue to pour out His grace and strengthen the spirit of collaboration and solidarity in the future.

Thank you very much.

Warm greetings from Timor-Leste to Australia."



LAUDATO SI'

The theme of this Global Jubilee Year is hope. "May hope fill your heart" was Pope Francis's wish. In this **Adventure** together towards the feast of the Incarnation we wait in **hope** but know we are on a **joyful** journey into **light**. Today's reading from Isaiah is striking for its integral ecological theology. It talks of *scions* from *rootstock* and describes a peaceable '**kin-dom**' - *wolves* living with *lambs*, *lions* domesticated, and children at ease in the presence of *snakes*. The Psalmist talks of justice flourishing and peace till the *moon falls*, and wishes the Creator's name endure like the *sun*. Such everyday mysticism grounds action. John Paul VI said, "If you want **peace**, work for justice". Pope Francis inaugurated the Laudato Si' Action Platform (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gGqMJEXy2Mc>) for individuals and parishes to act for justice, both for human dignity and for care of our common home. Dr Iyad Abumoghli, head of the UNEP *Faith for Earth Coalition*, said at COP30, "We need Faith-Institutions-Determined Contributions since they own eight percent of habitable land on earth. We need an accountability system". UNEP offers a roadmap:

<https://wedocs.unep.org/rest/api/core/bitstreams/7e07f9ee-44b8-4468-b382-f6db360c8c44/content>

St William's Merry Little Christmas

EVERYONE IN OUR COMMUNITY IS INVITED TO A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS DAY CELEBRATION FILLED WITH GOOD FOOD, COMPANY AND CHEERFUL ENTERTAINMENT.

12-3PM
25 DECEMBER

ST MARY MACKILLOP CENTRE
67 DAWSON PDE
GROVELY

PLEASE RSVP AT THE PARISH OFFICE BY 20/12/24
PHONE 3355 3690
TICKETS \$25 FOR THOSE WHO CAN AFFORD TO PAY