Year A
1st Sunday in Lent
22nd February 2026
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

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grovely@bne.catholic.net.au

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(Wednesday 12.00pm deadline)

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Sandra Henry (Mon)
Admin Asst. Liturgy/Bulletin:
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Finance:
finance.grovely@bne.catholic.net.au

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

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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

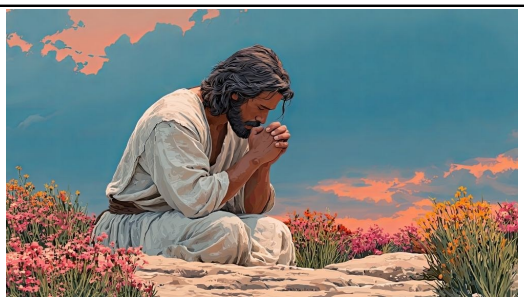
St Andrew's School
Cnr Hogarth & Upper Kedron Roads
Ferny Grove 4055
Ph 33516886 Fax 3851 1054

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!



As we enter this holy season of Lent, the Church invites us once again to follow Jesus into the desert. The Gospel this Sunday reminds us that the Spirit led Christ into solitude—not to punish Him, but to strengthen Him. Likewise, Lent is not meant to burden us; it is meant to free us. It is a sacred time for clarity, renewal, and deeper intimacy with God.

Lenten sacrifices are not about proving our willpower or performing spiritual stunts. They are about *love*. When we give something up, we are creating space—within our minds, hearts, and daily lives—for God to speak and act.

A good Lenten sacrifice may include:

Give up something that is unhelpful in our lives. Here are some examples, but in your heart you will know what to give up:

- Digital media: Excessive social media scrolling. Why? Because it creates comparison, distraction, and anxiety.
- *How often do I check my phone? Does it break prayer time, relationships, and interior peace?*
- Binge-watching or compulsive streaming: *Am I using it to avoid silence, responsibilities, or emotional discomfort?*
  What about Unhealthy attachments: (negative speech, gossip, complaining, comfort habits.)

Give in to the will of God, knowing that every good gift comes from God—not only for me but for others too.

- Is my heart full of self-importance rather than relying on God?
- Do I refuse to admit when I am wrong, avoid apologies, blame others, or want to appear superior?
- Am I envious or jealous, resenting the achievements or blessings of others?

Take up good habits for Lent.

- Can I bring into my life things that help my health and discipline? (Consistent sleep, daily exercise, healthy diet.)
- Do I have an attitude of gratitude?
- Do I make a conscious, daily practice of recognizing, appreciating, and finding good in all aspects of life, including challenges?
  Am I doing acts of charity? (Visiting someone who lives alone, giving generously to those in need like our Timor Leste Companions, offering our time to someone who needs help.)

Take in the Holy Spirit.

- Do I commit to one consistent moment of prayer each day? (Finding moments throughout the day to spend time with God and pray for others.)
- Do I do an examination of conscience and go to reconciliation?
  Have I taken up spiritual reading? (The Bible, lives of saints, spiritual books.)

May this Lent be a time of grace—deep, quiet, lasting grace—so that when Easter dawns, our hearts are ready to rise with Christ.

Wishing you a blessed and transformative Lent,

Nigel Sequeira

Fr. Nigel Sequeira

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

23rd February—28th February

Grovely	**St William's**
Wednesday:	7:30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursday:	9:00am Mass
Friday:	7:00pm Stations of the Cross
Next Weekend Masses:	
Saturday:	5:00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday:	7:00am Mass
	9:00am Mass
	5:00pm Mass
Mitchelton	**Our Lady of Dolours**
Monday:	11:00am Funeral Mass *Caterina Beninca*
Tuesday:	8:30am Mass
Wednesday:	8:30am Mass
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

FUTURE CELEBRATIONS

Monday, 2nd March:	3:00pm Anointing Mass *Moonah Park Aged Care*
Friday, 6th March:	10:00am World Day of Prayer for Nigeria *Arana Hills Church of Christ*
Sunday, 8th March	9:00am Children's Liturgy *St William's*
Tuesday, 10th March	10:30am Anointing Mass *Bellevue Aged Care*

This Week's Readings: First Sunday of Lent

Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7
Romans 5:12, 17-19
Matthew 4:1-11

Next Week's Readings: Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 12:1-4
2 Timothy 1:8-10
Matthew 17:1-9

GROVELY

Lent with Faith Circle

Are you wondering how to pray more during Lent? Join our small group at Faith Circle. We are in the Daley Centre from 9.30am Monday for a 10.00am start. Bring your Lenten booklet *The Journey Home*, available at each church for $5. Everyone is welcome!

Christian Meditation Group

All are welcome to join us at every Tuesday at 7.00pm in the Church. Enquires to Bob on 0428 813 483

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday 7.30-8.30pm
St William's

Mothers Prayers

Calling mothers of all ages and stages – if your children are on the path Jesus lights for them, if they are facing battles, or somewhere in between, you can stand in the power of prayer. The weight of it all does not rest on your shoulders, but on His. Mothers Prayers is a world-wide prayer group. Here in our parish we meet weekly to pray for our children and the children of the world on **Wednesdays** in the **Daley Centre** of St William's at **9.30am.** With a mother's love, we have you and your family covered in prayer.

EVERGREENS

42 members have booked for Stanthorpe three-night stay in April and all available accommodation is booked.

Our exercise class numbers have reached capacity also. For the time being, we cannot accept more class members. If you wish to be on our wait list , see contact details below.

If you would like to be a member of Evergreens for other functions and activities, or just join us for a cuppa sometimes, **we meet this Sunday and the last Sunday of each month after 9.00am Mass in the Daley Centre**.

Contacts:
John & Joan Broderick
0455 503 713 jobrod@bigpond.net.au

MITCHELTON

Transition Handover to Fr Geo Francis

As we prepare for the upcoming handover on 6th April, we are beginning a simple but important step to help us move forward with ease. We kindly ask for your support as we update our records for all Our Lady of Dolours Church keys, with the aim of completing this process by 14th March.

To make this as convenient as possible, a representative from the Parish Office will be available at OLD during the following Mass times:

Saturday, 21st February – 4.00pm
Sunday, 22nd February – 10.00am

If you are unable to attend at these times, please feel free to contact the Parish Office, where someone will be glad to assist you.

Key Audit Process

- If you currently hold a church key, we kindly ask you to register your name, address, mobile number, and your volunteer role within the parish.
- If you are no longer volunteering in any capacity, we warmly request that you return the key as part of this audit.

Thank you for your generosity and for the spirit of service you bring to our parish community. Your co-operation helps ensure a smooth and caring transition for everyone.

Fr Nigel Sequeira

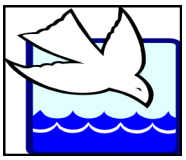
Reconciliation

Saturday, 9.30am -10.15am,
Our Lady of Dolours

All Welcome!

SAMFORD

Baptisms



We joyfully announce the Baptisms of **Adelaide Delaney**, **Evelyn Delaney**, **Iris Duncan**, **William Lane**, and **Amelia Lane**, and warmly welcome them into our faith community!

Samford Rosary Circle

When: Wednesday at 10.00am
Where: Sacred Heart Church, Samford.
Come and pray with us.

COMBINED COMMUNITIES

Faith Vibes with Fr. Nigel

4.30-5.30pm, Mondays, Daley Centre

*This Week: **The Mass.** Why we do what we do, and What it Means.*

Are you a youth or young adult (15-25) curious about the Christian faith, or thinking about becoming Catholic?

Faithful Departed

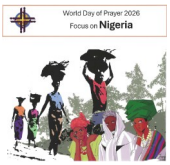
Recently Departed: Joan Tennison, Caterina Beninca

Anniversary: Rebecca Agar, David Jones, Brian Offen

We pray for the Sick

We pray for: Jane Fraser, Kathy Malcolm, Lachlan Fitzsimmon, Anne McKenna, Richard Lee, Maureen Campbell, Ellen Girgenti, and Mary Murphy

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.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2026

Arana Hills Church of Christ
10.00am, Friday, 6th March

Further information—Laurel Owen
laurel.owen@gmail.com 0427 517 001

FAITH MATTERS - GSM

We know that Lent is about making changes in our spiritual life so as to be ready to receive the resurrected Christ on Easter Sunday morning.

In recent years, a number of different ways of doing this have been available to us. One way has been that offered by the Archdiocese, whereby a reflection for each day of Lent has been included in the Lent booklet. This booklet, prior to 2025, had been based just on the readings for the six Sundays of Lent. In 2025 and 2026 the booklet changed shape, became much bigger in content than it was previously, and was a godsend for people wishing for more assistance with reflections during Lent. Its title for this year is *The Journey Home*.

The booklet, available today in all three churches for just $5, has been written by our recently retired Archbishop, Mark Coleridge. He is a very well respected scripture scholar, and his writings in this booklet demonstrate this fact. If the booklet, because of demand today, becomes unavailable in Mitchelton and Samford, all it takes is a call to the Grovely office – 3355 3690, Monday to Friday, 9.00am–1.00pm.

In addition, this year the Archdiocese asked Fr. Michael Tran to present a companion series for Lent. This is a series of seven videos – one for each week of Lent. The first one is available now, and you can check back to the webpage every Thursday during Lent for the latest release. You may find this helpful in your preparation for Easter Sunday.

Each parishioner has his/her specific way to engage with the Lenten season. The Lent journey has been referred to as crossing a threshold – making a change in the way we live our spiritual life. It is not easy to cross a threshold in our lives – to walk a different path. But it can be done if we walk with Jesus Christ.

www.faith-matters-gsm.com.au

COMBINED COMMUNITIES

Lenten Appeal

A Parish, A People, A Shared Faith

When parishioners visited Liquiça in 2024 and again in 2025, they were struck both by the painful poverty of many and the vibrant deep faith of almost all.

In a district where almost the entire population is Catholic, faith is woven into daily life. Families walk long distances to Mass in beautiful clothes. Children pray before school. Communities gather not because life is easy — but because God is faithful.

Liquiça is rich in faith and community, yet faces deep challenges: fragile infrastructure, limited access to education, significant agricultural challenges, and families struggling to break cycles of poverty that stretch across generations.

This Lent, our parish again chooses to stand with them —as brothers and sisters sharing what we have. Your financial support throughout Lent is very welcome via printed envelopes, which you will find on the seats and/or at the back of each church or to TLC parish account (non tax-deductible) BSB:064786 a/c:100023532 or, for Tax Deductibility, directly to Innocents Relief at https://innocentsrelief.org.au/donate (*donate with your name and* Liquica *as reference*) and email innocentsrelief@outlook.com to receive a tax receipt. Innocents Relief has worked in partnership with TLC since 2013, starting in the coastal sub-district of Maubara and providing life-changing support, with many projects focused on improving the educational outcomes of children in the district since.

RCIA Rite of Election

At 3.00pm on Sunday 22nd February, the RCIA Rite of Election will be celebrated at St. Stephen's Cathedral.

This year we request that you pray for *Carlos Poles, Kasey Broderick and Marc Pickersgill* who are journeying to full reception into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil.

At the Rite of Election, the Church acknowledges the readiness of the catechumens for the sacraments of initiation and the catechumens, who now become 'the elect', declare their commitment to enter into a period of intense spiritual preparation for initiation at Easter. Our candidates also receive a special blessing for their journey into full communion.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them during this special time in their journey of faith.

RCIA

Sacramental News

Come and be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit!

If your children are in Year 3 or above they are eligible to receive Confirmation this year. Please see our website for details and enrolments. https://gsmparishes.com.au/confirmation/

Our program commences with parent information sessions on 10th, 11th, and 12th March. With a joyful heart we welcome your family into our cohort!

GSM Parishes 23rd February—28th February			
Monday	9:00am	Daley Centre	SVDP Mitchelton
	9:30am	Daley Centre	Faith Circle
	4:30pm	Daley Centre	Faith Vibes with Fr. Nigel
	7:30pm	Daley Centre	SVDP Grovely
Tuesday	9:30am	Daley Centre	Playgroup
	12:30pm	Gathering Space	Treble M
	7:00pm	St William's	Christian Meditation
Wednesday	9:30am	Daley Centre	Mothers Prayers
	10:00am	Sacred Heart	Samford Rosary Circle
	11:00am	Daley Centre	Evergreens Exercise

Led into the Wilderness

The readings for this Sunday focus on sin and temptation. The first reading tells how Adam and Eve disobeyed God and brought sin into the world. The psalm is a prayer asking for God's mercy. The second reading reminds us that Jesus came to save us from sin. The gospel shows Jesus in the desert, where the devil tempts him three times. Jesus resists by trusting in God and using Scripture. This teaches us to rely on God when we face temptations.

Lent is a time to turn away from sin and grow closer to God. We do this through prayer, fasting, and helping others. These practices help us resist temptation and focus on what truly matters. Like Jesus, we can use Scripture and prayer to stay strong. We should ask ourselves what temptations we need to resist and how we can grow in faith. This Lent, we can follow Jesus' example and trust in God's love and strength.

Pope's Prayer Intention for February

For children with incurable diseases: Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

A Vocation View

Lent is a season of renewal, of spiritual growth. These 40 penitential days invite us to strive for our true calling.

Follow us on socials

https://tripleygrovely.au

Use the link above to tune in for Meditation, Scripture, Mass over the airways, music that matters, and more!
Follow us on FB and Insta!

Powerhouse of Prayer—Fr Paul Chandler O. Carm.

An invitation to learn and practise Lectio Divina, is open to individuals and groups. The day will be guided by Fr. Paul Chandler O. Carm., a Carmelite priest and highly experienced spiritual director and teacher with a strong background in formation, theology, and international Carmelite ministry.

Date: Saturday, 21st March **Time:** 9.00am – 3.00pm

Location: Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre (267 Wellington Street, Ormiston)

Cost: $55 Information & Registration

You're welcome to join the Franciscan Friars at Kedron Friary for a night of prayer, food, and faith. It will be an opportunity for men to ask questions about Franciscan religious life.

For further information and to RSVP contact: Harry Chan OFM vocations@franciscans.org.au, or call 0420 582 266

LAUDATO SI'

Genesis is talking of God creating "breath of life out of the soil", of "God planting a garden" and causing "to spring up from the soil every kind of tree" ... and we have Jesus withdraw to the "wilderness" for discerning a way forward for his ministry. These vivid images exhort us to contemplation of creation with all the focus and, at the same time, the distractions we humans and even our God-with-us experience (see the interview with James Martin S.J. and Anne Lamott on her bestselling book about praying called *Help, Thanks, Wow* https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9WZ_y_d05rk&t=7s). Actions of care for humanity and all of creation come from prayerful **listening through fasting** in order that be might receive graced inspiration from the Spirit like "manna from heaven" (look up *Haloxylon salicornicum* https://powo.science.kew.org/taxon/urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:165853-1 and Vered Guttman's biblical botany). As we Christians try to learn from the Bible and the Book of Nature **why** we are 'on earth', it is good to grasp **where exactly** we are. Look with "Wow" at the 200-year-old wonderful Bunya trees and learn about humans and plants, ritual, culture and religion right **here** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ich2wtL4Xi8

Stations of the Cross

St William's Church
7.00pm
Fridays during Lent
(except Good Friday)

Lenten Reflection Books

Published by Archdiocesan Ministries and written by Archbishop Emeritus Mark Coleridge, These books are available at our three churches at $5 each

Archbishop's Lenten Pastoral Letter

Please collect a copy at Mass this weekend.

Treble M

Our treble voice (SSA) choir meets weekly on a Tuesday between 12:30pm and 2:00pm at Our Lady of Dolours Church's Community Centre.

Please call or text:
Christine 0431 666 712
or Judy 0408 559 328