

Year A
5th Sunday in Lent
22nd March 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:
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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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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

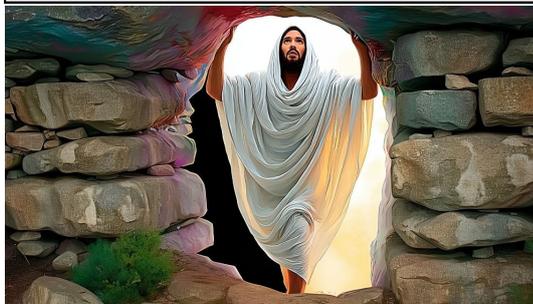
St Andrew's School
Cnr Hogarth & Upper Kedron Roads
Ferry Grove 4055
Ph 33516886 Fax 3851 1054

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 3350 3400

Triple Y Grovely
Ph 0466 964 664

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



**"I am the
resurrection
and the life."**

At Easter and afterwards, several people in our parish, and all over the Catholic world, will be welcomed into full communion. Why are the readings of the woman at the well, the blind man, and today, the raising of Lazarus, recommended in the preparation of these candidates, and what do these readings have to say to us?

The woman at the well runs back to the people: she has begun to respond to Jesus as the living water. The blind man, step by step, comes to see Jesus as his Lord. The sisters of Lazarus know well that Jesus is their Saviour ("Lord, if you'd been here our brother would not have died.").

The candidates for Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist are coming to know Jesus as their Saviour, as all of us on this journey are reminded in today's story.

The high point of the three stories is Jesus declaring; "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?" He also says, "Did I not tell you that, if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

So, is this believing coming from my heart? Because there is so much raw and real emotion in the Lazarus story, including from Jesus, that we cannot miss realising that Jesus is the fully human, fully divine Person of the creed we say every week.

There's a huge fear in the disciples of returning to Judea, where Lazarus is: "Let us also go, that we may die with him". Jesus knew this fear.

There are two focal points in the Lazarus story. The first is Jesus' genuine compassion and love for Lazarus and his sisters. The second is Jesus' awareness of his mission. This is the climactic episode in Jesus' mission, before his betrayal, agony, torture, and death.

His mission is to be faithful unto death to his Father and to his people. We see this in his prayer before Lazarus is raised. "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me".

We are those people and Jesus listens to us. He is always present to us, faithful to us, listening and feeling deeply as he did for Lazarus and his sisters.

Once again, the real highlight of today's story is Jesus' promise of our rising from the dead. It's this same Risen Lord that we believe in and communicate with every day.

Peter and Christine Webb

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 March-28th March

Grovely St William's
Monday: 10:00am Funeral Mass
Patrick Maguire

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

Tuesday: 8:30am Mass

Wednesday: 8:30am Mass
The Annunciation of the Lord

Saturday: 4:00pm Mass

Sunday: 10:00am 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

Thursday, 26th March 7:30pm Chrism Mass,
Cathedral of St. Stephen



This Week's Readings: Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ezekiel 37:12-14
Romans 8:8-11
John 11:1-45

Next Week's Readings: Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-7
Philippians 2:6-11
Matthew 26:14 — 27:66

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

Mothers Prayers



We invite you to delight in the vocation of motherhood as we pray in surrender to the Lord. We have you, your children, and grandchildren covered in prayer. Wednesday, 9.30am, Daley Centre.



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday 7.30-8.30pm
St. William's

MITCHELTON

Reconciliation

Saturday, 9.30am -10.15am,
Our Lady of Dolours
All Welcome!

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



SAMFORD

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 Bible*

Are you a youth or young adult curious about the Christian faith, or thinking about becoming Catholic?



Adoration and Prayer Service

This service offers time in silence before the Blessed Sacrament, accompanied by meditative music from Taizé that will speak to your heart. The service also offers an opportunity to experience the Prayer of Forgiveness and Healing.

**St. William's Grovely, 6.30pm,
Sunday, 22nd March**



Chrism Mass

Thursday, 26th March
Time: 7.30pm
Cathedral of St. Stephen

Sacramental News

Congratulations to all of the children who participated in the Rite of Enrolment this weekend.

Thank you to all of our wonderful parishioners for keeping our Sacramental families in your prayers and on your rosaries.



Please keep our elect and candidates - **Kasey Broderick, Carlos Poles, and Marc Pickersgill**—in your prayers as they journey to full reception into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. Please also pray for **Molly Conroy** and **Matt Conroy** as they journey to full reception after Easter.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all during this time of prayer and enlightenment of their journey of faith.

EVERGREENS

Members are reminded that the March monthly cuppa in the Daley Centre has been cancelled.

41 members have booked for our four-day getaway at Stanthorpe in April, filling all available accommodation.



Faithful Departed

Recently Departed: Doug Dobsa, Patricia Ormond, Patrick Maguire, and Paul Carter



We pray for the Sick

We pray for: Jane Fraser, Kathy Malcolm, Anne McKenna, Richard Lee, Maureen Campbell, Ellen Girgenti, Mary Murphy, Christine Bunn, Cathy Ballam, Bernadette Tierney, and John Tierney

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.



Stations of the Cross

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



FAITH MATTERS - GSM



Each day, **Fr. Richard Rohr (Franciscan)** the founder of Center for Action and Contemplation in New Mexico, (U.S.) publishes a meditation piece under the title *CAC Daily Meditations*. Fr. Richard Rohr is one of the great spiritual writers of our era and the author of many spiritual books, many of which are in our Faith Matters lending library in the Grovely St. Vincent de Paul shop.

Recently he had a piece called 'What about Original Sin?' He makes the point that this idea was never mentioned in the Bible and did not see the light of day until it was raised by Augustine in the fifth century. It had a profound effect on Catholics over the centuries since. We even had the concept of Limbo developed by the Church later on to explain what happened when a person died without receiving baptism - especially children.

The Church maintained that 'Limbo' was never a doctrine and did not have to be believed in the way we do with any Doctrines. However people living through those times certainly acted as though it had the stamp of a Doctrine, particularly when it came to baptising young children who were in danger of dying soon after childbirth.

The Franciscans have always believed in a different way of looking at the concept of Original Sin. Fr. Rohr notes that in the first chapter of Genesis there was a "primal sense of goodness" about creation and humanity, with God referring to creation as "good" five times (Gen 1:10-25) and even "very good" in 1-31. However, after Augustine there was a move from the positive vision of Genesis 1 to the more negative version presented in Genesis Chapter 3 - what we refer to as "The Fall".

As Fr. Rohr says, "In one way the doctrine of 'original sin' was good and helpful in that it taught us not to be surprised at the frailty and woundedness that we all carry". He is not denying that original sin is a Doctrine of the Church but that there is a more positive view of creation, contained in Genesis 1 and that perhaps the time has arrived to look at this positive view as well.

Fr. Rohr's article appears on the Faith Matters website under the tag *Topical Articles* on the home page. It is well worth a read.

www.faith-matters-gsm.com.au

COMBINED COMMUNITIES

Educating Young Women, Transforming a Nation— PAR Girls Hostel

Close to the ocean in the heart of Liquiça stands a community that is quietly shaping the future of Timor-Leste.

The PAR Sisters provide a place where young women can live safely while attending high school — many for the first time in their family's history.

For these girls, education is not just a qualification. It is a path to leadership, independence, and service. For just \$30, one girl can be educated for a month.

When we support the PAR Sisters, we are investing in the women who will one day lead families, schools, parishes, and communities.

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 Liquiça as reference) and email innocentsrelief@outlook.com to receive a tax receipt.



An Archdiocesan Youth Event

27.03.26

**RECO
RALLY**



6:00- 8:30PM RECONCILIATION,
LOURDES HILL SPEAKER, GAMES,
COLLEGE PRAISE AND WORSHIP

A Morning's Prayer—Saturday, 18 April

9.00am—12.00pm, Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre,
267 Wellington Street, Ormiston

Cost: \$25

Secure your place before Friday, 10th April

This event is hosted by Archdiocesan Ministries' Adult Formation team.

For more information, contact
formation@bne.catholic.net.au

the IONA PASSION PLAY

1 show only

GOOD FRIDAY

3 APRIL - 7PM

Doors open 6:30pm

Iona Performing Arts Centre

COME AND SEE
this 90min family friendly version of the
greatest story ever told.

Tickets on sale 22nd February 2026

Book online

www.passionplay.org.au

Enquiries: info@ipp.org.au PH: 07 3333 1993

You are invited to **Salubong**
A traditional Filipino Easter Dawn Celebration
An Encounter of the Risen Lord with Mary, His Mother
Easter Sunday, 4.30am, St. Flannan's Church.
194 Handford Road, Zillmere
Contact: Jima 0432 374 239

GSM Parishes 23rd March-28th March

Monday	9:00am	Gathering Space	SVDP OLD
	9:30am	Daley Centre	Faith Circle
	4:30pm	Daley Centre	Faith Vibes with Fr. Nigel
	7:00pm	Daley Centre	SVDP Grovelly
Tuesday	9:30am	Daley Centre	Playgroup
	12:30pm	Gathering Space	Treble M
	7:00pm	St. William's Church	Christian Meditation
Wednesday	9:30am	Daley Centre	Mothers Prayers
	10:00am	Sacred Heart	Samford Rosary Circle
	11:00am	Daley Centre	Evergreens Exercise

New Life from Dry Places

The 5th Sunday of Lent Year A brings us one of the most powerful stories in the Gospel of John. Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead. This story helps us remember that, even when everything feels lost, God can still bring life. Jesus shows He has power over death and that He brings hope to those who trust Him.

In the first reading from Ezekiel, we hear about dry bones coming back to life. This reminds us that God never forgets His people. Even in dark times, He gives His Spirit to bring us back to life and lead us home.

The psalm is a cry for mercy. It reminds us that God listens when we call. And the reading from Romans teaches that the Spirit of God gives life to our bodies, just as it did for Jesus.

On the Fifth Sunday of Lent Year A, we are asked to trust in God's promise. Even in sorrow or loss, He can raise us up.

Pope's Prayer Intention for March *For disarmament and peace*

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.



<https://triplegrovelly.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!



A Vocation View

Seeing physically dead people return to life is not a common event. But Christians, serious about their vocation, are eager to help the 'down and out' find new meaning in Christ and live a full life.

Verse for Vinnies

Now in March we've a show,
where you really should go,
Maria Forde's internationally
known:

and you'll really rejoice
at Maria's great voice,
she's both Irish and Aussie home-
grown.

She is really no alien
but Irish-Australian,
and will sing of her pride of both lands.
With her voice and her song
she will take you along,
you'll become one of her greatest fans.

Eric Bogle, you know, sang with her in a
show,
and the Furies use songs that she
wrote;

And, if you come along, you will hear
just which song,
that the Furies did choose to promote.
And Noel, whom you know, will be part
of the show,
as his Father O'Brien you'll hear.
It's a one-thirty start,
Come along and take part;
Help the battlers enjoy needed cheer.

Sunday, 29th March, 1.30pm
67 Dawson Parade, Grovelly
\$15 - includes afternoon tea
Cash only
Book seats using
noel@noelstallard.com



Grovelly Vinnies needs your help!

Verse for Vinnies is a wonderful afternoon of entertainment and afterwards patrons look forward to sharing an amazing afternoon tea. It is held every two months and all proceeds go to supporting those in need in our local area. We cater for approximately 150 people.

Would you be able to help us by baking a sweet or savoury slice?

If so, please ring Denise Quinlan
(0417 631 194) who would love to hear
from you.

LAUDATO SI'

With the wars, in particular in the Middle East and the Ukraine, various Bishops' Conferences of the world are speaking out about the link between wars, energy, damaging emissions to the atmosphere, and displacement and untold suffering at the individual, communal, and country levels. See the webinar on the Manifesto of the Churches of the South: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NqjUEgQ3jtA&t=1503s>.

Jesus raises Lazarus from among the smelling dead, presaging the violent death and glorious resurrection of Christ. From decay to revived life to unbinding - not unlike plants fruiting from buried seeds and bulbs. Laudato Si' models the sensitivity of St. Francis to the fragility and co-responsibility we have as Easter People to our fellow creatures: https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html.

In Laudate Deum we read, "with the passage of time, I have realised that our responses have not been adequate, while the world in which we live is collapsing and may be nearing the breaking point". https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/20231004-laudate-deum.html.

The Bishops of Appalachia in 1975 said, "we believe the voice of God is among us, where in a wilderness of idolatrous destruction, the great voice of God still cries out for life". <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5e0ebce33d6a6002f3105cc7/t/5e3321856cac3d0b6f059a5a/1580409225664/AppalachianBishopsPastorals.pdf>

EASTER PREP

Palm Sunday is a day of dynamic participation by the congregation and internationally Christians have various customs to celebrate this splendid welcome. At St. William's over the past few years the symbol of the palm has taken on the tradition brought to us from many places.

• **Palms for PALM SUNDAY at St. William's:** We will appreciate **large palms** (for decorating), **small palm-like branches**, and **small sprigs of pine branch** delivered to the Parish Office before 1.00pm either on Wednesday or Thursday, 25th/26th March.

• Everyone is invited to make a folded cross to bring to mass on Palm Sunday for it to be blessed and taken home.

Extra crosses for others would be appreciated. Find instructions on YouTube (Palm Cross Tutorial) or <https://www.catholicicing.com/how-to-fold-a-palm-cross-in-10-easy-steps/> Extras can be delivered to the Office before 1.00pm on Friday or the Church from 8.30 to 10.30am.

• **FOR HOLY THURSDAY:** Fresh palm fronds for the altar of repose can be delivered to the Parish Office either Wednesday, 1st April before 1.00pm or before 9.00am on Thursday, 2nd April.

• **Rosemary for GOOD FRIDAY:** On Good Friday, our parish has a tradition of placing rosemary for remembrance at the foot of the cross. We would appreciate **sprigs of rosemary** being delivered to the Parish Office from **Wednesday, 1st April**.