

Year A
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
26th July
Liturgical Colour: Green



ST. WILLIAM'S CATHOLIC PARISH

PARISH TEAM

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Sacramental Coordinator:

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Safeguarding Local Representatives:

St William's - Amelia Crawfoot
Sacred Heart Church - Jeanette Chew

PARISH OFFICE

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Ph 3355 3690

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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 Road, Samford Village
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

Mt. Maria College

54 Prospect Road, Mitchelton 4053
Ph 3550 3400

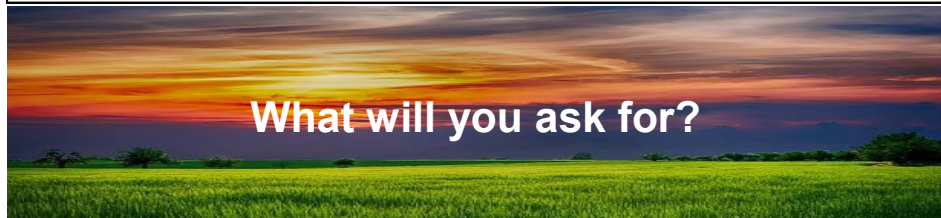
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PLEASE TAKE YOUR NEWSLETTER WITH YOU, DON'T PUT IT BACK!



What will you ask for?

This year the Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time aligns with the feast of Sts. Anne and Joachim, the grandparents of Jesus. It also falls on the sixth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, a day instituted by Pope Francis in 2021 and continued by Pope Leo, that offers an opportunity to bring the church closer to the elderly and acknowledge the richness of their contributions to families, communities, and society in general. When speaking of the elderly and grandparents, it is not uncommon to hear them described as living treasures, great sources of wisdom, people who have come to know, through their life experiences, what matters most, and what brings joy, peace, and human flourishing. Today's readings speak also of wisdom and treasures, and invite us to cultivate an open and listening heart, attuned to God's wisdom as we endeavour to be people of the Kingdom.

In the first reading today (*1 Kings 3:5, 7-12*), a young and inexperienced King Solomon pleases God when he asks for a listening and understanding heart to discern between good and evil. The heart is the seat of a person's thoughts and intentions, and Solomon had sufficient awareness to realise that, unless he had a heart that listened to the word of God with sufficient understanding, his thoughts and decisions would not be in accordance with God's ways and he would not be able to lead the people of God with justice and peace. Solomon could have asked for riches, power, influence, and prestige - worldly measures of success, but his desire was to attune his heart to the voice of God, to be partners in an ongoing relationship of listening, learning and discernment. God indeed blessed Solomon as over time his wisdom became legendary and has not yet been surpassed.

The gospel parables today (*Matthew 13:44-52*) speak of developing the capacity and wisdom to discover and recognise the hidden treasure, the pearl of great price that is the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom is both valuable and beautiful and it is offered to all, like a dragnet sweeping across the ocean floor, enfolding both what is good and what is imperfect. It is likened to a householder who brings out both old and new from his storeroom, just as Jesus does, offering a new perspective, to understanding and fulfilling the old law.

What is asked of us when we discover the Kingdom of God? What are we willing to surrender to gain the Kingdom? How ready are our hearts to be opened and attuned to the voice of God in our everyday lives, to be shaped by the values of the gospel rather than the values of consumerism, power and control which pervade in our society? What needs to die in us, so that authentic life can flourish?

To follow in Jesus' footsteps is essentially to strive to grow in wisdom. If we want to commit our entire lives to learning the ways of the Lord, the first step is to ask for a listening heart, just like Solomon did. God speaks to us in many ways, through scripture, through all that goes on around us, and deeply within our being and conscience. We need to cultivate the desire and space in our lives to listen to God's divine truth, so that our orientation is always towards the Kingdom, where we encounter the resurrected Jesus, where we discover peace beyond understanding, where all manner of things are possible, and love conquers death. This indeed is our treasure and pearl of great price.

Blessings

Maria Wagner, St. William's

We, the parishioners of the Catholic Parishes of Grovely and Samford, 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

27th July to 2nd August

Grovely

St William's

Wednesday: 7:30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday: 9:00am St. William's School Mass—Catholic Education Week
St. Peter Chrysologus

6:00pm 2nd Rite Penance—First Eucharist children

Friday: 9:00am St. Andrew's School Mass
(Catholic Education Week)
St. Andrew's School

Next Weekend Masses:

Saturday: 5:00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday: 7:00am Mass

9:00am Mass
Incl. Children's Liturgy

5:00pm Mass

Samford

Sacred Heart

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

Next Weekend:

Sunday: 8:00am Mass

FUTURE CELEBRATIONS

Thursday, 6th August 9:00am St. William's School Mass, Year 5 & 3S
St William's

Saturday, 8th August 5:00pm First Communion Celebrations
St. William's

Sunday, 9th August 8:00am First Communion Celebrations
Sacred Heart
9:00am & 5:00pm First Communion Celebrations, *St. William's*

Saturday, 15th August 8:00am Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
St William's

Sunday, 16th August 9:00am Parish Family Mass
St William's

This Week's Readings: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12
Romans 8:28-30
Matthew 13:44-52

Next Week's Readings: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 55:1-3
Romans 8:35, 37-39
Matthew 14:13-21

GROVELY



Baptisms

We joyfully announce the Baptisms of

Henry Banks, Frankie Banks, Charlie Hender, Henry Jacobson, Sophie Jacobson, Luca Ragilione, and Zachary White,

and warmly welcome them into our faith community!

Faith Circle

We meet on Monday at 9:30am for a 10:00am start. Join us for fun, friendship, and a cup of coffee while we discuss the Sunday gospel. Come and see what we are about. All welcome!



Christian Meditation Group

All are welcome to join us at every Tuesday at 7.00pm in the Church.

Please note that there will be no gathering on Tuesday, 22nd September.



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday 7:30-8:30pm
St. William's

St. William's Church Shop

New stock has arrived, including First Communion gifts. You are very welcome to come in and browse. We are open after every weekend Mass.

All proceeds help people in our area and we thank you for your support.



Living Stones

St. William's Parish history, 1960-2010
Buy a copy at the Grovely Church Shop—\$5

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.



SAMFORD

Liturgy of the Word and Communion will resume on Thursday, 13th August.

First Communion Gifts

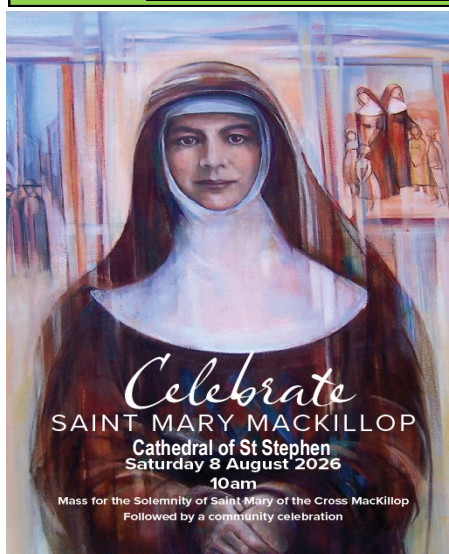
These and other items are available today after Mass from Mary and James.

Samford Rosary Circle

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



COMBINED COMMUNITIES



The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Please join us for Mass to celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
Saturday, 15th August
8:00am St William's

The Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne is a day to celebrate our grandparents and the elderly in our parish.

Please join us for Mass with a special blessing for all grandparents and the elderly on the week-end of 26th July.



Blessing of Long Life

God of mercy, who has granted these your children the gift of a long life, pour out your blessing upon them.

Let them feel the sweetness and strength of your presence.

As they look back on the past, may they rejoice in your mercy;

and, as they look to the future, may they persevere in the hope that never dies.

To you be praise and glory for ever and ever.

Amen.



Faithful Departed

Recently Departed: Paul Sheehan

Anniversary: Dick Tidbury and Kieran Hogan



We pray for the Sick

We pray for: Jane Fraser, Kathy Malcolm, Anne McKenna, Richard Lee, Maureen Campbell, William Lane, Fr. Denis Scanlan, Maree Peters, Grace Campbell, and Dorothy Horn.

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.



<https://triplegrovely.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!

Verse for Vinnies

Now it's Margy McArdle who's coming as our Feature Performer in verse.

It's her first time at our Verse for Vinnies, and her repertoire's very diverse.

You'll get humour and pathos and classics.

You'll get poems you've not heard before.

And you'll hear what won Stan Coster's Trophy,

At the end you'll be asking for more.

She's a versatile, flexible lady, whose grandmother recited to her.

And when Margy heard teacher reciting, then a love for bush verse did occur.

While from Gladstone, she's Champ there in Rocky,

and runs workshops for children in school.

She's renowned as *The Marvellous Margy*, and the kids think she's trendy and cool.

But you have to be with us to hear her, and July 26th is the date.

Help the battlers to battle their hardships,

and our Margy is bound to be great.

Sunday, 26th July, 1:30pm
St. Mary MacKillop Centre,
Dawson Parade, Grovely
\$15 - includes afternoon tea
Cash only
Book seats using
noel@noelstallard.com



FAITH MATTERS - GS



www.faith-matters-gsm.com.au

Each one of us, barring illness or other significant problems, goes to Mass and receives Holy Communion each Sunday and, hopefully, given our work commitments and other aspects of our lives, try to go, occasionally, to another Eucharist during the week. For Saint Carlo Acutis, just fifteen years old when he died, the Eucharist was "my highway to Heaven", as he often said to his mates at school and all his relations. For him, this was the centre point for his life on earth.

Below are some of the quotes in Chapter 4 from the book *Carlo Acutis – A Saint in Sneakers*. This chapter is called *Highway to Heaven*.

Carlo's devotion to the Mass inevitably brought his family closer to the Church. Whenever the Acutis family was travelling, the first thing that Carlo would ask was where they might attend Mass near the hotel so that he would not miss an opportunity to receive Holy Communion.

Carlo's catchphrase, 'The Eucharist is my highway to Heaven', sums up the centrality of the Eucharist in his spiritual life.

He also held that it was very important to make an act of thanksgiving after receiving Communion.

The boy understood the Eucharist to be a speedway to holiness or, as St. Pius is reputed to have said: "Holy Communion is the shortest and safest way to Heaven".

Each one of us is called to be holy in this life and we do it in the everyday things in our life. Perhaps Carlo's message to us is that the Eucharist is the main way we travel our highway to Heaven. Get that right and everything else falls into place.

Following on from a recent Faith Matters article about Jesus' respect for women in His male-dominated patriarchal society, we have a well-known example of His respect with His conversation with a Samaritan woman at the well. His apostles were so surprised to see Him talking with the woman when they returned after purchasing some food for the group.

Jews did not interact with Samaritans in those days, yet here was Jesus in conversation with a Samaritan woman and revealing he knew about some of her private affairs. They thought it exceptionally strange for a number of reasons.

- Jesus was acting in a totally opposite manner to Jewish customs in that he was talking publicly with a woman.
- This woman was a Samaritan – unheard of at that time.
- He was talking to her about spiritual and private matters and wanted her to pass his message on to the people in the town.
- He treated her with respect and did not condemn her lifestyle.
- In the above ways He exhibited His concern and sensitivity for the woman.

Given that a group of women followed and supported Him as He journeyed to Jerusalem, that a woman was the first one to know about His Resurrection, that a number of women were so important in the early days of the Church, does it not seem strange that only now are women being allocated some roles in the global church? Thankfully, Pope Francis was a catalyst in this change and it seems Pope Leo will follow in his footsteps.

A Vocation View

Finding our vocation in life is like finding a buried treasure. We will do whatever it takes to possess it. Finding the treasure is a gift, possessing it is our vocation.



EVERGREENS

Sunday, 26th July: Members are gathering after 9:00am Mass in the Daley Centre for a cuppa and a chat.

Friday, 31st July: Men's cuppa at Arana Leagues club at 10:00am.

The revised date for Luke Reed's presentation is **Friday, 7th August**, commencing at 10:00am. *Please arrive by 9:45.* If you wish to attend, please email or phone John and Joan.

Thursday, 13th August: Tour of Kingston Butter Factory.

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

Sacramental News

Welcome to our **Creed Mass** weekend! The children journeying to their First Holy Communion will learn that the Creed is a statement of our faith. Professing our faith reminds us of who we are – sons and daughters of the Lord.

Our **Penance evening** is Thursday, 30th July, at 6:00pm at St. William's. It is integral that the children attend because the Holy Eucharist allows us now to have an intimate union with our God, and Penance allows us to receive Him in a state of grace. Please keep each other in your prayers and on your rosaries.

Prayer Partners

Thank you to all of our generous parishioners who are committed to praying for the children journeying to their First Holy Communion.

If you would like to write a letter and perhaps purchase a small gift for your prayer partner, please label it and hand it in at the Parish office by 1st August.

Please know that you are appreciated and you are prayed for!

GS Parish 27th July-31st July

Monday	9:30am	Faith Circle	Daley Centre
	4:30pm	Faith Vibes	Daley Centre
	7:00pm	SVDP	Daley Centre
Tuesday	9:30am	Playgroup	Daley Centre
	7:00pm	Christian Meditation	St. William's Church
Wednesday	9:30am	Mothers Prayers	Daley Centre
	10:00am	Samford Rosary Circle	Sacred Heart
	11:00am	Evergreens Exercise	Daley Centre
Friday	10:00am	Evergreen Men's Cuppa	Arana Leagues Club

The Treasure of God's Wisdom

On the Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, the readings help us see what is truly valuable. They remind us that wisdom, faith, and God's kingdom are worth more than anything else we could ever own. These gifts bring life, joy, and strength when we seek them with open hearts. In the first reading, Solomon shows us what it means to ask for the right thing. Instead of power or wealth, he asks God for wisdom to guide his people well. God is pleased with his request and grants him understanding greater than anyone before or after. The Gospel continues this theme by showing that the kingdom of heaven is like hidden treasure or a pearl worth everything. Jesus tells us that, when we see its worth, nothing else compares. On the Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, we are reminded to seek what lasts forever, not what fades away.

LAUDATO SI'

Parables, e.g. "The Kingdom is **like** ... a seed or yeast", make analogies but also skirt around doctrinaire talk. It is easier to articulate what the Kingdom of God is not like (e.g. violent imposition, narcissistic power mongering) than to act carefully and quietly like wheat in a field or yeast in a dough. When we listen to beautiful music in a garden or forest we can be inspired as by monastics chanting (not counting) 'the hours' in a rural monastery. Thomas Merton with Zen-like koans said, in the Japanese edition of his *Thoughts in Solitude* (1966), "But what can the wind say when there is no hearer? There is then a deeper silence: the silence in which the Hearer is No-Hearer. That deeper silence must be heard before one can speak truly of solitude." At his Angelus address last week at Castel Gandolfo, Pope Leo quoted Cardinal Ratzinger about the quiet "logic of a seed" i.e. not the way of greatness or success, saying God's way of acting must also become the way in which we live, making ourselves small and serving others. <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/angelus/2026/documents/20260719-angelus.html>

Faith Vibes with Fr. Nigel

4:30-5:30pm, Mondays,

This Week: The Holy Spirit

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

Spirit-filled Conversations across Generations about

The CHOSEN

Our Next Conversation will be **2nd August**, gathering at 6pm. We will reflect on an episode of The Chosen that we have watched in our homes over the previous month. We will have dinner together and aim to finish by 7 to go home and get ready for the week.

As it is the 18th Sunday of Ordinary Time, when we hear Matthew 14: 13-21, please watch **S3 Ep 8 Physician, Heal Yourself**

You can watch The Chosen on:

<https://watch.thechosen.tv/>

- The chosen app
- Angel studios app
- Youtube
- DVD- available for loan

Families, particularly those with tweens and teens are most welcome, and we will facilitate different conversation groups for adults and children/young people.

Please RSVP using this QR Code



A night of music to inspire your imagination to bring peace, unity and resilience.

DARE Dream

7pm Saturday 29 August 2026

MARY MACKILLOP CENTRE, 67 DAWSON PARADE, GROVELY

Proceeds of Concert to support Parish Social Actions Projects including weekly Friendship Breakfast, Christmas Lunch, Emergency Assistance.

TICKETS

\$50

SCAN QR CODE OR CALL THE PARISH OFFICE

FEATURING ARTISTS

Julie Kelemete Monica Haworth Lindsay Gaffney Jane Massingham



RAFFLE TICKET

Combined voices from Samford, Mitchelton and Grovely choirs
The voices of young people from Mt Maria Secondary College & the Primary Schools of St Williams, St Andrews & Our Lady of Dolours.

A live band of musicians led by **Fiona Sorbello**



CONCERT TICKET

FOR TICKET ENQUIRIES AND FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE ON (07) 3355 3690