

Second Sunday of Lent
16th March 2014



Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Brisbane PARISH TEAM

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

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Mitchelton Presbytery

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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

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Live By the Ecstatic Experience



What is Lent all about? We can't just say that Lent is for dying, Easter for rising. The whole of Lent is an initiation—a progressively more intense initiation into the paschal mystery. And what is the paschal mystery? The dying/rising of Jesus. Not just his dying; his dying/rising. It is indeed Jesus' journey to Jerusalem, his death march. But a death march that is ceaselessly bringing life. Life through death; in the very dying, rich life; it means the *triumph* of the cross. The cross itself is victory.

So what is the Transfiguration (today's reading) all about? In essence, it is a vision. Peter, James and John are granted a foretaste of "who he really is and what he will be in God's kingdom". It is a preview of his resurrection. But why do they need this? Because they are journeying with Jesus to Jerusalem. Because not long before this, Matthew tells us, "Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you". (Mt 16:21-22). Peter was scandalised. Perhaps the other disciples as well.

To give them courage, to lessen the scandal, Peter, James and John get a preview of Jesus in glory. With him they see Moses, representing the Mosaic law, and Elijah, representing the Hebrew prophets. They are "conversing with him" (Mt 17:3) because he is their fulfilment, he brings the law and the prophets to their high point. The revelation reaches its climax when a bright cloud envelops them, the symbol of God's presence. The disciples do not see God, but they do hear God's powerful voice: "This is my Son, the Beloved." Look at him; see God's unique Son; what you see is what the future holds in store for him and for you.

How can Jesus' transfiguration communicate that courage? If we focus on the words of Jesus' Father from the cloud, "This is my Son ... Listen to him!" **Two imperatives:** First, **look!** See the paradox. See in the Suffering Servant God's only Son, God not by poetry but as truly God as is the Father, God taking our flesh out of love, the most

remarkable love in human history, love for "me" as if only "I" existed. We should make today's second reading our own: God's saving grace "has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel" (2 Tim 1:10).

But there is more, a brief second urgent command, "**Listen** to him!" Why urgent? Because very soon after the vision, while they are descending from the mountain, the Son they have just seen in glory says to them, "The Son of Man is about to suffer" (v.12). He is not only God's Son; he is the Suffering Servant, the servant of whom Isaiah predicted:

*He was despised and rejected by others;
a man of suffering and acquainted with
infirmity.....*

*He was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;*

*Upon him was the punishment that made
us whole,*

And by his bruises we are healed.

(Isa 53:3-5)

"Listen to him", God commands. You have rejoiced to see God's Son in glory; let that strengthen you when you see God's Servant in suffering.

Jesus wants his disciples to "buy" his vision of the Kingdom. But nothing of value is ever bought cheaply. As life unfolds, we come to understand that the price of the things we hold most dear is far greater than we'd imagined in the beginning. Our marriages and families, our dreams, our life's work all looked so simple when we said "yes" to them. Later the price of our loves and dreams began to come clear, and like the apostles, we've experienced the desire to ask for a refund, to put a "no" in place of our "yes" and to retreat to a stopping place that's warm, cosy and safe, and far from the hard living down the mountain.

It is to all of us that Jesus speaks from the glorious mountaintop. "I know", he says, "I know what it means to be tired and afraid, to want to run away and not come back, to want to hide in a safe place and never come out. I know! But you mustn't do that, you have no need to. You will labour and struggle, sweat and suffer, and sometimes face crushing defeats, but you will never be crushed. You will triumph in the end. That is my pledge to you, and I give you the sign of my own dying and rising from the dead as the guarantee of my pledge.

As we journey with Jesus to our own particular Jerusalem **look** to him, **listen** to him.

LITURGY TIMES

17th March — 23rd March

Grovely	St William's
Monday:	9.15am Mass <i>Patrick, bishop</i>
Wednesday:	5.45—6.45pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7.00pm Mass <i>Joseph, husband of Mary</i>
Thursday:	9.00am Mass <i>with Yr 2/3</i>
Friday:	7.00am Mass 7.30pm Stations of the Cross
Saturday:	7.00am Mass 11.00am—12 noon Reconciliation

Next Weekend Masses

Saturday:	6.00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday:	6:30am, 8.00am, 9.30am 5:30pm

Mitchelton	Our Lady of Dolours
Monday:	8.30am Mass <i>Patrick, bishop</i>
Tuesday:	8.30am Mass <i>Cyril of Jerusalem, bishop</i>
Friday:	8.30am Mass 9.05am Stations of the Cross
Saturday:	3.45—4.15pm Reconciliation

Next Weekend Masses

Saturday:	4.30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday:	8:00am

Samford	Sacred Heart
Thursday:	7.00—7.25pm Reconciliation 7.30pm Mass
Next Weekend Mass	
Sunday:	8.00am Mass

Readings for this Week
2nd Sunday of Lent (Yr A)

Gen 12:1-4
2 Tim 1:8-10
Mt 17:1-9

Next Week's Readings
3rd Sunday of Lent (Yr A)

Ex 17:3-7
Rom 5:1-2, 5-8
Jn 4:5-42

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday Evenings
St. William's Church

5.45pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
7.00pm Mass



Come for 10 minutes....stay longer

The presence of the Blessed Sacrament encourages a prayerful spirit of praise.

GROVELY NEWS



The Second Collection

amounted to \$6197.80
We thank all who contributed.

Counters this week:

1st Coll: John & Marie Rooney
2nd Coll: Brian & Pat McMackin,
Tris van Twest



Rosary will be prayed in the home of Catheryne Andrews, 5 Spielberg Rd McDowall at 7pm on Tuesday.

Baptism:

We joyfully announce the baptism of Hubert O'Brien & Chloe Michael and welcome them into our faith community.

Social Club:

Morning tea and bingo at 10am this Wednesday, in the Daley Centre.

Planned Giving:

Thank you for your generous contributions. Statements for the last 8 months are available outside the church. Could you please pick up your statement to minimise postage. God bless you.

Working Bee



St. William's Church
12 April (just before Easter)
After 7am Mass

It's been 12 months since our last working bee and our church is desperately in need of a good spruce up before Easter. Jobs include dusting, polishing, tidying etc.

All parishioners who are able to help us in any way are welcome to join up. A light breakfast will be provided.

Please contact Michelle on 3355 2667 if you can help.

The Catholic Leader - \$2.00

- Caritas head calls on government to reverse aid decision—cuts hit the poor
- Fr. Michael McCarthy bishop-elect for Rockhampton
- Stillborn's miracle survival attributed to intercession by Bishop Sheen of USA
- St. William's School International Women's Day Breakfast
- Pope says Lent's a time to change

Adoration & Prayer

Come and spend some quiet time with the Lord



ST WILLIAM'S
Social Justice Group

"The Church and Justice"

The commandment "Thou shalt not kill" sets a clear limit to safeguard the value of human life. Today we also have to say "thou shalt not" to an economy of exclusion and inequality. Such an economy kills. Why is it not a news item when an elderly homeless person dies of exposure but news when the stock market loses two points? This is a case of exclusion. Can we continue to stand by when food is thrown away while people are starving? This is a case of inequality. Today everything comes under the laws of competition and survival of the fittest, where the powerful feed upon the powerless. As a consequence, masses of people find themselves excluded and marginalized: without work, without possibilities, without any means of escape.

Some people continue to defend trickle-down theories which assume that economic growth, encouraged by a free market, will inevitably succeed in bringing about greater justice and inclusiveness. This opinion, never confirmed by facts, expresses a crude and naïve trust in the goodness of those wielding economic power and in the sacralized workings of the prevailing economic system. Meanwhile, the excluded are still waiting. To sustain a lifestyle which excludes others, or to sustain enthusiasm for that selfish ideal, a globalization of indifference has developed. Almost without being aware of it, we end up being incapable of feeling compassion at the outcry of the poor, weeping for other people's pain, and feeling a need to help them, as though all this were someone else's responsibility and not our own. And all those lives stunted for lack of opportunity seem a mere spectacle; they fail to move us.

Exclusion ultimately has to do with what it means to be a part of the society in which we live; those excluded are no longer society's underside or its fringes or its disenfranchised — they are no longer even a part of it. The excluded are not the "exploited" but the outcast, the "leftovers".

Extract from "Evangelii Gaudium", Pope Francis, November 2013.

Lectio Divina

Praying the Scriptures in Lent

This is a beautiful booklet which invites prayerful and meditative reflection on the Sunday Readings during Lent.

Download your copy at
www.dbb.org.au



Prayer Group –

Come for as long as you can!
 9 - 10am Tuesday at Sacred Heart Church, Samford
 1st half hour – Rosary and Chaplet;
 2nd half-hour – Adoration.

**Christian Meditation Prayer
 the John Main Way.**

Come along and join with us at the Samford Church for 40 minutes each Friday 9am.

Baptism:

We joyfully announce the baptism of Austin Hill, Sabrielle & Sapphira Carnall and welcome them into our faith community.

MITCHELTON NEWS



Collections:

1st: Coll. \$ 333.50
 2nd Coll. \$1432.50

Counters:

This week: Group A—Michael Kuilboer
 Next week: Group B—Phillip Zabaraskas



Family Rosary:

This week: Avin & Daryl Parke
 Next week: Emilie Ephgrave

Bus Trips



Every third Thursday of the month, at approx. 8am a bus leaves from St. William's car park travelling to various social day trip destinations. (There may be a couple of other pick up/drop off points along the way). The bus returns to the car park at approximately 4.30pm.

More travelling companions are required—male and female.

Next trip will be Thursday 20th March.

For more information contact Joan O'Riordan on 3851 0582.

Faithful Departed

Recently:

Bryan Jamieson, James Brewty (U.K.), Terry Byrnes, Greg O'Mara, Graham Meehan (Melbourne), Jim Anchant, Kevin Campbell.

Anniversaries:

Kath Toon, Robert Donnelly.



Adult Faith Education

The month of March sees 3 important feast days – St. Patrick on March 17, St. Joseph on March 19 and the Annunciation on March 25.

By far the most important of the three is the Annunciation, at which time God broke into the world of human beings and was conceived in Mary's womb. The thought is utterly incredible. Humanity cannot really grasp the immensity of this event because our human minds and words do not have the capacity to even start to comprehend what this actually means.

All we can do is marvel at it and thank Mary that she was prepared to accept God's Grace and say "yes".

St. Joseph needs no introduction, neither does St. Patrick, especially if we have some Irish background. On March 17 you might like to google "The Breastplate of St. Patrick". This is a long but beautiful prayer and so much better when it is sung. Most people would be familiar with the last stanza – "Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me etc".

The Lenten Program has begun – any queries? - ring Rosaleen 3351 6601 or Pat 3351 1163.

How did the first few days of Lent go?

Pick up your **Prayer Card for the Second Sunday of Lent** today. A different one for each Sunday of Lent

Going Forth during Lent

During Lent, our three communities will be united in a change to the liturgical action of "Going Forth" at the conclusion of Mass.

This "ending" of our celebration is also our beginning of fresh engagement with the world and each other.

HOW?

Rather than singing a recessional song, we are all invited to immediately follow the presider out of the church through the main aisle.

Once outside, we are ready to give witness to God's presence in our lives, through our care for the stranger, our greeting to newcomers, and our concern for one another, as we go out into the world.

Project Compassion

For Deng in South Sudan, the cycle of poverty and disability was made worse with the civil war, which led him and his family to flee their village and live in the bush for many years. Deng and his family are rebuilding their lives through their participation in a Caritas Australia food security program.



Your donation to Project Compassion can help individuals like Deng to rebuild their lives post-conflict.

As a parish community this Lent, we offer all action from our Just World project (your weekly newsletter insert) towards supporting Project Compassion.



R.C.I.A. Presentation of the Creed

This Sunday at 9.30am at St. William's, our R.C.I.A. elect and candidates will join together with the community for the Presentation of the Creed. In this ritual, they will hear Fr. Frank and the community recite to them the great statement of our faith which dates from the Council of Nicea in 325CE. They will be asked to profess their faith in accordance with that Creed at their baptism and reception into the Church at the Easter Vigil. In our liturgy today, we will take the time to say the creed, the statement of our faith, with thought and deliberation.

Our elect and candidates will celebrate the Rites of Healing and Strengthening over the next 3 weeks across the Grovely/Samford communities:

March 23: 8.00am **Sacred Heart**
1st Rite of Healing & Strengthening

March 30: 6.30am & 9.30am **St Williams**
2nd Rite of Healing & Strengthening

April 6: 9.30am **St. Williams**
3rd Rite of Healing & Strengthening

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

Below: Our RCIA Elect and Candidates, their families and sponsors, Fr Frank and the RCIA Team with Bishop Brian Finnigan at St Stephen's Cathedral for the Rite of Election on Sunday 9th March.

Please pray for our Elect: Rachael Statham & Zoe Parmenter, and our Candidates Melissa Tyne, Nadine Gagliardi & Jim Wilson, as they continue their faith journey




Western Hills Youth

#SaveThe Date for an epic challenge of minds at Western Hills Youth's inaugural **iQuiz Challenge!** Come one and all for this exciting night! Only on **10th of May 2014**. Tickets will be on sale in April.

Email:  westernhillsyouth.grovely@gmail.com

 Twitter: @whygrovely

 [facebook.com/westernhillsyouthgroup](https://www.facebook.com/westernhillsyouthgroup)

Web:  www.westernhillsyouthau.wordpress.com

Catholic Psychiatric Care

Catholic Psychiatric Pastoral Care need mature committed Catholics who can relate pastorally with those suffering mental illness.

Training course each Wednesday from 7th May to 26th Nov. (9am—3.30pm). Application final date 25th April—apply in writing to Fr. Jim Smith, 58 Morgan St. Fort. Valley.

Enqs email cppc@bne.catholic.net.au or phone 3252 5461

LYME DISEASE



Bellevue Care Centre is hosting a Lyme Fundraiser

"Hope for Emily Madden"

This Wednesday 19 March 10am to 1pm
Reception, 53 Linkwood Dr. Ferny Hills

Homemade sweets & condiments, raffles, handcrafted gifts, tea & coffee, Lyme Awareness.

- **St. Columba's, Wilston:** In honour of our Centenary, Bishop Joseph Oudeman and Fr Jan Bialasiewicz will bless and open St Columba's Centenary Piazza on Sun March 30 at 3.30pm at St. Columba's Church, Kedron Brook Road, Wilston. As well, our book, A Community of Faith: 100 Years, outlining some of the history and stories of St Columba's through the last 100 years, will be launched by Fr Michael Grace. All are welcome.

- **ASSISTANT CHAPLAIN (P/T)** The Ecumenical Tertiary Chaplaincy Committee is seeking applicants for the position of Assistant Chaplain to work at the Gold Coast campus of Griffith University 6 hours per week throughout the 2014 teaching semesters. This position will begin as soon as possible following appointment. For further information, please contact The Chair: Scott Frame, 28 Semillon Street, Thornlands Q 4164. (0404) 080 004 scott.frame@aue.salvationarmy.org Applications close this Friday 21st March.

- A new initiative from **menALIVE** is "menALIVE In The City" held regularly from 5.45 until 7.30pm in the Francis Rush Centre (Beside The Cathedral of St Stephen). Next event is Thurs. 27 March with the topic: Peace in a Chaotic Life. This is a great opportunity for men to get together and explore the things that matter. Enqs: contact menALIVE on 3367 1402 or mail@menalive.org.au

- **St. Stephen's Cathedral Concert Series** presents its first concert for 2014 in a program entitled Music for His Majesty's Pleasure, presented by Australian Baroque Brass on Sun. March 30 at 4.00 pm. The associate artist is QCM Trumpet Ensemble. Admission is \$25 (adults) and \$20 (concession). The Cathedral is located at 249 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane and concert goers may use the Cathedral car park from 3.00 (entrance from Charlotte Street) Enqs. call 07 3876 6812 or visit the Cathedral music website www.ststephensmusic.com

- **Easter Passion Play** The Iona Passion Play: 3 performances at 2 locations—Sunday April 6th at 7pm – St Eugene College Hall BURPENGARY Good Friday Apr 18th & Sat Apr 19th at 7:30pm – Iona College BRISBANE (outdoors) Tickets: Early Bird: \$12-\$15; at the Door: \$15-\$18 Children (under 15) \$5 Children (5 & under) Free at Iona only. Group discounts available. Bookings: 3333 1993 or online at www.passionplay.org.au



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