

Fourth Sunday of Lent
30th 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

Clergy:

Fr. Frank Lourigan PP

Fr. Robert Doohan
Residing at O.L.D. Presbytery
Ph 3355 1349

Rev. Peter McDade, Deacon

Pastoral Associate:

Mrs. Tracie Gallagher (Wed - Fri)
Phone: 3355 1665
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Sacramental Co-ordinator:

Mrs. Marie-Louise Singson
Monday & Tuesday mornings
sc.grovely@bne.catholic.net.au
Enqs. 3355 1665

Parish Secretary:

Mrs. Michelle Giuliani (Tues - Fri)
grovely@bne.catholic.net.au

Finance Officer:

Mr. Tris van Twest
(Mon - Fri)
finance.grovely@bne.catholic.net.au

Assistant Secretary:

Mrs. Gail Bowley
Mon: am, Thurs: pm, & Fri. 8—4
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67 Dawson Parade, Keperra 4054

Mitchelton Presbytery

11 Suez Street, Mitchelton 4053

St William's School

67 Dawson Parade, Keperra 4054
Ph 3355 5122 Fax 3354 3330

St Andrew's School

Cnr Hogarth & Upper Kedron Roads
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Ph 33516886 Fax 3851 1054

Our Lady of Dolours School

2 Willcocks Street, Mitchelton 4053
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Faith - to See as God Sees



We've just passed the halfway mark of Lent. How are you going? The rain has finally come; we delight in its potential for transforming our land, washing dust away, enlivening our spirits.

That is what our five R.C.I.A. Catechumens and Candidates are working through at a deeper level of spiritual and personal transformation, as they prepare for Easter Faith. And so say all of us? Each Sunday of Lent, the Gospels get us further into the mystery of Christ. Today's image is of **darkness to light!**

In reflecting upon the experience of the man born blind, and the fact that the Pharisees chose not to see Jesus for who he truly was, we might be prompted to consider our own visual acuity. Most of us are probably blind to someone or something at one time or another. Whether deliberate or not, certain biases, preferences and even prejudices cause a form of blindness whereby we do not see clearly.

Jesus came to free every human from any of the multiple blindnesses that shape our lives. So a mid Lent lesson from Jesus in the long story of John in the cure of the blind man. This Sunday's long Gospel has been read every year in Lent since the first century: not only for our candidates and elect who are exploring the real world of light, insight and faith, but all of us grown old in the faith—**we all need it!**

First we need to take a hard look at those Pharisees (just in case we might start to look like one), who claimed to see the truth better than anybody, but in fact didn't see the truth at all. They should make us very

nervous. Second, we need to remember Jesus' power to cure blindness, even life-long blindness.

In the story, Jesus picked up a little dirt, spat upon it, rubbed the mud on the blind man's eyes, and had him wash his eyes in the pool. Suddenly the man was cured. The case was clear-cut: a miracle, from life-long blindness to perfect sight. But look at how the Pharisees denied and distorted what was right in front of their eyes.

- They denied that it was the same man;
- They challenged whether he had really been blind;
- They tried to discredit him because he was ignorant and poor;
- And when all that failed, they attacked Jesus by saying that he couldn't possibly be a decent man because he had broken the law of Moses by working on Sunday: spitting on the dirt to make mud for the blind man's eyes!

Why did they do all that? Because they were afraid that it would cost too much to look at the truth; because then they'd have to act on it.

Why do we humans, who are made in the "image and likeness of God", with every potential for the "fullness of life" - why do we hide from the truth and settle for mere shadows of reality, instead of **reality itself?** For the same reason probably: we fear we can't cope with the truth, so we pretend it doesn't exist.

Our R.C.I.A. searchers are discovering new ways of seeing. Their eyes are opened to see differently. With the sort of light Christ offers, no one need ever walk in darkness. Nor is it necessary to live with cataracts blocking fresh ways to see again.

Mid Lent is a good time for renewal—to let the light in. To see as God sees in the way of Faith.

Spit and paste—and see again.

STOP PRESS: News just to hand Friday. Bishop Michael Putney (Townsville) died in the early hours of Friday morning. A great man, old colleague from Banyo, leading theologian, pre-eminent ecumenist—may he rest in peace.

LITURGY TIMES

31st March — 6th April

Grovely	St William's
Monday:	9.15am Mass
Wednesday:	5.45—6.45pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7.00pm Mass
Thursday:	9.00am Mass 10.30am Funeral Mass <i>Andrew Aitkin</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
Tuesday:	8.30am Mass
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:	7.30pm <i>Liturgy of the Word with Communion</i>
Next Weekend Mass	
Sunday:	8.00am Mass

Readings for this Week
4th Sunday of Lent (Yr A)

1 Sam 16:1, 6-7, 10-13
Eph 5:8-14
Jn 9:1-41

Next Week's Readings
5th Sunday of Lent (Yr A)

Ezek 37:12-14
Rom 8:8-11
Jn 11:1-45

GROVELY NEWS



The Second Collection amounted to \$6607.45
We thank all who contributed.

Counters this week:
1st Coll: Sue Skehan
2nd Coll: Tony & Sharon Agar



Rosary will be prayed in the home of Mary Harrison, 9 Grandis Ct. Everton Hills at 7pm Tuesday.

Social Club:
Morning tea and bingo at 10am this Wednesday in the Daley Centre.

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. and set up for Palm Sunday

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.

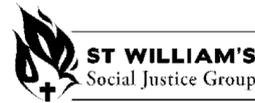
Palm Sunday is Coming

We need large amounts of branches from parishioners, for use as hand-held palms throughout our three communities. Please start looking for suitable trees. They will be required by 4pm Thursday 10th April.



We will also need large palms to decorate the church and mall.

Please call Michelle at the Parish Office if you can help: 3355 2667



We are a society which

has forgotten how to weep

- Pope Francis

The National Lament is a campaign of prayer, penance and action for people seeking asylum in Australia – it is a Christian response to these people, rather than treating them as a “problem” to be solved.

We are all encouraged to engage in prayer, penance and action for people seeking asylum in Australia by:

- Making Friday in Lent a day of prayer and penance for people seeking asylum
- Continuing this practice after Lent through to the Ascension
- Writing to our local Federal members (Jane Prentice and Peter Dutton) and to the Minister, Scott Morrison, expressing our lament for people seeking asylum in Australia

Our Prayer

We beg forgiveness for our indifference to so many of our brothers and sisters.

God, we ask your pardon for those who are complacent and closed amid comforts which have deadened their hearts;

We beg your forgiveness for those who by their decisions on the global level have created situations that lead to these tragedies.

Forgive us, Lord!

Pope Francis, Lampedusa 8.7.2013

Project Compassion

This week we meet Martina, a teacher in the Solomon Islands. Her favourite part of the school day is teaching the children songs from Caritas Australia's Disaster



Risk Management project which was established after a string of natural disasters in the Pacific that threatened the homes and communities of people living in the Solomon Islands. Through the power of nursery rhymes and songs, children are learning how to stay safe during an emergency.

Please donate to Project Compassion today so we can continue to educate teachers like Martina and help keep children safe during an emergency.

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

2nd Rite of Reconciliation
THIS WEEK

Mitchelton	Monday	10.00am
Grovely	Thursday	7.30pm
	(Children's) Saturday	9.30am

St. Vincent de Paul

Congratulations to John Forrest who was recently elected as Queensland President of the St Vincent De Paul Society. John was President of the St Williams Conference, Grovely, from March 1993 to May 1996 and later moved to the Sunshine Coast.



The Church Shop

Copies of *Evangelii Gaudium—The Joy of the Gospel* by Pope Francis, have arrived, and are priced at \$9.95. Wonderful gifts for both First Communion and Confirmation in the same item are available. There are also cards, including those for the Sacraments.



Setting up for Palm Sunday:

Helpers needed (both men and ladies) to set up outside palm corridor and inside church on Saturday April 12.



Large and small palm fronds are needed as our usual supply is not longer available.

Please contact Gus de Groot if you can help: 3351 6858

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.

MITCHELTON NEWS



Collections:

1st. Coll. \$ 283.85
 2nd Coll. \$1337.25

Counters:

This week: Group C—Leo Brown
 Next week: Group D—Dermott O'Moore



Family Rosary:

This week: Elizabeth & Stan Rose
 Next week: Lloyd & Lynette Eickenloff

Mitchelton Church Working Bee:

Saturday 5 April 9 – 12 noon.
 Bring cleaning gear & rags etc.
 Contact Parish council - Margaret 33551507 or Pam 3355 2882.



Children Led Liturgy:

This Saturday at 4.30pm.

Easter Volunteers:

Easter is a few short weeks away! We invite volunteers to put their names forward to be involved with the Holy Week ceremonies. As well as volunteers from our regular Readers & Special Ministers, we'd also welcome others' involvement. Please give this some careful thought & prayer through the week; put your name forward on the board in the entrance.

Faithful Departed

Recently:

Andrew Aitkin (*Mary's son*), John Cahill (*Margaret's husband*), Robyn Forscutt (*Paula Cramsie's sister-in-law*), Marie Boyce, Frank Cronin, Bishop Michael Putney, Sr. Tarcisius rsc, Daniel James USA, Daphne Petrusis, Val Houston, Sr. Helen Foley sgs (*former Good Samaritan Provincial Leader Qld*), Bryan Jamieson, James Brewty (*U.K.*), Terry Byrnes, Greg O'Mara, Graham Meehan (*Melbourne*).

Anniversaries:

Colin Linnane, Tim Merrell, Les O'Shea, Glenn Rhodes.

Funerals:

John Cahill's funeral was celebrated on Friday at St. William's Church. Andrew Aitkin's funeral will be celebrated Thursday at St. William's Church. Our prayers and sympathy are with John's wife Margaret, and Andrew's mother Mary, and his sisters.



Adult Faith Education

During Lent everyone has been trying very hard to change aspects of their relationship with God so as to prepare to participate more deeply in the Paschal Mystery and experience the joy of Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

The midpoint of the Lenten period occurs on the Thursday of the third week of Lent and in an effort to encourage us for the second half of Lent, the Church calls today, the **4th Sunday of Lent, Laetare Sunday**. In Latin, "Laetare" means "rejoice". So we celebrate for a while (just today) and you will note that the colour of the vestments changes from the usual Lenten purple, to rose.

Then we set our faces towards the second half of Lent to ensure we can more fully enter into the Paschal Mystery and the joy, peace and love of Easter Sunday.

Traditionally, many Catholics try to go to the sacrament of Reconciliation sometime during Lent and an opportunity to do so will happen this week at both Mitchelton and Grovely. Although there is no hard and fast Church rule that one should do this at this time, this is a very worthwhile thing to do as part of our Lenten preparation for Easter.

However, there is a requirement that one should go to the Sacrament once, at any stage during the year, if one has committed a serious sin. Of course, receiving the Sacrament more often is encouraged.

Fr. John Thornhill has an excellent DVD on this Sacrament – practical and inspirational. If you would like to borrow it, plus the transcript, ring Pat 3351 1163 or Rosaleen 3351 6601.

QUIZ CHALLENGE

iQuiz Challenge - Parish Trivia Night

The whole Parish is invited to attend the inaugural iQuiz Challenge—a trivia night beyond compare - being held in the Mary Mackillop Centre, on 10th May from 7pm.

Come and test your knowledge against the Quiz Master and show which team has got what it takes to win our grand prizes.

Tickets are \$10 per person or \$90 for a table of 10!

Limited spaces are available, so buy your tickets online at: goo.gl/eVH0ht or from the Parish Office. All proceeds go towards this year's Parish Youth Retreat.

For more information, email westernhillsyouth.grovely@gmail.com or visit: goo.gl/eVH0ht

End of School Term 1



It's been a long Term 1 which ends this Friday, when our schools begin a two week break—with staff, do doubt, looking forward to the rest just as much as the students.

Enjoy the break and your journey towards Easter.

The Catholic Leader - \$2.00

- Popular Brisbane priest Fr James O'Brien mourned
- Find out some of the best places in Australia to make a retreat
- New Rockhampton bishop ready to serve the people
- New Vocations initiative to help engage young Catholics
- Having fun is a serious task to help keep marriages together
- Talking point: Sr Elvera Sesta on walking with Jesus



Rite of Healing & Strengthening

St. William's, Grovely

This week: 6.30am & 9.30am Masses
Next week: 9.30am Mass

This Sunday our elect and candidates celebrate the 2nd Rite of Healing and Strengthening. This Rite focuses on the invitation to turn from darkness to light and be filled with Christ the Redeemer, the light of the world.



If you're new to Western Hills Youth, want to join our team or you want to find out more information, send us an email.

- Email: westernhillsyouth.grovely@gmail.com
- Twitter: @whygrovely
- Facebook: [facebook.com/westernhillsyouthgroup](https://www.facebook.com/westernhillsyouthgroup)
- Web: goo.gl/eVH0ht

Communion to the Sick

Grovely & Mitchelton Parishes both have a great tradition of arranging for Communion to be taken to the sick and disabled weekly or as arranged. This is to private homes as well as Retirement Villages and Nursing Homes.



BUT WE NEED MORE!

Could you consider this ministry even if you are not currently a Minister of Communion. Do let us know at the Office. Training and support is offered and Fr. Frank has to get official approval of each by the Archbishop. There are **two** main needs: visit people at home and visit Retirement Villages.

We need extra help. Thank you for your consideration.

Chrism Mass

Archbishop Mark Coleridge

Invites you to the annual

CHRISM MASS

Thursday 10th April at 7.30pm

THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. STEPHEN

A celebration for the entire Archdiocese

All welcome



Guided Group Retreat

The First Spiritual Exercises: a taste of the prayer methods of St Ignatius Loyola. Five Mondays 7-8.30pm beginning May 5th in the Atrium, Lower Daley Centre for 5-6 people with Christine Webb and Maria Shelley

Expressions of interest to Parish Office by Monday April 28.

- **Netball** competition for Senior players on Wednesday nights @ Downey Park, Windsor. Teams wanted. Commences 23 April 2014 Further information on www.gcna.org.au *Old Catholic Netball Association*.

- **Job Opportunity:** To talk to the Catholic business and professional community and ask them to be in the Christian Business Directory of Brisbane – The Christian Referdex. The applicant will speak fluent English; will have their own transport and a license to drive it; own a personal computer; have the knowledge and skills to use Microsoft Office; send emails and be able to schedule appointments; have a pleasant phone manner and personality; be prepared to meet with the business and professional community. Hours are flexible, i.e. for example school hours of 9 to 3.

Apply via the work@referdex.com.au attaching a recent photo plus information detailing why you would be suitable for this position. More information is found in "Jobs" via our website: <http://www.referdex.com.au/?pg=Qld>

- **CCR National Day of Prayer, Praise & Worship Rally:** CCR Brisbane Centre, Cnr. Fraser & Nudgee Rds, Northgate. Sat. 12 April with presider Bishop Joseph Oudeman. 10am Rally followed by Launch of Healing Prayer Centre. 12pm Lunch—please bring a plate to share. Enqs. Miriam 3202 6856. Email: secretary@ccrbrisbane.org.au

- **St. Stephen's Cathedral concert:** Cootha Quartet presents Haydn String Quartet Op. 51 *Seven Last Words of Christ* narrated by Sasha Dyer. April 4th at 8pm.

Admission \$15/\$10.
www.coothaquartet.com

- You are invited to find out more about the new certificate course "**Foundation for Evangelising Ministry**". This course will benefit those who would like to gain skills for ministry in parish life. Presenters from the course will be visiting our local area for an Introduction Night on Tuesday April 15 at 7 - 8.30 pm. Venue to be confirmed. For more information www.ife.qld.edu.au

Or contact Tracie, Parish Office Wednesday—Friday: Ph 3355 1665.

Confirmation/First Communion

Parents of children preparing to receive First Communion are reminded of the upcoming workshops.

31 st March	Group A	3:30pm -5:00pm	Mitchelton
1 st April	Groups B & H	3:30pm -5:00pm	Grovely
2 nd April	Group D	3:30pm -5:00pm	Grovely
3 rd April	Groups F & G	3:30pm -5:00pm	Samford



Enquiries: Marie-Louise Singson, Sacramental Coordinator
Parish Office Monday & Tuesday mornings 9am—1pm
Ph: 3355 1665 or email sc.grovely@bne.catholic.net.au



Download the free Parish App today!



Available on the iPhone



Windows Phone

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