

33rd Sunday
Ordinary Time
19th November 2017

WHAT'S YOUR EXCUSE?



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. Nigel Sequeira PP

Fr. Lucius Edomobi
Residing at O.L.D. Presbytery
Ph 3355 1349

Rev. Peter McDade, Deacon

Pastoral Associate:

Local Safeguarding Rep:

Mrs. Sue Allen (Wed - Fri)
Phone: 3355 1665
pcgrovely@bne.catholic.net.au

Sacramental Co-ordinator:

Mrs. Marie-Louise Singson
(Mon - Wed) 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 Katrina Bailey
Mon: am, Thurs: pm, & Fri. 8 - 4
Newsletter items to:
bulletin.grovely@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH OFFICE

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Ph 3355 2667 Fax 3855 3455
Email: grovely@bne.catholic.net.au
www.gsmparishes.com.au

Hours: Mon 8am—1pm; Tues—Fri. 8am—4pm

Grovely Presbytery

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
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

67—69 Osborne Rd. Mitchelton 4053
Ph 3550 3400

YYY Radio FM 87.6

Ph 0466 964 664

Email: operations@yyfmradio.org
www.yyfmradio.org

These are excuse notes from parents (with their original spelling) collected by schools:

- My son is under a doctor's care and should not take P.E. today. Please execute him.
- Please excuse Lisa for being absent. She was sick and I had her shot.
- Dear School: Please excuse John being absent on Jan. 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, and also 33.
- Please excuse Gloria from Jim today. She is administrating.
- Please excuse Roland from P.E. for a few days. Yesterday he fell out of a tree and misplaced his hip.
- John has been absent because he had two teeth taken out of his face.
- Carlos was absent yesterday because he was playing football. He was hurt in the growing part.
- Megan could not come to school today because she has been bothered by very close veins.
- Chris will not be in school cus he has an acre in his side.
- Please excuse Ray Friday from school. He has very loose vowels.
- Please excuse Pedro from being absent yesterday. He had diahre dyrea direathe the runs.
- Please excuse Jimmy for being. It was his father's fault.
- Please excuse Jennifer for missing school yesterday. We forgot to get the Sunday paper off the porch, and when we found it on Monday, we thought it was Sunday.
- Sally won't be in school a week from Friday. We have to attend her funeral.

There is a wise saying: 'If you really want to do something, you'll find a way. If you don't, you'll find an excuse.' We all know people who make excuses and we don't have to look too far, just imagine how much we could accomplish in the world if we were as creative at doing our tasks as we are at making excuses for not tackling our tasks in the first place.

In today's Gospel a man has invested in his servants. He gives them money to care for while he is away. Two of the servants invest the money wisely and can give back more than they were given when their master returns. One servant, afraid of losing the money, buried it to protect it and so was able to give the master exactly what he had been entrusted with. The two with a good return on the investment are understandably rewarded. Their master praises their resourcefulness and trusts them with greater responsibility after their good job. The servant who returns his coin intact, however, is not praised. He is reprimanded for not increasing his wealth. He thought he would be praised for not losing the money. Returning the money was the least he could do. He made excuses for his laziness.

We have all been entrusted with gifts. What will we do with what God has given us? Will we make excuses for using our talents or will we make the best use of our talents and give back more than we have been given. Preserving our lives is the least we can do. The best we can do is to appreciate and take advantage of what has been entrusted to us. We can use our hearts and minds to give glory to God and to help each other.

The readings today call on us not to be shy and hide our gifts away, but to be bold and to generously use them. As we use these God-given gifts those who benefit from them might come to see Christ in us.

Nigel Sequeira

LITURGY TIMES

20 November - 26 November

Grovely	St William's
Monday	9.15am Mass
Wednesday	6.15pm <i>Silent Prayer before the exposed Eucharist until</i> 7.00pm Mass <i>St Cecilia, martyr</i>
Thursday	9.00am Mass
Friday	7.00am Mass <i>Sts Andrew Dung-Lac and companions, priest & martyrs</i>
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.
Oxford Park	St. Joseph's
Sunday	9.30am Mass
Mitchelton	Our Lady of Dolours
Monday:	8.30am Mass
Tuesday:	8.30am Mass <i>Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>
Friday	8.30am Mass <i>Sts Andrew Dung-Lac and companions, priest & martyrs</i>
Saturday:	3.45 - 4.30pm Reconciliation
Next Weekend Masses	
Saturday:	4.30pm Mass
Sunday:	8:00am Mass
Samford	Sacred Heart
Thursday	7.00pm Mass <i>(With reconciliation after Mass upon request)</i>
Next Weekend Mass	
Sunday:	8.00am Mass



This Week's Readings 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Prov 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31;
1 Thess 5:1-6;
Mt 25:14-30

Next Week's Readings Christ the King



Ezek 34:11-12, 15-17;
1 Cor 15:20-26, 28;
Mt 25:31-46

Grovely News



The Collection:

amounted to \$ 6109.75
We thank all who contributed.

Counters this week:

John & Marie Rooney, Dermott O'Moore, Leo Brown and Damian Carter.

Rosary will be prayed in the home of Kevin & Trish Davidson at 18 Cycas St, Arana Hills at 7pm on Tuesday.

Baptisms:

We joyfully announce the baptism of Gianna Downing, Zaiden Cook, Esme Hayward and Jack Valencia-Revatta and welcome them into our faith community.

Grovely Church Shop:

We have two great little booklets to help you through your Advent/Christmas journey. These booklets commence on 03 December, and conclude on January 08, the Baptism of the Lord.
(1) The **Little Blue Book**: This consists of daily 6 minute Gospel reflections, plus a variety of thoughts about the Advent/Christmas seasons. (\$4)
(2) **CHOSEN**: This little booklet, with its wonderful art work, is produced at Woolongong, and also contains Advent and Christmas daily reflections. (\$5)
Both books are thought-provoking, and easily readable.

Samford News



Baptism:

We joyfully announce the baptism of Charlotte Seaton, Evelyn Fraser, Emmanuella Hebrard, Krista Guinea and Darcy Macuga and welcome them into our faith community.

Mitchelton News



The Collection:

amounted to \$ 1512.45
We thank all who contributed.

Counters this week:

Group A - Michael Kuilboer

Counters next week:

Group B - Philip Zabaruskas

Family Rosary:

This week: Helen Erilla
Next week: Bel & Phil Ventura

Baptism:

We joyfully announce the baptism of Inese Cahill and welcome her into our faith community.



There will be a **Mass for Anointing the Sick** at Moonah Park Retirement Village, Mitchelton on **Monday 20th November** commencing at 10.45 am.



A Candlelit Service of Readings and Carols

"We Are the Choir"

Led by the choirs of St Paul's Anglican Church and The Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart

SUNDAY 3rd DECEMBER at 6pm
At ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
12 Mt Samson Rd, Samford

All Welcome

Grovely - Samford



The **Grovely St Vincent de Paul Conference** requires volunteers to deliver bread to families within our parish. The commitment would be for about 2 hours maximum, once per month, on a Sat/Sun evening.

Anyone interested please call Brian Bensted on 33511174 or 0421569170.



Vinnies needs your help!

Would you bake a slice for Vinnies -
SUNDAY 26 November 2017

This is our last and biggest fundraising concert for 2017. We cater for 200 people. This is the last opportunity to raise much needed funds to support our work with the needy in the local area. Please ring me if you could possibly help us or would like more information.
Denise Quinlan (0417 631 194)



St Joseph's Oxford Park

St V de P will be selling Cards & Calendars after **9.30am Mass in the Irish Room today.**

We will set up on the Walk Way near the Altar end of the Irish Room.

Faithful Departed



Recently:

James McKenna, Laraman Ling,
Angela Clutterbuck.



Prayers for the sick

We pray for:

Colyn Bierton, Gerry Cavanagh,
Noelene Ellis, Michelle Faustmann,
Ray Harman, Chris Lamb, Linda Moffatt,
Gay Murray, Ron Needham, Jen Nilon,
Joyce Powell, Faye Shanahan,
John Weier.



Every November, Catholics have a grand tradition of remembering the dead in prayer. It is a core belief we profess each Sunday in the Creed that we are joined in the "communion of saints" - linking the living and the dead in the family of God. You are invited to add names to the Book of Life as they come to mind.

Parish Christmas Hamper Appeal

Thank you everyone for the wonderful response to our Christmas Hamper Appeal last weekend. We still have some hamper envelopes remaining, so if you would like to help please contact :
Mitchelton - Mary ph 33555775
Grovely / Samford - Hugh & Maria ph 0402281672

Note: Apologies if you tried to contact us last week, our landline is down. Please use mobile no for Hugh & Maria.



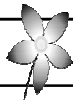
FIRST WORLD DAY OF THE POOR

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

19 November 2017

**Let us love, not with words
but with deeds**

In a message ahead of this Sunday's World Day of the Poor, Pope Francis asks us to draw near to the poor, to encounter them, to meet their gaze, to embrace them and to let them feel the warmth of love that breaks through their solitude.



Adult Faith Education

During the past year to help enrich the prayer life and spirituality of parishioners the Adult Faith team invited speakers from different strands of spirituality, ancient and new, but all with the one aim – to follow Christ and seek God, to see and serve God in all of God's people.

The **Benedictine** Rule: Sr Ursula spoke about "The Rule" being as relevant today as when first developed by St Benedict in the 6th century. Religious orders following the Rule share a common journey to seek God and God's way, engaging in prayer supported by individual spiritual reading using the practice of *lectio divina*, a slow meditative reading of Scripture trying to discern how God is at work now in the world and within one's own heart. They have a fundamental reverence for God's creation.

The **Verbum Dei Missionary** group includes professed women, men including priests and brothers, and married couples. This is a group new to Australia and more recently to Brisbane. They are a dynamic group, using Scripture in prayer and living the Gospel. Totally missionary in outlook, they arrange retreats and hold regular prayer nights to which all are invited. www.verbumdeibrisbane@weebly.com

The **Franciscans** follow St Francis of Assisi's way of poverty and service to others - they live simply in community, trusting in God's care, gaining strength and affirmation from a deep spirit of service towards the poor and excluded, seeing God in every person they meet. They pay attention to the signs of the times and respond to the conditions of the developing world, very aware of the beauty of God's creation.

The common threads in these ways of life seem to be mercy, and hospitality, together with a balanced lifestyle, and care of God's creation, which always includes God's people.



Social Justice Group

"Blessed are those who are persecuted." Matthew 5:10

Little has been made of it in the news, however a dreadful humanitarian crisis is unfolding on the borders of Bangladesh. Rohingya refugees have been forced to escape the brutality and violence being inflicted on them by the Myanmar military. This situation is not new, but been exacerbated since August 2017. Over half a million, many of them women and children, are arriving exhausted, hungry and sick, having walked for days to cross the border. They arrive into makeshift refugee camps with only what they have been able to carry in their hands. The conditions are deplorable, as reported by the very few aid agencies permitted there to assist. Who are the Rohingyans? They are a Muslim minority but beyond that it's difficult to say. Although they have been residing in Myanmar for generations, the Rohingyans are officially a people with no home or citizenship; they live their lives in limbo. The Rohingyans are one of the most persecuted peoples of the world.

Lord God, no one is a stranger to you and no one is ever far from your loving care. In your kindness, watch over refugees. Bring them back safely to the place where they long to be and help us always to show your kindness to strangers and to all in need. Amen



AGEING WISELY

As a continuation of the Ageing Wisely sessions, we have arranged for those interested to meet individually and confidentially with a staff member from Centacare to help with My Aged Care.

This session will assist in helping you gain access to personal care, domestic services and general support. It is also an opportunity to plan for your future and have access to services in urgent and unpredictable circumstances.

If you are interested please contact the parish office on 3355 2667.

Please note: There are copies of the DPS Guide to Aged Care for Queensland available in the Parish office. These are free to anyone who would like a copy.

Grovely - Samford

Latest news from our Parish Pastoral Council Meeting:

- The PPC examined the results of the three Focus Groups held to date in which 26 parishioners participated. While the numbers were low, the discussions opened up a range of ideas the PPC will look into next year as we move to develop our Mission Statement for the next five years. Our thanks to all those who joined in this exercise and helped us deepen our understanding of what we need to address as a community who follows Jesus.
- Some dates were identified: A Mass and thanksgiving for our volunteers on February 23rd; A Charismatic Retreat Day on February 25th (awaiting confirmation) and the Parish Leadership Formation Day organised by the Archdiocese on March 23rd.
- And a special date: Christmas Day lunch hosted by our parish and Centacare for all those in need. All parishioners are welcome to join. Details to follow.
- Fr Nigel, Lizzie Cramsie who works with WIN and Donna Lynch, well known to Brisbane radio listeners, are joining forces to design and develop targeted YYY programs for children...details to be announced.
- Five of our members are moving on after time with our PPC... we thank them for their generous service over the years (though I suspect they won't be far away should we call on them to assist in future) : Sandra Henry, Sue Graham, Bernie Smith, Maree Trims and Chris Locke.
- Four new members join our number in 2018: Lizzie Cramsie, Liz Haiveta, Mark Bermingham and Alison Sullivan. And there's plenty of work waiting for them!

Mitchelton & Grovely - Samford

For the Sacramental Families whose children are in the process of preparing for First communion in April 2018

Thank you to the families who attended the workshops at the Daley Centre in the Grovely Precinct on the 14th, 15th and 16th of November. If you have not quite made it to the workshop because of other commitments, please ring the Parish Office and speak with Marie-Louise about a make-up time and to get the materials and booklet you will be working on. See you soon.

If you have a child enrolled at Our Lady of Dolours currently in the Sacramental program, don't forget your workshop date is November 21st at Our Lady of Dolours.

My best wishes for the upcoming holidays and may your hearts and homes be filled with the hope, peace and love that Christmas brings and may they remain with you all through the coming year.

Many blessings, *Marie-Louise F. Singson*

Bible Quiz

What was the first thing Noah built when he came out of the Arc?

Answer next week

Answer for last week: Which city "came down from heaven prepared as a bride?"
New Jerusalem (Rev 21:2)



A Sunday school teacher asked the children just before she dismissed them to go to church, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?" Annie replied, "Because people are sleeping".

VERSE FOR VINNIES

Did you know there's a show, where you really should go and it features famed **Gregory North**. Verse-for-Vinnie's the gig, it will be really big, so we're hoping that you will come forth. While Greg's been here before, we know well that for sure, he's a poet that folk love to hear. Well he's doing this show, for Saint Vinnies you know, so at Christmas the battlers have cheer. And you'll get quite a mix, on **November two six**, as that Noel Stallard too will perform. It's a **one-thirty** start, come along and take part, as these poets will raise quite a storm. **And the fifteen bucks fee**, goes to Vinnies you see, so you're helping those people in strife. So now please come along, join the Bush Poet throng, and assist those who struggle with life. **Sunday 26 Nov. 1.30pm 67 Dawson Parade Grovely**

A VOCATION VIEW:

Don't just bury your talents. Dream your best dream about your life and then live it to the full. God calls you to live in happiness.

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you have been faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities." - MATTHEW 25:21

God expects us to nurture and develop the gifts He has given us and then generously return a portion with increase. He doesn't want us to waste or hoard the gifts He has given us; He expects us to grow our gifts, use them wisely and be generous with them. Unfortunately, many of us are not generous in proportion to all that God has given us.

GROVELY 20 November– 26 November

Monday	10.00am	Daley Centre	Faith Circle
	7.45pm	Church	Grovely Choir
Tuesday	7.00pm	Church	St W Christian Meditation: Bob 3355 2436
Wednesday	1.00pm	Library	St W Liturgy Team Meeting
Thursday	9.00am	Library	Grief Support Team

SAMFORD 20 November– 26 November

Monday		Samford Choir
Friday	9.00am	Christian Meditation: Heather 3289 4716

MITCHELTON 20 November– 26 November

Monday	6.00pm	Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday	7.00pm	Treble M Choir
Sunday	6.45pm	OLD Choir