

Year A/2  
Second Sunday of Advent  
8 December 2019  
Liturgical Colour: Violet



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  
Phone: 3355 2667

Fr. Damien Everitt  
Residing at O.L.D. Presbytery  
Phone 3355 1349

Rev. Peter McDade, Deacon

**Secretary:**

Katrina Bailey (Mon - Fri)  
Phone: 3355 2667 Ext 1  
grovely@bne.catholic.net.au

**Pastoral Associate:**

**Local Safeguarding Rep:**  
Mrs. Sue Allen (Wed - Fri)  
Phone: 3355 2667 Ext 2  
pcgrovely@bne.catholic.net.au

**Sacramental Coordinator:**

Mrs. Marie-Louise Singson  
(Mon - Wed) mornings & Thurs  
Phone: 3355 2667 Ext 3  
sc.grovely@bne.catholic.net.au

**Administration Assistant:**

Megan Carroll (Thurs-Fri)  
Newsletter items to:  
bulletin.grovely@bne.catholic.net.au

**Administration Assistant:**

Sandra Henry (Thurs)  
Phone: 3355 2667

**Finance:**

finance.grovely@bne.catholic.net.au  
ACC NAME: St William's Parish  
BSB: 064 786  
ACC: 006526001

**PARISH OFFICE**

67 Dawson Parade, Keperra 4054  
Ph 3355 2667

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**

54 Prospect Rd, Mitchelton 4053  
Ph 3550 3400


**YYY Radio FM 87.6**

Ph 0466 964 664

Email: operations@yyfmradio.org  
[www.yyfmradio.org](http://www.yyfmradio.org)

**Parish Pastoral Council**

council.grovely@bne.catholic.net.au



## Just Saying "Sorry!" Isn't Enough Repent And Reform!

Christ sent John the Baptist, his cousin, to announce his first coming 2000 years ago, because he wanted the people of Israel to be ready to receive him. He was coming to bring them new hope, forgiveness, joy, interior peace, meaning and fruitfulness - all the benefits of redemption and grace.

In Advent, we remember the first coming of Christ as a saviour, in order to thank God for it. But not just as a saviour, but also as an innocent baby. Who doesn't excitedly prepare for a baby's birth and homecoming?

But we also re-live the coming of Christ in the "today" of our own lives. This Christmas, Christ wants to make a new surge of grace in the world, in the Church, and in each one of our lives. He wants to keep pouring out those benefits of redemption.

And he wants us to be ready to receive this year's new surge of grace - he doesn't want us to miss out on it. And so, through the mass, he sends his messenger once again to teach us how to get ready.

Clearing the way for Christ to enter more deeply into our society and our lives means, first of all, repenting. To repent is to turn away from selfish behaviour patterns. To repent means to acknowledge our sins. After all, how can we have room in our hearts for the coming of a Saviour unless we are aware of our need to be saved?

But that's only the first step.

Preparing for Christ's coming also involves positive action, it means "bearing good fruit." Active, self-giving service towards our neighbour shows that our repentance is real. What good is acknowledging our selfishness and sin unless we also decide to leave that sin behind, and then make concrete actions to carry out that decision? That is what it means to reform.

If we do these two things, repent and reform, and not just say, "Sorry, Lord!" and then do nothing different, we will be ready to experience the joys of the coming Kingdom in a fresh way this Christmas, just as Christ wants us to.

God has more blessings that he is eager to shower upon us, and to send through us to others - let's give him the chance, let's renew our commitment to repent and reform. Over Advent, let's become more active in our parish's ministries where possible.

Enjoy Advent – Repent and Reform!

Deacon Peter

## LITURGY TIMES

9th - 15th December

Grovely	St William's
Monday	<b>9:15am Mass CANCELLED</b> 10:00am <i>Funeral Mass for Catherine O'Loan</i> <i>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>
Wednesday	6:00pm Adoration 7:00pm Mass <i>Saint Damasus</i>
Thursday	9:00am Mass 6:00pm Communal Reconciliation <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>
Friday	<b>7:00am Mass CANCELLED</b> 10.30am Mass at Keperra Sanctuary <i>Saint Lucy</i>
Saturday	7:00am Mass 5:00pm Reconciliation <i>Saint John of the Cross</i>
<b>Next Weekend's Sunday Masses</b>	
Saturday:	6:00pm Vigil
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 <i>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>
Tuesday	8:30am Mass 10.30am Anointing Mass at Madonna Villa
Wednesday	10:00am <i>Funeral Mass for Jack Hales</i>
Friday	8:30am Mass <i>Saint Lucy</i>
Saturday	12:00pm - 3:00pm Advent Adoration 3:45pm - 4:15pm Reconciliation <i>Saint John of the Cross</i>
<b>Next Weekend's Sunday Masses</b>	
Saturday:	4:30pm Vigil
Sunday:	8:00am
Samford	Sacred Heart
Thursday:	6:00pm Liturgy of the Word <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>
<b>Next Weekend's Sunday Mass</b>	
Sunday:	8:00am Mass

### This Week's Readings Second Sunday of Advent

Is 11: 1 - 10  
Rom 15: 4 - 9  
Mt 3: 1 - 12

### Next Week's Readings Third Sunday of Advent

Is 35: 1 - 6, 10  
James 5: 7 - 10  
Mt 11: 2 - 11

## GROVELY

### Counters this week:

Bernadette Bowles, Pat Nixon, Alexis & Wayne Lambley

### Ministers of Communion to the Sick:

You are invited to pick up a Christmas Card to give to those you visit. Cards are available in the sacristy. Thank you 'Project Christmas Card'.

**Meditation Group:** 7pm Tuesday in the Church, in the Benedictine Fr. John Main OSB tradition. Enq. Bob 0428 813 483

### Baptism:

We joyfully announce the baptisms of Hamish Graham and Braxton-Dean & Enzo Hourigan and welcome them into our faith community.

## MITCHELTON

### Counters this week:

Group B: Philip Zabarasukas

### Counters next week:

Group C: Michael Saide

### Family Rosary:

This week: Nenett & Benny Cabrera

Next week: Ronald Cabrera

### Christmas Eve Mass At Our Lady of Dolours:

Children are invited to dress up as characters from the Nativity Story at Christmas (e.g. Joseph, Mary, shepherds, wise men, angels, various animals). Carols commence on Christmas Eve at 5:30pm followed by Mass at 6pm. Please join us for refreshments after Mass.

### Advent Prayer Box:

During the season of Advent, we are having a prayer box at the entrance of the church at Our Lady of Dolours in which we can place our prayer requests. The box will then be placed in the centre of the Advent wreath and these will be prayed during the Prayers of the Faithful.

**Changes to Mass Times Meeting:** Due to time constraints, there will be a follow up meeting regarding Mitchelton Mass times on Sunday Dec 22 after 8am Mass. There will be no changes to Mass times until after Jan 2020.

## SAMFORD

### Advent and Christmas Season Items Available:

Advent booklets, Christmas cards, Columban and TLC calendars, Christmas books and gift items available.

## COMBINED COMMUNITIES' NEWS



### Volunteers Needed For Christmas Celebrations

A list is available at the door to the sacristy for you to add your name.

There are a lot of spaces to fill!

We need many volunteers as we have a lot of visitors at this time.



### SPECIAL BLESSINGS FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS

All expectant mothers in the parish are invited to attend the 9:30am Mass at St William's on Dec 22, the 4th Sunday of Advent to receive a special blessing.

### Parish Christmas Hampers: THIS WEEKEND

We will be receiving hampers and individual gifts this weekend at the following times:

**Grovely:** The Daley Centre  
Sat Dec 7, 7:30am - 10am &  
4:30pm - 7pm  
Sun Dec 8, 6am - 9:30am  
Enq. Hugh & Maria 3351 1020

**Samford:** Please bring your hampers to Mass on Sunday Dec 8 or to the Daley centre at the above times.  
Enq. Mary 3355 5875

**Mitchelton:** Please bring your hampers to Mass Sat Dec 7, 4:30pm or Sun Dec 8, 8am  
Enq. Mary 3355 5875

Thanks to everyone for your support!

**Christmas Season Newsletters**  
**The Parish Office will be closed from Dec 23 to Jan 5.** Therefore, there will not be a newsletter for Dec 29. A 2 page newsletter will be released on Jan 5 which will contain the front page, rosters and prayers for the sick/deceased.

**St William's Advent Prayer Wall**  
Our **Advent Prayer Wall** can be found on the wall near the choir. Place your prayer requests in the pockets you will find on the wall-hanging.

**Advent Adoration**  
Eucharistic Adoration will be held at Our Lady of Dolours, Mitchelton, from **noon to 3pm** on the **Saturdays of Advent.**

**Keperra Sanctuary Mass**  
Will be held Friday Dec 13 at Keperra Sanctuary commencing 10:30am.

**Mass for Anointing of the Sick**  
Will be held Wednesday Dec 18 at the Regis Nursing Home at 10:30am.



## Faithful Departed

### Recently Deceased:

David Raymer, Madeline Cruz, Bev Fraser, Gabrielle Beaumont (Katrina's stepsister), Noel Peacock, Pauline Parker, Catherine O'Loan, Jack Hales

**Anniversaries:** Pamela Power, Tim Carr

### Funerals:

Catherine O'Loan, 10am Funeral Mass on Monday December 9 at St William's

Jack Hales, 10am Funeral Mass on Wednesday December 11 at Our Lady of Dolours



## We pray for the Sick

### We pray for:

Rebecca Agar, Vincent Arthur, Maureen Campbell, Fr David Catteral, Dominic Condon, Kathleen Edden, Kieran Hogan, Jen Nilon, Joyce Powell, Cindy Roberts, Rudi Wagenwood, Tom Moore, **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 3 churches, or from the Parish Office. Completed forms/envelopes can be given to the priest or handed in at the office.

### PLEASE NOTE:

Leaflets, notices, and other papers are not to be placed in the Church without prior permission from Fr Nigel.

### Sacramental Program:

There are still some Sacramental families who need to contact me for further instruction on First Communion. I will be in the office until Dec 19 and will return Jan 23 2020. The Sacramental Program will be in recess until Jan 29.

May you all enjoy a restful holiday. May your homes be filled with our Lord's blessings this Advent season.

*Marie-Louise F. Singson*

### Australian CATHOLICS Magazine Parish Edition, Summer 2019/2020

Featuring: A History of Mysticism in Catholicism, Prayer That Changes Lives, Contemplative Prayer and tips for environmentally friendly celebrations.

This edition also focuses on Catholic composer Fr Chris Willcock, Pope Francis' 2020 prayer intentions and an interview Dr Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr on the Aboriginal concept of Dadirri (Deep Listening).

Available at the back of the Church for a gold coin donation.



## FAITH MATTERS—GSM



Faith Matters [www.faith-matters-gsm.com.au](http://www.faith-matters-gsm.com.au) and  
Plenary Council [www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au)

The First week of Advent has gone by quickly. How are we doing? Managed some moments of peace and prayer yet? Some looking forward to the miracle of the first Christmas? The Advent calendar from Evangelisation Brisbane has a few ideas for us all to prepare for the coming of the Christ Child. It's simple and helpful:

<http://evangelisationbrisbane.org.au/assets/uploads/2019-advent-calendar-1.pdf>

Last week Pope Francis visited Assisi, where St Francis of Assisi made the first Christmas crib to show the humble people of the area, in a real way, the amazing truth of a tender loving God born as a small child in a humble shed used for animals. Pope Francis wants us to be "enchanted" by the Nativity Scene. He writes that it is a lesson in faith, to be passed on to children.

"The nativity scene has invited us to 'feel' and 'touch' the poverty that God's Son took upon Himself in the Incarnation" writes the Pope. "It asks us to meet Him and serve Him by showing mercy to those of our brothers and sisters in greatest need."

In some countries, and at Assisi, people place figures in the crib that have no apparent connection with the Gospel accounts. Yet, writes Pope Francis, "from the shepherd to the blacksmith .... from the women carrying jugs of water to the children at play: all this speaks of everyday holiness, the joy of doing ordinary things in an extraordinary way."

And talking about everyday holiness, the Faith Matters' lending library has a number of books written by Br. John Venard in the church SVDP shop. In his simple, humorous style Br. John shares his journey towards a deep spirituality suitable for our modern world. Check them out.



## St William's Merry Little Christmas is on again!

Join us for a day of yummy food, cheerful entertainment, good company and all round good fun on **December 25** in the **St Mary MacKillop Centre** from **12pm to 3pm**

We are taking bookings in the parish office now  
call 3355 2667 or drop in to find out more.

A contribution of \$25 per person is appreciated, but not essential.  
Book before December 13! Transport can be arranged.

**Everyone in our community is invited!**  
**Spread the word!**

If you would like to volunteer on the day or in the lead up, please call 3355 2667

*"Today was one of my happiest Christmas days ever :-)"*

*St William's Merry Little Christmas Volunteer, 2018*



### Parish Pastoral Council News

We would like to thank the parishioners who attended the Catalyst Gathering Day on November 9. About 60 people who offer their time in the GSM parishes in some capacity enjoyed a fruitful morning lead off by Fr Nigel exploring the parish mission statement, then adoration conducted by Fr Damien. Discussions and activities followed on the scriptural theme of the Vine. What fruit are the ministries producing now and what do they hope for in the future? They then considered the resources that will be needed.

Some resources are already being fulfilled in these Gathering Days. Getting to know other people in similar ministries and discussing the possibility of sharing resources is just one.

To continue the momentum of living our ministries with the guidance of the Mission Statement we will have another Gathering Day early next year.

A second important topic, relevant to all parishioners, is the change in Mass times. Change can be painful and is always a challenge. We pray that we, the parish, can bring life out of this challenge. The changes will secure a viable timetable for the years ahead.



# COMBINED COMMUNITIES' NEWS

## GROVELY 9th - 15th December

Monday	7:00pm 7:45pm	Library Church	SVDP Grovely Choir
Tuesday	7:00pm	Church	St William's Christian Meditation

## SAMFORD 9th - 15th December

Monday	6:30pm	Church	Samford Choir
Friday	9:00am	Church	John Main Meditation Prayer Group

## MITCHELTON 9th - 15th December

Monday	9:00am	Meeting Room	SVDP Meeting
Tuesday	7:00pm	Church	Treble M Choir

## CHRISTMAS MASSES

### St William's Church, Dawson Parade, Keperra

Tuesday, December 24	<b>5:00pm, 7:00pm &amp; 10:00pm</b> <i>Carols begin 15 minutes before Mass</i>
Wednesday, December 25	<b>9:30am ONLY</b>

### Sacred Heart Church, Samford Road, Samford

Tuesday, December 24	7:00pm for <b>7:30pm Mass</b> <i>Mass will be crowded. If you wish, come with a folding chair and sit on the verandahs. Pageant/Carols begin at 7:00pm</i>
Wednesday, December 25	<b>8:00am</b>

### Our Lady of Dolours Church, Corner of Samford Rd and Suez St, Mitchelton

Tuesday, December 24	<b>6:00pm</b> <i>Carols begin at 5:30pm</i>
Wednesday, December 25	<b>8:00am</b>

### Oxford Park Irish Room

Wednesday, December 25	<b>9:30am</b>
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## COMMUNAL RITE OF RECONCILIATION

Thursday December 12 Grovely 6:00pm

### Ministers of Communion Needed at Keperra Sanctuary

If you are interested in being a Minister of Communion for Keperra Sanctuary, please contact the Parish Office.

### Finding God in The Quiet Centre

*"God Speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base..."*

A weekend opportunity for women to leave behind the chaos and clutter that can be a part of life and enter in to quiet in community. Come and experience a time of prayerful reflection in the beauty of God's good creation. Facilitated by Grace Harwood (Dragonfly Ministries)

Dates:  
Fri 13 Dec 6pm—Sun 15 Dec 3pm  
Place: Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Wellington Street, Ormiston

Cost: \$370 (\$340 for pensioners, f/t students and unemployed) includes all accommodation, meals, resources and facilitation. Santa Teresa requires an additional \$30 fee for those with special diets.

For more information contact, Grace at on 0409 524 283 or email [grace@dragonflyministries.net.au](mailto:grace@dragonflyministries.net.au)

### Pope's Prayer Intentions: December

**The Future of the Very Young**  
*That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.*

### Lights Of Christmas 2019

**Where:** Cathedral of St Stephen, 249 Elizabeth Street  
**When:** December 11 - 14  
6:30pm Carols, 7:00pm Light Show  
Gather on the lawn at St Stephen's Cathedral to celebrate the joy of Christmas with an extraordinary sound and light show. The Lights of Christmas is a free even open to the public that will delight families with music, food and children's' activities every evening!

### RI Teachers Needed

RI teachers are urgently needed in all our local schools next year. Days can be negotiated, most year levels are available and training goes along with this commitment. Please pray about whether you are being called to this mission and if you have any questions or would like to have a chat about it please call Dorothy Dent 0408 874 855

### December 8, 2019 - Second Sunday of Advent

*"Therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown in into the fire." (Matthew 3:10)*

Do you bear good fruit for Christ? Or, do you spend your time, talent and treasure constantly acquiring more toys, clutter and junk? Our time, our talent and our treasure are gifts that God has given us. What we do with them is our gift back to God. What gifts are you planning to give to the Lord during this upcoming Christmas season?

### Bible Quiz

What does the shepherd in the parable of the lost sheep do once he realises one is missing?

*Answer next Week*

*Last Week's question:*

What happened to Elimelech in Moab?

*Answer:*

*He died (Ruth 1:3)*

### Four Stages Of A Man's Life:

1. You believe in Santa
2. You don't believe in Santa
3. You are Santa
4. You look like Santa



### Visitor From Our Sister Parish

Juliao Hornai (Jay) is visiting our Parish for the next few weeks. You may see him at Mass or around the schools.

Please say "g'day", and make him feel welcome whist in and around our Parish.



### Thought For The Week

'Mercy' means to come to the aid of another out of a sense of relationship. Advent means 'coming' or 'arrival' - so the focus of the season is waiting. If we put mercy and Advent together, then we are waiting for all individuals and nations on earth to grow into the kind of relationship with each other that will encourage mutual help instead of competition and conflict. Then the Kingdom of God will be established!

### St Gerard's Christmas Festival

**Where:** St Gerard's, 146 Maundrell Tce, Chermside West

The Festival commences when we turn on the lights at 7:30pm on Friday Nov 29. It continues every night from 7pm to 10pm until Dec 23.

Every night there will be a massive light display, gift shop, op shop, cold drinks, ice cream, coffee, BBQ, raffles and musical entertainment!

And on Saturday Dec 21 come along and sing to Carols by Candlelight with Renata and the Paradise City Band.