



Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Parish

Gatton Laidley

Our Parish Values:

Joyful ... Inclusive ... Inspirational ... Loving ... Christ-centred ... Authentic
Our values determine our behaviour ... our behaviour helps create our parish culture

Readings for this Week

First Reading
Baruch
5:1-9

Psalm
125
*The Lord has done
great things for us;
we are filled with joy.*

Second Reading
Philippians
1:4-6, 8-11

Gospel
Luke
3:1-6

Mass Centres

St Joseph's Church
10 Hunt Street
Forest Hill

St Mary's Church
Cnr Spencer
& Maitland Streets
Gatton

**St Therese's
Church**
8 Brightview Road
Glenore Grove

St Patrick's Church
1-3 John Street Sth
Laidley

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

YEAR C

5 December, 2021

"The Lord Has Done Great Things for Us and We are Filled With Joy"

As we eagerly anticipate the Birth of Christ during this **Holy Season**, by preparing our hearts in faithful waiting, I wish and pray that we all may be filled with the **attitude** of '**gratitude**', for this incredible opportunity to explore God's merciful love.

He doesn't consider our unworthiness, rather **He longs to come into our hearts**. As we 'prepare' for the giant feast of His Nativity in a few weeks time, let us call to our minds the need to **open our hearts for Him**. We do everything 'to get things ready' to celebrate but sometimes we may miss to open the door of our hearts for Him. The padlock may be rusted inside or the key may be a bit crook, which would make the opening of the door a bit messy. This is the reason why we should be checking that it is on properly in advance, rather than at the last minute.

May the lighting of the Advent Candle, bring the **light of joy and peace** into our homes which would direct our steps in the right path. A little prayer during these days would be the lubricant in the rusty corners of our lives, to make the encounter with Jesus smooth and vibrant.

Advent is a gentle invitation to set our hearts and minds on Him - who is coming to take charge of everything, which would take away all the stresses and fears of our lives. So, we can take our focus off the crazy hustle of everyday life and embrace the joy of this Holy Season. As we light the second purple candle - The Bethlehem Candle - we continue to **PREPARE** to **WELCOME JESUS** into our hearts (Luke 3:4-6).

As we continue to celebrate and witness our **FAITH** in Christ Jesus, may this light shed light into the grey areas of our lives so that we can be beacons of His **LOVE** and **FORGIVENESS**.

Blessings and Happy Holidays!
Noyichan

LIGHTING THE SECOND CANDLE OF THE ADVENT WREATH ...

PEACE



Loving God,
We thank you for the gift of PEACE you
give us through Jesus.
Help us prepare our hearts for the Lords
coming
by working for Christ's peace to take root
in our family.
We ask this in the name of the one born in
Bethlehem, Jesus our Lord.

Mass Times

Saturday	4th December
6:00pm	Laidley
Sunday	5th December
7:00am	Glenore Grove
9:00am	Gatton
Monday	6th December
7:30am	Rosary
8:00am	Gatton
Tuesday	7th December
4:30pm	Rosary
5:00pm	Forest Hill
Wednesday	8th December
7:30am	Rosary
8:00am	Gatton
12:00pm	Men's Christmas Gathering
Thursday	9th December
7:30am	Rosary
8:00am	Gatton
Friday	10th December
7:30am	Rosary
8:00am	Gatton
Saturday	11th December
6:00pm	Gatton
Sunday	12th December
7:00am	Forest Hill
9:00am	Laidley

Second Rite of Reconciliation

Thursday	16th December
9:00am	Laidley
Friday	17th December
7:00pm	Gatton



CHRISTMAS CORNER

Brought to you by the
Children and Families Ministry Team
 Throughout the Season of Advent

Hello Families,

Welcome to the **Christmas Corner** - a space especially dedicated to celebrate this Season of Advent! We hope you had some **FUN** with some of the activities in the ADVENT CALENDAR last week!

A **family favourite** activity in our house, is to put out the **Nativity Scene!** Did you put yours out as yet? We would love to see some **photos** of your Nativity Scene! If you would like to take a picture of it and **email** it in, we would love to share it next time in the Newsletter.



Continue to follow the **ADVENT CALENDAR**

below, with some great **Daily Tasks** to help you and your family, get ready for the birth of Jesus! **-Elmarie**

THIS WEEK:

- | | | | |
|------------------|----------------|---|---|
| SUNDAY | 5th Dec |  | God promised He would send His Son, Jesus. What other promises has God made to us? |
| MONDAY | 6th |  | Write a Christmas card with a special note for someone. |
| TUESDAY | 7th | | Be an Angel to a family in need: buy a Caritas Global gift for education, food or shelter. www.globalgifts.org.au |
| WEDNESDAY | 8th |  | Pray a Hail Mary with your family. |
| THURSDAY | 9th | | Go for a walk with your family, take a litter collector with you. Pick up rubbish as you walk and put it in |
| FRIDAY | 10th |  | Look at a Map and see how far Mary and Joseph had to travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem. |
| SATURDAY | 11th | | Do a job around the house without being asked, like tidy your room or put the dishes away. |

Pageant Details:

The Pageant will have Speaking and Non-Speaking Parts.

Main Characters with Speaking Parts, for e.g. Mary, Joseph and Angel Gabriel, will be required to attend all Rehearsals where possible.

Characters with Minor Speaking Parts, will also be expected to attend most of the Rehearsals where possible.

Characters with Non-Speaking Parts, will be expected to attend at least one Rehearsal.

See below some **Proposed Dates Only** for Rehearsals, as these are subject to change:

*Saturday 11 December 4:30-5:30pm

(Only Characters with Speaking Parts)

*Sunday 19 December 10:30-11:30am

(All Characters Speaking and Non-Speaking Parts)

*Wednesday 22 December 4:30-5:30pm

(All Characters Speaking and Non-Speaking Parts)

Thank you Parents who have already registered their Children's Interest! Please continue to register your Children's Interest, if they wish to participate!

We hope to have the Casting Schedule finalised by next weekend, in time for the First Rehearsal.

Thank you all for your wonderful support! **-Elmarie**



Oh Holy Night!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A MAGICAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Friday - **24** - December

5:00PM FOLLOWED BY CAROLS AND MASS

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
 CNR MAITLAND AND SPENCER STREETS, GATTON

Calling all Shepherds, Angels, Wisemen and Future Acting Stars!!!

REGISTER YOUR CHILD'S INTEREST TO THE PARISH OFFICE AT
 GATTON@BNE.CATHOLIC.NET.AU OR 5465 3131

NEWS FROM THE INCLUSION AND OUTREACH TEAM

Can anyone imagine life without St Vinnies! This Organization has been a constant companion in Australian Communities for generations. St Vinnies Workers and Volunteers have always had the reputation of carrying out their mission with compassion and generosity. They are the ultimate 'Quiet Achievers'. In fact, they have been too successful in their *gently* philosophy, because now they need your help to successfully continue their support to those in need.

The St Vinnies Team in our community urgently need volunteers, especially men and younger members of the community, to carry on the tradition of charity work started by our forebears and continued by our current local legends. Of course, this is not glamorous work, it involves collecting donated goods from the charity bins located at Gatton and Laidley, on Tuesday and Saturday mornings (about 1 hour to 1 ½ hours). A roster would mean collecting about once a month. Light duties such as odd jobs, sorting donated goods and rag cutting are scheduled for Mondays and Wednesdays, 7am – 10am at the shed, 9 Byrne Street, Gatton.

Volunteering for St Vinnies is practical; it's flexible, it's time given to suit your lifestyle, it's a team building activity, e.g. father and son teams! To be a St Vinnies helper/volunteer is to belong to an organization that aspires to provide a 'hand up' not a 'hand out'.

The Inclusion and Outreach Ministry has established ongoing communication with our local branch of St Vinnies by giving practical support through volunteering, as well as lending a voice through our ministry. This year we have had two Saturday morning sessions (8am -10am) at Byrne Street. If you want to help on a casual basis but feel unsure about turning up on your own, join us at our next St Vinnies morning in 2022. We will advertise in the newsletter. Better still, leave your contact details with St. Vinnies (0477692677) or Jackie (0400189777) or any other members of the Inclusion and Outreach Team. We will follow up with more details as the time approaches.

Our team: Jackie Buckingham, Clare Brockhurst, Joan Jackson, Stephanie Matthews, Nora Ring, Mary Makau, Joseph Kohani.

NEWS FROM SOPHIA COLLEGE

2021 has been a time of growth for Sophia College. The community of Sophia College has been placed in the Lockyer Valley as an act of human solidarity. Through the commitment of the families of the Valley and the work of the Consultative Committee, we have been invited to be a community of people who share our experiences with one another and who work together to support the students. We are very grateful to everyone who has been a part of bringing Sophia to life.

We have a wonderful symbiotic relationship not just with nature but also with Our Lady of the Valley Parish and families as together we walk gently with creation. Our commitment to walking in Jesus' footsteps through the lens of St Francis is evident in the work we have undertaken this year. This week Father Noy celebrated all of this work in our closing Mass and presented some of our Living Stone Awards at our awards ceremony.

These Living Stones are deeply connected to both our Catholic and Franciscan traditions. Living stones refer to the 'building up' of God's kingdom and the 'foundation' of a tradition. St Francis teaches us to keep our eyes on God, to respect creation and to be the good example of joy, hope, and peace in the world. To live as St Francis did, we are called to constantly refer all good to God and demonstrate this through service and respect of others. As a Catholic college following in the Franciscan tradition, we have adopted the values of wisdom and love to guide us in our relationships with ourselves and others, with our learning and with all creation.

May the wisdom and love we have been called to embrace remind you of God's love for each and every person in the whole world during the Christmas season.

Narelle Dobson, Principal

A VOCATION VIEW ... Are you ready and willing?

Who, today, is willing to make ready the way of the Lord to clear Him a straight path?

To talk to someone about your vocation, contact Vocation Brisbane

Phone 1300 133 544 **Email** vocation@bne.catholic.net.au **Web** www.vocationbrisbane.com.au



vocation

OUR PARISH

Parish Priest:

Father Noyichan
M Antony MCBS
After Hours: 5462 5374

Parish Manager:

Chris Pingel

Parish Assistant:

Elmarie Cunliffe

Parish Office:

37 John Street South
Laidley QLD 4341

Postal Address:

P O Box 6
Gatton QLD 4343

Open 8am - 2pm
Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri
Closed Thursday

Phone:

07 5465 3131

Email:

gatton@bne.catholic.net.au

Facebook:

Our Lady of the Valley
Catholic Parish



Website:

www.olv.org.au

Safeguarding:

Complaints/Disclosures
Phone: STOPLINE
1300 304 550

PARISH SCHOOLS

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic School

Gatton QLD 4343
Phone: 5460 2999
Principal: Nathan Haley
Acting APRE: Jane Glynn

OLGC Kindergarten

Gatton QLD 4343
Phone: 5462 4810
Director: Donna Marriott

OLGC OSHC

Phone: 0487 001 722
Coordinator: Jayde Nesbitt

St Mary's Catholic School

Laidley QLD 4341
Phone: 5465 1240
Principal: Zoe Stewart
APRE: Patrick Finch

Sophia College

Plainland QLD 4341
Phone: 5411 3400
Principal: Narelle Dobson
APRE: Margareta Lemon

We pray for ...

THE SICK:

Edilberta Parcell, Lucy Luck, Trevor Potbury, Robert Liffin, Gerry Orrin, Myrla Prianes, Biddy Dwyer, Shirley Myles, Judy Shepherd, Murrell Kowaltzke, Marilyn Didsman, Peter Jackson, Ray Woodward, Catherine Dormer, Mary & Lionel Dusart, Lorraine Sells, Bill Lansdown, Tahlia Utz, Mark Liesch, Vivian Moore, Clara Hutchinson, Elizabeth Marten, Judy McGlade, Joel Thiele, Steven Campbell, Georgina Edwards, Pat Pingel, Joan Egan, Elisabeth Maltry, Sienna Beutel, Lucy Kimmings, Carolyn Curry

If you would like a sick person prayed for, please ask their permission.

Names will be included for the duration of ONE MONTH after which family can request more time.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Pham Quoc Cuong, Dang Thi Thanh Thuy, Christine Bramwell, Cory Leathem, Noreen Lund, Barbara Dwyer

ANNIVERSARIES:

Anne Philomena Kavanagh, John Joseph Reuter, Mick Bichel, Alice May Wilson, Alban Qualischefski, Nicholas John Hardy, Horace Marshall Howe, Tom Jeffes, Tessa Hutton, Jean Crosby, Leslie Gordon Mills, Victor Miners, Jack Cleary, Dorothy Eileen Brown, Patrick John Friend

Immaculate Heart of Mary

*we trust to your gentle care and intercessions those we love
and those who have died, who are sick, lonely or hurting.*

*Help all of us Holy Mother to bear our burdens in this life
until we share eternal life with God. Amen.*



Updated Information for Celebrating Mass - 5 December 2021

Finally ... Mass Bookings are no longer required and we don't have too many protocols for Mass attendance. Let's hope that the situation continues!

Please still only use the one door located near the monitor to enter and exit.

Please **come early**—at least 15 minutes before Mass. This allows enough time to sanitise your hands and use the QR Code. If your phone doesn't work with the App, please advise the monitor who can check you in.

Of course, **if you are unwell, please DO NOT come to Mass ; and if you prefer, you may still wear a mask.**

Invitation to the Men of our Parish - MEN'S CHRISTMAS GATHERING

You are invited to a lunch time gathering - to connect with men from across our parish to share lunch and make plans for 2022. There is some exciting news to reveal, and your input is going to be important. **Be a mate and bring a mate!**

WHEN: Wednesday 8th December from 12noon to 1pm

WHERE: Old Convent, 30 Maitland Street, Gatton (meet in carpark)

WHAT TO BRING: BYO Lunch

Fundraising Appeal - 60th Anniversary St Mary's Church

Thank you to the generous people who have already contributed to the fundraising appeal for works at St Mary's Church Gatton.

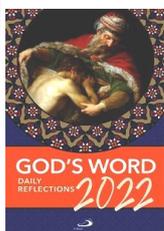
Progress report:

New sign and signage - planned to be in place before Christmas and we are almost half way to our fundraising goal of \$ 9,500.

Bell Tower - redevelopment of an LED lit Cross constructed and fitted to the top of the Belltower with an estimated cost of \$ 12,000. We have received some kind donations towards this project, and it will be the focus of some fundraising in 2022.

Sacristy Cupboards - the repair work is almost \$ 5,000 and we are just under half way with donations towards this essential maintenance work.

Resources to help Adults prepare well this Advent



These two resources are simple to follow and very enjoyable. Both available **now** at all the churches.

God's Word 2022 \$ 15 - daily readings and reflections for all of 2022.

New Life in Christ \$ 5 - Reflections suitable for Advent and through the year.

