



## Mass Times

**Saturday 10 February**  
6 pm Gattton

**Sunday 11 February**  
7 am Forest Hill  
9 am Laidley

**Tuesday 13 February**  
4:30 pm Rosary  
5 pm Forest Hill  
Mass

**Wednesday 14 February**  
**Ash Wednesday**  
9 am Laidley  
2 pm Gattton liturgy  
6 pm Gattton

**Friday 16 February**  
9 am Laidley

**Saturday 17 February**  
6 pm Laidley

**Sunday 18 February**  
7 am Glenore Gve  
9 am Gattton

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Available before 6pm  
Vigil Mass and other  
times by appointment.

# Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Parish

Gattton Laidley

Phone: 07 5465 3131 Email: gattton@bne.catholic.net.au

**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year B) 11 February '24**

## Call to be 'Bridge Builders'

Today's Gospel is set during Jesus' Galilean ministry. In Mark's world view, physical illness is no less a mark of the rule of Satan than overt demonic possession. According to Mark, **the evil spirit has 'torn apart' the humankind**. By healing the leper, Jesus makes the world whole again. **God's reign brings healing and wholeness into a world**, fragmented and torn apart by sin and sickness. By his healing and delivering acts Jesus is heralding the coming of God's rule.

In today's Gospel a leper approaches Jesus. In defiance of this law of the book of Leviticus, which is the first reading of today, the man approaches Jesus, and Jesus stretches out his hand and touches him. Against the common belief of the time, Jesus is not defiled by touching the man, he does not 'catch' impurity on the contrary the man 'catches' healing and wholeness from Jesus.

Through today's Gospel passage, the word of God reveals to us that **Jesus welcomes the outsider** and thereby **restores** him to his family and friends. By Jesus' touch of the man, who was considered as 'untouchable', the barrier of leprosy that ostracised him was crumbled.

Today's Gospel invites us to reflect upon the **barriers** in our world that must crumble - racial, ethnic, cultural or religious. In his encyclical '*Fraternity and Social Friendship*', Pope Francis writes; *"Once more we encounter the temptation to build a culture of walls, to raise walls, walls in the heart, walls on the land, in order to prevent this encounter with other cultures, with other people. And all those who raise walls will end up as slaves within the very wall they have built."*

### **(Understanding the Gospel of Mark)**

Characteristics of the Kingdom of God according to Mark's Gospel  
# A new social order for the weakest and the most vulnerable.  
# Mutual service rather than domination.  
# Self-giving for others even enduring persecution and execution rather than resorting to violence.

*(to be continued...)*

## Responsorial Psalm: Sixth Sunday Ordinary Time

I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble,  
and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

## UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 14 February **Ash Wednesday**

9:00am St Patrick's Laidley  
2:00pm Gatton - OLGCLiturgym at church  
6:00pm St Mary's Gatton



Thursday 15 February

**Alpha Reunion**

6:00pm Gatton Community Centre  
Time to celebrate our Alpha journey

Friday 16 February

**Stations of the Cross**

9:00am St Mary's Church Gatton  
4:00pm St Patrick's Church Laidley  
5:00pm St Mary's Church Gatton

Monday 19 February

**Lenten Reflection Series #1 – "A Fresh Perspective on Lent"**

5:30pm Gatton @ Community Centre

Wednesday 21 February

**Lenten Group "A Resurrected Life"**

9:30am Gatton @ Community Centre

Thursday 22 February

**Lenten Group "A Resurrected Life"**

9:00am Laidley @ Parish office

**Meditation Session led by Fr Emmanuel**

6:30pm St Mary's church Gatton



Saturday 23 March

**Lent Retreat** led by Adult Faith team

Guest speaker: Lisa McKerr from Evangelisation Brisbane  
2pm Gatton @ Community Centre

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024

This year the featured country is **Palestine**, and the key verse for reflection has been chosen from Ephesians 4:2 "***I beg you ... bear with one another in love.***"

### Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March

St Mary's **Gatton – 10am** service followed by morning tea

St Patrick's **Laidley – 11am** service followed by light lunch

Come along to this ecumenical event for both women and men and enjoy fellowship and friendship with our Christian brothers and sisters.

For more information, please contact **Margaret Stevens** at Gatton, **Joan Jackson** at Laidley or through the Parish Office.

## NEWS FROM LAIDLEY CATHOLIC LADIES CLUB

The Laidley Catholic Ladies Club would like to thank all who donated or bought tickets for the **Christmas Carol raffle. \$ 860** was raised from the raffle.

**World Day of Prayer** is on 1<sup>st</sup> March at 11am, as per the information above.

Catholic Ladies will be setting up the hall at 9am. No meeting for March.

The **Annual General Meeting** will be held on **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April** commencing at 9am.

All welcome.

## PRAY FOR OUR RCIA CANDIDATES

This Sunday, the RCIA candidates will be receiving the Apostles Creed. This ritual of **Presentation of the Creed** is very important for them, and for each of us. Our whole faith is contained in this one prayer. For these candidates and catechumens, they can sometimes wonder what the essence of the Christian faith is ... it is all said in the Creed... "I believe ..." Please continue to pray for **Robert, Jeeahn, Kylie, Todd, Amanda** and **Luke** as they journey with us in faith.

## PROJECT COMPASSION

Our parishioners are always very generous with support for the Project Compassion Appeal. This weekend, please take home a **Project Compassion box or set of donation envelopes** to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and for all future generations. With your support, **Caritas Australia** has been able to support communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction.

**Project Compassion 2024** reminds us that **the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come**. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and **build a better tomorrow for all future generations**. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from each church, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.



## THE MASS ... a series by Archbishop Mark Coleridge

This weekend the short video is on the Introductory Rite and Greeting. Presented by Archbishop Mark Coleridge, it is refreshing to learn more about "why we do and say what we do". We received great feedback from last weekend. Come and see!

## BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS



This weekend we thank God for the wonderful **Wendy Crosby** as she celebrates her birthday. Wendy is always ready to assist and for many years has sung in the choir. May God bless her with good health, kind and loving friends, and support from our community. **Happy Birthday Wendy!**

## JOURNEYING THROUGH THE GOSPEL OF MARK

The gospel of Mark is an invitation to follow Jesus. It invites us to step forward in faith, even in our weaknesses and doubts, and pursue the God who welcomes us into a relationship with Him. The book of Mark teaches us how following Christ is not a one-time action but a lifelong pursuit. Every day for the believer in Christ is a day to trust and obey the God who gave His life up for us.

Father Emmanuel, together with the parish ministry teams look forward to journeying with you. This study will be more in-depth than Fr Emmanuel's reflections in the newsletter. We are calling for **Expressions of Interest** before scheduling the sessions, times, and locations. Please contact Chris at the Parish Office or at Mass.

## OUR PARISH

### Parish Priest:

Father Emmanuel  
Ayankudy CMI  
A/ Hrs: 5462 5374

### Parish Manager

Christine Pingel

### Parish Office:

37 John Street  
South, Laidley

Days of operation  
may vary – please  
phone in advance.

### Postal Address:

P O Box 6  
Gatton Q 4343

### 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 and  
Disclosures  
Phone: STOPLINE  
1300 304 550

## SCHOOLS

OLGC Gatton  
5460 2999

OLGC Kindy  
5462 4810

OLGC OSHC  
0487 001 722

St Mary's Laidley  
5465 1240

Sophia College  
5411 3400

## WE PRAY FOR ...

### THE SICK:

Jos Van De Putte, Charles, Mary-Lou, Sterling & Willard McGregor-Shaw, Michael Trail, Therese Thompson, Daryl Reynolds, Eric Pingel, James Earley, Theresa Jones, Theresa Knight, Jodi Thompson, Roslyn Furber, Toni Woodward, Pat Schultz, Leigh Bachmann, Janene Cornelius, Edilberta Parcell, Biddy Dwyer, Marilyn Didsman, Mary & Lionel Dusart, Vivian Moore, Clara Hutchinson, Elizabeth Marten, Judy McGlade, Sienna Beutel

**If parishioners would like a sick person prayed for, please ask their permission. Names will be included for ONE MONTH.**

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Yvonne "Lorace" Pomfrett, Marjorie Murphy

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Frank McGuirk, James Laffey, Robert Hockings, Brian Ahearn, Anna Armitage, Wendy Grofski, Andrew Gillam, Greg Pomerence, Nona 'June' Mulcahy OAM, Daniel Horrigan, Robin Hyde, David Panzram, Elsie Taylor, Ron Dolley, Mary Reynolds, Donna Church, William Chadwick, Gerald O'Keefe, Barry Teis, Vernon VJ Ashton, Patrick McNamara, Vincent Mallon, Eileen Ryan, John J Caldwell, Josephine Avington, Catherine Kavanagh, Eunice Kachel, James Lewis

## " A RESURRECTED LIFE "

Available now \$ 8

Ash Wednesday is this coming week, marking the beginning of the season of Lent.

There are **three groups meeting during Lent** – if none of the times suit, perhaps start your own. A leaders guide for the book is available. See page 2 for more details.

On Mount Tabor, the voice from the cloud says, **"Listen to him"** (Matt 17:5) Lent is a time to listen more deeply to the voice of Jesus; this is the grace on offer. **Listening to him, we are empowered to act in ways that can never happen if we listen only to our own voice.** The resurrection was not something for Jesus alone. He is the first-born from the dead, so that where he has gone, we are all called to follow. In living the resurrected life, we are empowered to raise others.

Copies of **"A Resurrected Life"** are available at all churches.

## VOCATION VIEWS

Today's Gospel says that *"Jesus was moved with pity when He saw a leper"*.

**Are you moved with love or pity when you see the outcasts of today's society?**

**Who will come forward to minister Christ today, to be His hands and feet?**

[www.vocationbrisbane.com](http://www.vocationbrisbane.com)

