



Mass Times

Saturday 11 March
6 pm Gatton

Sunday 12 March
7 am Forest Hill
9 am Laidley

Tuesday 14 March
4:30pm Rosary
5 pm Forest Hill

Wednesday 15 March
9 am Gatton

Thursday 16 March
9 am Laidley

Friday 17 March
St Patrick's Day
9:30am Laidley

Saturday 18 March
6 pm Laidley

Sunday 19 March
7 am Glenore Gve
9 am Gatton

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

5:30pm each
Saturday before the
Vigil Mass,
or at other times by
appointment.

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Parish

Gatton Laidley

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (Year A)

March 12, 2023

A Samaritan Letter

Dear Brothers and Sisters of OLV parish,
You may be wondering who am I? I am Nefesh, the Samaritan woman, whose story you will be discussing in this weekend's Gospel.

I myself, would like to let you know what happened to me on that day. On the midday of my life's journey, I stopped for a while and looked into myself, only to realise how **empty** I am inside and how **barren** my soul is. I fetched my pot, walked under the scorching Sun, even with more boiling mind and heart. Heavier were my feet, and longer the walk, with repeated question in the heat, **'what are you looking for'?**

Near the well I found a man asking for a drink. He looked like a green tree near the fresh waters, so poised and calm. He was not just asking me for water but was **knocking at the door of my heart**. Opening the door, yet standing at the doorpost, I tried to send him away with a chain of excuses - but I could not. I let him in and sat at his feet listening to his mesmerizing words.

I opened my heart to him, only to realise that he has taken away my shame and I do not have to be after fame and others' approval. He did not give me water to drink but brought out **living springs of water in my soul**. It was an experience of an oasis in the desert.

Like a water stream, I ran to my people with wings of peace. Jumping and dancing I sang the wonders of God. People flocked around me with their 'empty pots' and welcomed Him into their lives. Being with them, **He filled their emptiness with love** and turned their lives as trumpets of the **life-giving Gospel**.

Dear OLV parish friends, believe me, if you **open your heart** to Jesus with **trust** and **hope**, He will turn your lives to **springs of living water**. With every best blessings, Nef.

"If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Whoever believes in Me, as the Scripture has said: 'Streams of living water will flow from within him.'" (Jn.7:37b-38)

LENT – a time of prayer, fasting and repentance

Why not join a small group for reflection and discussion using the resource book *From Ashes to Hope?*

Monday 9:45am Parish Office Laidley
Wednesday 9:30am Community Centre Gatton
Thursday 5:15pm Community Centre Gatton

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

We each have an individual journey – a path that God has set before us, and the joys and the challenges we encounter may colour our faith and hope. In this parish, we are so blessed to have several opportunities to journey with Jesus through the Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent – all welcome.



9:30am Gatton † 4:00pm Laidley † 5:00pm Gatton

Thank you to the generous volunteers who organise and lead the Stations – most times using a variety of texts and song to challenge and encourage us in our journey with Jesus.

SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

In this season of Lent, we gather as a community and celebrate the liturgy, then we seek individual confession and absolution or receive a special blessing.

Laidley – 9am – 30th March Gatton – 6pm – 31st March

CONGRATULATIONS †

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA)

Last weekend the 3 young people preparing for Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil received the special blessings and anointing of the **Rite of Reconciliation**.

Congratulations Lillie, Sienna and Jorja.

The four adults who are already baptised (candidates), were part of this special liturgy as they prepared for their first confession and then received the grace and mercy of God through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Congratulations Maddie, Tracey, Shona and Michael M. – please pray for them as they continue growing in their love of God and understanding of the beautiful rituals and traditions we have in the Catholic Church.



60th ANNIVERSARY ST MARY'S CHURCH GATTON

2023 marks the 60th anniversary of the current church in Gatton.

As a parish community, we will be celebrating this special occasion commencing with the 9am Mass on **Sunday 20th August**. **Do you have memorabilia for display, or would you like to assist in planning the liturgy?** Please let Fr Emmanuel or Chris know if you would like to help organise something special for this occasion.

Thank you to those who have volunteering to be on the planning team.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Please note the office will be open Monday, Wednesday and Friday in the coming week. Closed Tuesday 14th and Thursday 16th March.

COMMUNITY NEWS and UPCOMING EVENTS

SJ 2023 - Sacrament of Reconciliation for School age children

Please pray for Abbi, Lilly, Lionel and William as they learn more about the grace and mercy of our loving God.

The next session will be on **18th March at 4pm at St Patrick's Church Laidley.**

BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS

What a joy to congratulate three graceful and beautiful ladies in our parish as they celebrate their birthdays in the week ahead.

Our love and best wishes to **Marie Linnan, Bernadette Fitzgerald and Pat Schultz.**

May their years of unflinching service to our parish community encourage all of us in using our gifts and talents to build up the Body of Christ.

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

This weekend at St Patrick's Church in Laidley will be the joyful occasion as family and friends witness the blessing of **Katelyn Huggins and Hobie Willmett** as they celebrate their marriage. Let us pray for all married couples, those newly wed, and those who have been married for decades, that they will always know Christ as the head of their household, and turn to Him with all their needs.

ST PATRICK'S DAY MASS – Friday 17th March – 9:30am

St Mary's School community would like to invite all parishioners to join them for Mass on St Patrick's Feast Day at Laidley.

Please come and join this special celebration at **St Patrick's Church, Laidley.**

Due to the timing of this Mass, there will not be a 9am Mass in Gatton on this day.

LADIES PRAYER BREAKFAST

Thank you to everyone who attended the first **inter-church breakfast** in February.

The next one will be held at our parish on **Saturday 25th March** at the **Gatton Community Centre** commencing at **7:30am.**

PARISH LENT RETREAT

Saturday March 25th Gatton Community Centre From 2pm until 5:30pm

We look forward to welcoming Arnie Hurdoyal from Evangelisation Brisbane who will be helping us explore "**The JOY of the Gospel**".

Lent is a perfect time to see how we can go deeper in our faith, and this afternoon will help us find the **PEACE** and **JOY** that comes from a close personal relationship with Jesus. Bring a note book and maybe a plate to share for afternoon tea.

THANK YOU

Noel and Gilda Edwards are leaving our Parish, for health reasons, and are relocating to Mango Hill after purchasing a 2 bedroom unit at Seasons Living Retirement Complex. We will miss them very much and thank them for their generous service.

"We wish to thank everyone in the Parish for making us feel so welcome and partaking of the wonderful Parish community spirit for the past nineteen years. It has been spiritually rewarding and brought us much happiness and strength. We wish you God's richest Blessings and may you all have a very spiritual Easter Season. May God be with you. Our love and prayers from Noel and Gilda Edwards"

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.

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Phone:

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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:

Pat Heenan, Laurie Didsman, Toni Woodward, Pat Schultz, Leigh Bachmann, Janene Cornelius, Warren Forbes, Mark Wendt, Michael Trail, Shannon Gilchrist, Barry Crosby, Colleen Scheiwe, Edilberta Parcell, Biddy Dwyer, Marilyn Didsman, Catherine Dormer, Mary & Lionel Dusart, Lucy Kimmings, Lorraine Sells, Vivian Moore, Clara Hutchinson, Elizabeth Marten, Judy McGlade, Pat Pingel, Sienna Beutel

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

RECENTLY DECEASED:

ANNIVERSARIES:

Alice Ryan, Gertrude Legge, Fr Kevin Ryan, Thomas Wolens, Monica Hauser, Zigmund Pitura, Maureen Anne Fox, Silvio Cerneaz, Simona Facundo, Emil Buhse, Collingwood Joseph Hickey, Percy Krenske, Sadie Zischke, Kathleen Murrhy, Bernadino Francisco, John Caldwell, Lillian Hammond, Teresa Clarke, Evelyn Redinger, Alfred Mischke, Daniel Ryan, Patrick (Joe) Quinn, Fay hauser, Tim Rogers, Joseph Kazungu, Barbara Bielby, Thomas Jordan, William Hansen, May Wessling, Terry Hughes, Julie-Anne McNeill, Ellen Murrhy, Anna Cencigh

In your hands, O Lord,

we humbly entrust our brothers and sisters.

In this life you embraced them with your tender love;

deliver them now from every evil and bid them eternal rest.

The old order has passed away: welcome them into paradise,

where there will be no sorrow, no weeping or pain,

but the fullness of peace and joy with your Son

and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen.

PROJECT COMPASSION 2023

Each week we learn more about the amazing work that Caritas does both here in Australia, and around the world.

Priscilla lives in the Hwange district in Zimbabwe with her husband, Charles, and their two grandsons. Climate change continues to bring unprecedented challenges for people living in the most vulnerable and remote communities in Zimbabwe.

While the situation in Zimbabwe and across eastern Africa remains dire, the work of Caritas Hwange means that Priscilla can learn the skills she needs to build resilience and support her family during this current food crisis.

Please take home a Project Compassion box or **set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season.**

Your support makes a difference not just this year, but for the years to come. Thank you!

