



Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Parish

Gattion Laidley

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

Mass Times

Saturday 18 March

6 pm Laidley

Sunday 19 March

7 am Glenore Gve

9 am Gattion

Tuesday 21 March

4:30pm Rosary

5 pm Forest Hill

Wednesday 22 March

8:30am Rosary

9 am Gattion

Thursday 23 March

9 am Laidley

Friday 24 March

8:30am Rosary

9 am Gattion

Saturday 25 March

6 pm Gattion

Sunday 26 March

7 am Forest Hill

9 am Laidley

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

5:30pm each

**Saturday before the
Vigil Mass,**

or at other times by
appointment.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (Year A)

March 19, 2023

Open the Eyes of my Heart, Lord!

John's Gospel is called the book of Signs. The purpose of signs in John's Gospel is to affirm that Jesus is the perfect revelation of God.

The story of healing the blind man tells us that the truth is something that evolves slowly, often involving struggle and doubt. Even though we have physical sight, if we are not careful we can be blind to truth, and consequently do a lot of harm to other people and the society. The Gospel invites us to **open our spiritual eyes** through an **inner spiritual journey** of prayer and spiritual exercises.

The inner spiritual journey **begins with silence** which takes a seeker to three levels of consciousness - mental, psychic and spiritual.

The mental level is the surface level where thoughts and feeling evolve like waves in the ocean. Here the mind objectifies everything, even the divine in the subject-object structure. All that we conceive about God and express through religious symbols and rituals are at this level of the mind.

The psychic level is controlled by sub-conscious factors which are shaped by one's own biography-repressed feelings, unexpressed thoughts, disturbing memories, and distracting thoughts.

The spiritual level is the deep-down inner faculty of introspection within us. It is like the inner light, the inner eye. All spiritual masters speak of this faculty of intuitive perception. When this inner light is kindled, when this inner eye is opened, one looks into the **sacred space within**. This is the divine abode, the inner temple, the cave of the heart, the garden of the soul. Referring to this Jesus said: *when you pray, first go into your inner room, close the door and therein meet God (Mt.6:6)*. When the inner eye is opened, one experiences one's true self and the divine SELF.

***"I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened,
in order that you may know the hope
to which He has called you."* (Ephesians 1:18)**

Fr. Emmanuel Ayankudry CMI

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.



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

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA)

This weekend the candidates will be presented with the **Apostles Creed**. So often we can take things for granted in the Mass, forgetting the significance of the prayers and rituals.

The Creed goes back to the time of Jesus, who commanded his disciples to baptise. They required people seeking Baptism to make a profession of a definitive faith, namely faith in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, that is the Trinity.

In the Creed are all the treasures of what we believe.

For all of us, the **Creed gives us a set of beliefs** that build the foundation of the faith Christ passed on to the apostles. Please continue to pray for the candidates asking the Holy Spirit to grant them courage and strength in their faith journey.



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST – SUMMIT²³

The upcoming Brisbane Summit is intended to **empower, inspire and equip** delegates to engage in the mission of the Church. Our parish is hoping to take a group of people to the upcoming Summit to be held at Seventeen Mile Rocks from **6pm Thursday May 18th to 3pm Saturday May 20th 2023**.

Registrations are now open, and for groups of 10 or more the Earlybird registration fee is reduced to \$ 150 per person. (Normal Earlybird \$ 170 until 31 March 2023 then \$ 200) This includes lunch on Friday and Saturday and dinner of Friday night. Please advise the Parish Office of your **availability** and interest to attend event.

For more information, pick up a brochure at church or www.brisbanesummit.com

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. During the coming week they will make their first confession at **St Mary's Church Gatton**.

SACRISTAN WORKSHOP

Thursday 23rd March – 9:30am St Patrick's Church Laidley

Would you like to learn how to prepare the altar for Mass?

Would you like to have a better understanding of what is needed on the credence table, on the altar, what linen is needed, where to find the essentials?

You are invited to attend this practical and informative session which will commence after the 9am Mass. Notes will be provided for your reference. Suitable for people from all our church communities.



Saturday 25th March will be a busy day in our parish ...

LADIES PRAYER BREAKFAST

All ladies are invited to attend the **inter-faith church breakfast** on **Saturday 25th March** in the **Gatton Community Centre** commencing at **7:30am**.

READERS REFRESHER SESSION

Saturday 25th – commencing 11am in St Mary's Church Gatton

Everyone who is currently on the reading roster should attend this 2 hour practical session for refreshing and updating skills. Anyone who is interested in joining the roster is also encouraged to attend.

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 a plate to share for afternoon tea.**

PROJECT COMPASSION – thank you for your ongoing support of this appeal. Please take home a Project Compassion box or **set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season.**

This week Project Compassion shares with us the story of Thu, who lives in Vietnam. At the age of 12, Thu's life was thrown into chaos when he trod on a land mine from the Vietnam War. Surely, he must have asked why he was among the unlucky ones. He might have asked the same thing again when his wife suffered a stroke. But Thu joined the Empowerment of People with Disabilities program, supported by Caritas Australia through our local partners, the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development. As with so many others, your generosity enabled Thu and his family to build a brighter future.

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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Our Lady of the
Valley Catholic
Parish

Website:

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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:

Aloysius (Lloyd) Luck, Alan Wallis

ANNIVERSARIES:

Cornelius O'Brien, Charles Brabrook, Peter Watson, Terry Fitzgerald, Robert Hughes, Alexander Cliff, Jan Poczwa, Nell Ebbage, Terry Hyland, Noreen Gossow, Judith Grant, Mary McCarthy, Neville Ziebarth, Tyson Latta, Tony Van Ansem, Francis O'Connor, Alice Robeck, Clare Hobbs, Thomas Flanagan, Enid Naumann, Ann Fitzgerald, Dermot Tiernan, Robert Alberts, Edna Kanofski, Nora Luck, Maria Stys, Richard Lutz, Mavis O'Dea, Grace Gardiner, Mary Robinson, Jean McGovern, James Kearney, Mary McGuirk, Yvette Durrant, Phyllis Deering

*"May the Lord bless us and keep us;
May the Lord make his face to shine upon us,
and be gracious to us;
May the Lord lift up his countenance upon us,
And give us peace."
Numbers 6:24-26*

BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION

The next preparation session for families preparing for baptism of their child will be held on **Saturday 1st April commencing at 10am at the Community Centre, Gatton.**

Please contact the Parish Office for application forms which need to be submitted prior to the session. We have baptisms twice per month – first Sunday in Gatton and fourth Sunday in Laidley.

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 advise Fr Emmanuel or Chris if you would like to help organise something special for this occasion.