



Mass Times

Saturday 28 December
6 pm Laidley

Sunday 29 December
7 am Glenore Gve
9 am Gattton

Monday 30 December
10:30am Gattton
Funeral Service
Jim Brimblecombe

Tuesday 31 December
No Forest Hill Mass

Wednesday 1 January
Mary, Holy Mother of God
8:30 am Rosary
9 am Gattton

Friday 3 January
No Laidley Mass

Saturday 4 January
6 pm Laidley

Sunday 5 January
7 am Glenore Gve
9 am Gattton



Sacrament of Reconciliation

Available from 5:30pm
each Saturday
afternoon.

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Parish

Gattton Laidley

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

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH (YR C) 29 Dec'24

THE JUBILEE YEAR OF 2025

Pilgrims of Hope

Pope Francis has inaugurated the Jubilee Year of 2025 on Christmas Eve this year. It will come to its conclusion on the feast of the Epiphany 2026. He has invited all the dioceses of the world to inaugurate the Jubilee locally on Sunday, 29 December. In our parish this weekend, I will lead the celebration inaugurating the Jubilee at each church, blessing the Holy Door and leading the people through it as **a sign of walking as pilgrims with Christ into newness of life.**

But the Jubilee Year also looks back much further to the biblical jubilee, which was celebrated every fifty years. The Jubilee Year is a call to recognise the many forms of slavery, overt and covert, that are found in this culture and in our own lives – and to **renew our faith in the possibility of freedom** and **commit ourselves anew to what freedom requires.** Any pilgrimage – even the little pilgrimage of walking through the Holy Door – is a farewell to an old enslaving way of life and an **embrace of a new way of life** which the Lord crucified and risen makes possible.

The motto of this Jubilee Year is **"Pilgrims of Hope"**. Any journey we make through this year, we make not as tourists or holiday-makers, but as pilgrims. It is a **journey of faith.** And it is driven by a hope which is not mere wishful thinking, but the proclamation of a **true hope** in a world which often seems hopeless, a hope grounded ultimately in Easter. The Letter to the Hebrews tells us that **"there remains a sabbath rest for the people of God"** (4:9).

In a deeply restless world, may this Jubilee Year be a time of sabbath which God alone can provide, **refreshing our souls** and **putting new heart** into the Church as we take the path traced by the Archdiocesan Synod and its Action Plans.

Blessings, Fr. Emmanuel

Responsorial Psalm: HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please note there will not be any **weekday Masses** from 23 December until week commencing 6 January 2025 with the exception of **January 1** - Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. There will be a 9am Mass at St Mary's Gatton.

THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE - SYNOD 2024 Promulgation of the Action Plans

With a gathering of 150 people who represented the broad diversity of the archdiocese, SYNOD24 took place over two sessions, in September and October 2024 at Holy Spirit Seminary, Banyo. Each session began on a Friday morning and ended on the Saturday afternoon. The members of the Synod were a mixture of Priests, Religious and Lay people. This inclusive approach was vital for ensuring that the Church's direction aligns with the needs and aspirations of its members.

Anne Burrows-Jung, a member of our Liturgy Ministry team, was invited to represent our parish as part of the South Country Deanery. Father Emmanuel has asked Anne to share some information, so that when our parish begins to implement the Decrees, every parishioner will have a good understanding of the background and work that has already been completed.

This week, Anne gives some introductory comments, and over the next few weeks, the **8 Decrees that were discerned through the Holy Spirit, discussed and voted on by the members of the Synod**, will be included in the newsletter.

Anne writes ... *"The Chair of the Synod was Bishop Tim Norton SVD, who worked closely with Stephanie Unger, the Executive Officer. As well, a lot of work was undertaken by the Synod Engagement Team and by the writers, who prepared the material for use at the Synod sessions. They were also called upon when a Decree needed to be re-written during the Synod sessions themselves.*

The decisions and decrees of the Australian Plenary Council of 2021-2022 provided the framework for the Synod. It was the Synod, which was to implement the decisions and decrees of the Plenary Council. You may recall that our parish held several consultation sessions that provided input to the Plenary Council. Action plans were developed from the SYNOD24 discussions, and recently released by the Archbishop."

In his introduction to the **Action Plan**, Archbishop Mark says:-

"The Synod had three phases: preparation, celebration, implementation. The preparation phase involved listening to many voices in the consultation, especially in the parishes and deaneries; the celebration phase was the members of the Synod listening to each other in the two sessions; and now the implementation phase looks to the practical application of the Synod's action plans in the Archdiocese of Brisbane. That will take time. Some can be implemented quickly; others will require patience.

But each of these three phases is under the influence of the Holy Spirit, since if that is not true all we are left with is politics; and the Church is much more than that."

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

The Parish Office in Laidley will be closed until Friday 24th January 2025. During this time, you are encouraged to email your non-urgent enquiries to gatton@bne.catholic.net.au and this will be checked regularly.

For **urgent** enquiries only (eg: anointing of someone seriously ill, funeral arrangements) please call 0407 132 700. Please refer to our website for Mass times and weekly newsletters.

CELEBRATING 2024

What a year it has been - a year filled with incredible moments, meaningful connections, and blessings that have enriched our parish community. As a parish community, we not only give thanks for all we've achieved together in 2024 but also look forward with excitement and hope to the plans that will guide us in 2025.

We asked each of the ministry leaders to share some of the highlights of this past year and give us a glimpse into the inspiring plans they have in store to further our mission in the year ahead. This week we share the "wins" of 2024 from Adult Faith Formation and Inclusion and Outreach teams.

FROM ADULT FAITH FORMATION TEAM

This year has been an incredible journey of faith and fellowship for our parish community! We kicked off the year with our **Alpha Reunion Celebration**, and we're thrilled to announce that Alpha will be returning in early 2025.

During Lent, we reflected deeply through **Lenten Reflection** sessions and a retreat, giving parishioners moments to draw closer to Christ during this sacred season.

A new and vibrant initiative, **Encounter Nights**, brought us together twice this year, for evenings filled with praise and worship, prayer, reflection, and adoration.

The men of our parish were blessed with an inspiring session by Fr. Gerard McMorro, who enriched lives by teaching on **Faith as a Mustard Seed**.

In August, our **Something Beautiful Women's Retreat** was a resounding success, and together, we reflected on what it means to have A Mary Heart in a Martha World. Most recently, we were graced by Lisa and Mel from Evangelisation Brisbane (now Archdiocesan Ministries), who led a beautiful **Morning with Mary** that touched many hearts. A wonderful year, and we thank you for your support.

FROM INCLUSION AND OUTREACH TEAM

Our major success for this year has been improvements in **welcoming** visitors and parishioners to Masses. At St Patricks, Michele and her team continue to do a wonderful and friendly welcome. A big thanks to Anne who has organised the Laidley morning tea roster.

Thank you to those people involved at Gatton, especially Daphne and her helpers for always organising a delicious morning tea. Thank you to Anita for undertaking the welcoming at St Therese's and for organising several morning teas. In 2025 we will continue to improve this welcome process. Our other big success for 2024 was the **Multicultural Mass**, and we look forward to creating a working group for 2025.

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
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Parish

Website:

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Safeguarding:

Complaints and
Disclosures
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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 ...

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Peter Das, Denis Hanrahan, Nikki McLay, Peter Heenan, Paddy Boyd, Toshikatsu Konishi, Shirley Myles, Neville Heenan, Joan Linnan, Sienna Beutel, Brian Wells, McGregor-Shaw Family, Michael Trail, Therese Thompson, James Earley, Theresa Jones, Theresa Knight, Jodi Thompson, Roslyn Furber, Toni Woodward, Pat Schultz, Leigh Bachmann, Janene Cornelius, Edilberta Parcell, Mary & Lionel Dusart, Vivian Moore, Clara Hutchinson, Elizabeth Marten, Judy McGlade

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Jim Brimblecombe, Lenny Jaenke



ANNIVERSARIES:

Mary (Susan) Bauer, John Schultz, Christine Redinger, Gloria Faulkner, Marjorie Schulz, Rosena Balaam, Ethel Armstrong, Sr Clare Osborne, Yvonne Hockaday, Catherine Miners, Rodney Pingel, Jessie Rowe, Janet Fitzgerald, Thomas Browning, Barry Williams, Phyllis Hastie, George Hoyle, Barbara Donahue, Peter McNally, Rodney Hauser, Emile Zischke, Bridget Buckley

JUBILEE PRAYER – Pilgrims of Hope

**Father in heaven,
May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.**

Amen



The "Jubilee Prayer", released by the Vatican for the 2025 Holy Year, is a profound spiritual petition that acknowledges faith as a divine gift and recognizes the Holy Spirit's role in igniting love within believers' hearts.

It expresses a deep yearning for God's Kingdom while asking for the grace to actively spread the Gospel message throughout the world.

It beautifully captures the transformative power of faith, describing how God's grace can reshape both humanity and creation itself, leading toward the promise of a renewed world where evil is overcome and divine glory reigns supreme.